



Expression of Interest

Literature Review

Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy

## **Expression of Interest**

### **Introduction**

A dental hygienist is a regulated health professional who may work in a variety of settings in your community. This includes private practice clinics (e.g., dental, or dental hygiene clinics), public health, hospitals, long-term care facilities, educational institutions, dental supply companies, government, forensic dentistry, and research. Dental hygienists provide a range of personalized care. They focus primarily on oral disease prevention and health promotion.

Dental hygienists are provincially regulated. As part of their regulatory roles, each jurisdiction has a definition of the scope of practice for the profession.

### **Purpose for the Request for Proposals**

The Federation of Dental Hygiene Regulators of Canada (FDHRC) seeks a consultant to conduct a literature review regarding the practice of orofacial myofunctional therapy.

The main source of information on Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy (OMFT) used by dental hygienists comes from the International Association of Orofacial Myology (IAOM). It defines Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders, “as atypical, adaptive patterns that emerge in the absence of normalized patterns within the orofacial complex. The regular presence of these adaptive movements can often result in a variety of disturbances.”<sup>1</sup>

Examples of Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders cited by the IAOM include one or a combination of the following<sup>2</sup>:

- Thumb and finger sucking habits
- A routine habit of resting with the lips apart
- A forward resting posture of the tongue between or against the teeth
- Tongue Thrust
- Other harmful oral habits

According to the IAOM, Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders are often related to or can contribute to a variety of medical and dental disorders. These disorders can include<sup>3</sup>:

- Malocclusion (improper alignment of the teeth)
- Periodontal disorders
- Orthodontic relapse
- Changes associated with abnormal jaw growth and position

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iaom.com/fag/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.iaom.com/fag/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.iaom.com/fag/>

## **Scope**

The literary search should focus on the following questions:

- What are the key competencies required to perform Oral Myofunctional Therapy?
- What are the core treatments/therapies provided?
- What are the risks associated with this treatment?
- Is there evidence supporting the effectiveness of Oral Myofunctional Therapy

The following background information must also be included in the literature review:

- What courses/programs are offered in Oral Myofunctional Therapy?
- What are the entry requirements for enrollment in Oral Myofunctional Therapy programs (e.g., health care professional or specific course requirements)?
- What certification processes exist, if any?

The successful candidate will:

- Perform a thorough literature search of all relevant research including peer-reviewed articles, research reports, program evaluations, and other relevant documents related to the proposed topic,
- Prepare a literature review regarding the practice of Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy and its effectiveness,
- Prepare a summary of research gaps, if any identified, and
- Provide a detailed reference list/bibliography of articles used to create the written report.

## **Specific Requirements**

The ideal candidate will have knowledge of literature review methodology and previous experience and proven capacity to successfully undertake literature reviews of this nature.

## **Applications contents and format**

The following information should be included with the expression of interest submission:

- CV of consultant and any other person who will assist the consultant for this mandate
- Details of comparable experience
- Proposed project plan with focus on methodology, timelines, and budget
- Anticipated Timeline for Project: 6 months

## **Evaluation and Award Process:**

Applicants will be evaluated on:

- Evidenced examples of relevant experience
- Cost efficiency
- References

## **Submission of Applications**

Submit a copy of your application via e-mail to [director@fdhrc.ca](mailto:director@fdhrc.ca). Proposal must be received by **October 11, 2022**.