Health Begins Here: Oral-Systemic Connections

Join Carol Vander Stoep, veteran hygienist of 30 years, author of *Mouth Matters*, proponent of Minimally Invasive Dentistry, and founding member of the American Academy of Oral Systemic Health as she irreverently connects the dots between poor oral conditions and degenerative diseases like osteoporosis, diabetes, and heart disease.

Poor oral conditions don't just drive other inflammatory diseases; more importantly, they reflect poor overall health. Gum disease and cavities are symptoms of chemical and hormonal imbalances within the body. Certainly we must treat symptoms of gum disease with detoxing therapy and rotting teeth with minimally invasive/biomimetic techniques that avoid damage to their delicate enamel infrastructure. This means avoiding mercury fillings that tend to break teeth apart and using 250 year old cavity preparation designs still taught in dental schools.

But to treat these symptoms without addressing their underlying causes is to fall into the trap of Western Medicine. We will never cure oral or systemic diseases until we change our Western mindset. This story of general health is told through via the lens of oral health.

Carol will help untangle myths and questionable axioms and practices our society propounds in the interest of promoting the oral health we all should insist upon.

For instance, Carol actively educates people on how fluoride does – and does not work as well as safer and more predictable alternatives. She seeks to end water fluoridation.

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