Editorial

As we celebrate the fifth anniversary of LAOHA, I would like to reflect on the association's main actions from the moment of its conception to the present day. These initiatives will be detailed in our fifth anniversary ebook to be released in early 2022. The idea of creating an association for the development of young researchers through the granting of doctoral scholarships in Dentistry and the financing of research projects was born as a result of a productive partnership between Colgate-Palmolive and professors from the University of São Paulo (USP) and Guarulhos University (UNG). The excitement established by Dr. Bernal Stewart (Research Director of Colgate in Latin America), Dr. Magda Feres (UNG), and Dr. Giuseppe Romito (USP) when LAOHA was founded was kept all through the first administration. I was the second secretary to this first board which developed the well structured internal regulations.

Since the beginning of the PhD Program in March 2016, LAOHA has awarded 15 doctoral fellowships. Among LAOHA fellows, seven have successfully completed their studies, and eight are currently developing their research projects at affiliated universities. The involvement, commitment, and dedication of these young researchers make them stand out for their intellectual competence, research and prominent associations in international dental research. The scientific-academic maturation achieved by LAOHA fellows will undoubtedly contribute to the formation of the next generation of dentistry leaders in Latin America.

After the consolidation of the PhD Program, it became clear that we needed to go further and share science with health professionals. LAOHA began to organize regional symposia and consensus meetings with decision-makers and various associations in Latin America and the Caribbean. The pioneering consensus on periodontal diseases and caries in Latin America represented a historical milestone in the region. It strengthened the joint work, decision-making, and progress in discussions on regional public health policies and strategies for implementing recommendations on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of these conditions. In addition, since its creation, LAOHA has been working with seminars on scientific events to assist in the continuing education of health professionals and the interaction of our fellows with the great names of dental research.

It is an honor and a privilege to be part of LAOHA and witness the impact of its actions on the training of young researchers and in the union of associations and dental professionals in Latin America in favor of improvements in oral health of the Latin American population.







The LAOHA Cariology Group

by Dr. Zilson Malheiros

Following the Regional Caries Consensus, the LAOHA Cariology Group was created, with the objective of identifying among the general and specific recommendations those priorities that could be developed in the short term. The three actions defined were: to analyze the policies for the use of fluoridated toothpaste and reduction of sugar consumption, the discussion of the bases of implementation of a cariology curriculum for graduation in Spanishspeaking countries and the implementation of an essential curriculum on dental caries in undergraduate dentistry courses in Brazil. The proposal of the papers and the initial actions were presented by the coordinators of each of the three actions in the symposium "Call for Action", which will be detailed in the following pages.

In addition to the Call for Action, the Group has been conducting, in partnership with several local and regional dental associations, numerous activities in the main meetings and dental congresses of the region, disseminating the recommendations of the consensus and inviting the various Educational Institutions and Associations to join forces so that the result of this work is truly effective and can contribute to the reduction of the caries prevalence in Latin America and the Caribbean.

These initiatives are aligned with the deliberation at the World Health Organization Assembly. By WHO resolution WHA 74-5, released on May 21 this year, the intention is to develop by 2022, a project of global strategy to combat oral diseases, establishing for the following year, 2023, an action plan for public oral health, with defined and feasible goals by 2030, incorporated into the agenda to combat

neglected noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). According to WHO, most oral health problems are preventable and can be treated in their early stages, but that this treatment is generally not accessible or not part of universal health coverage packages and that the use of fluoride in prevention also remains inaccessible in many parts of the world.



LAOHA Cariology Group - CORE TEAM:

Amaury Pozos Guillén (MEX) Ana María Acevedo (VEN) Bernal Stewart (CR/US) Carlos Benítez (MEX) Carol Guarnizo Herreno (COL) Fabio Sampaio (BRA) Jorge Castillo (PER) Marcelo Bönecker (BRA) Miriam Bullen (PAN) Ninoska Abreu (DR) Pedro Ricomini (BRA) Rodrigo Giacaman (CHI) Saul Martins de Paiva (BRA) Stefania Martignon (COL) Vicente Arangüiz (CHI) Viviana Ávila (COL) Zilson Malheiros (BRA)



Congresses attended by members of the LAOHA Cariology Group:

- 56th Meeting of the Brazilian Association of Dental Education (ABENO)
- 15th Annual Assembly of the Organization of Faculties, Schools and Departments of Dentistry of the Union of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean (OFEDO-UDUAL)
- 38th Meeting of SBPqO Brazilian Division of IADR
- 2nd International Congress and 5th Scientific Meeting of IADR Caribbean Section
- World Cavity-Free Future Day (WCFFDay) by the Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future (ACFF)
- 20th Latin American Congress of Pediatric Dentistry (ALOP)
- 5th Cariology Meeting of Chile

Opening Session of the Annual Meeting - ABENO 2021



Brazilian authorities and support agencies for Research and Education in Dentistry.

Workshop during event - OFEDO 2021



Dean of Dental Faculties, Coordinators of Dental School Programs and Members of LAOHA Cariology Group during the event.

To learn more about the work done by the LAOHA Cariology Group, please visit: www.laoha.org.br/cariology or contact us by email cariology group@laoha.org.br



Call for Action Symposium defines actions agenda for reduction of caries incidence in Latin America and the Caribbean

by Dr. Marcelo Bönecker

The virtual symposium "Call for Action: Consensus about Dental Caries for Latin America and the Caribbean", was held on October 14, organized by the LAOHA Cariology Group. The event with more than 1,800 enrolments from 33 countries (21 from Latin America and the Caribbean) had the bases of three joint actions which were launched with the objective of developing an immediate action plan to control dental caries. The Cariology Group identified the prioritized recommendations from the consensus publications that are to be developed in the short term. The three defined actions were:

 Action 1: Use of fluoride toothpaste and sugar reduction - Coordinator: Dr. Saul Paiva – UFMG, Brazil

This action is needed and very important since the group verified that the only countries in the region with policies registered in their ministries of Health or Education are Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Peru, Porto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago. To cover this gap, a questionnaire is being prepared to collect official data, with the identification of relevant regional leaders, public health managers and departments of sanitary surveillance departments from other countries.

Other issue arisen was the search for paradigm changes in dental caries contents at Dental Schools in order to turn the training of dentists from a curative approach to a prevention model. Based in this premise, two similar actions were planed:

Action 2: The discussion of the bases of a cariology curriculum in Spanish speaking countries - Coordinator: Dr. Stefania Martignon - Universidad El Bosque, Colombia

This action will discuss the curriculum of cariology using as starting point the basic European curriculum for cariology teaching (ORCA - European Organization for Caries Research), that includes other oral health problems on erosive dental wear, fluorosis and other enamel defects. Now, the group developed a questionnaire to track the teaching profile in Spanish speaking countries and their willingness to participate in a future Consensus. The invitation will be extended to English and French speaking countries in the continent and the initiative counts on the support and participation of OFEDO-UDUAL (Organization of Dental Schools and Departments - Union of Latin American Universities).

Action 3: The discussion of the dental caries curriculum essential bases caries in Brazil dental graduation courses - Coordinator: Dr. Fabio Sampaio - UFPB, Brazil



The objective of this action is to create a consensus about the content of curricula on dental caries in Brazil. The new guidelines of the Brazilian Ministry of Education, to be implemented in 2022, intend to avoid the teaching by specialties and encourage the teaching by conditions (dental caries, periodontal diseases, fluorosis and erosive dental wear). The focus of this working group in collaboration with the Brazilian Association of Dental Education (ABENO) will be based on both documents, the basic European curriculum (ORCA) and the recent Brazilian guidelines, to develop an essential curriculum for the teaching of caries and, subsequently, the teaching of fluorosis.

The guest and global reference on the subject, professor Nigel Pitts, King's College of London, current president of ACFF (Alliance for a Cavity Free-Future) and LAOHA Cariology Group collaborator, believes that efforts to share global data, like the Consensus, optimize the information collection and avoid the loss of unnecessary energy in studies already done in other parts of the world.

The result of the above action shall be presented already in 2022, on the same date. Those who want to join the initiatives can contact the group via the email cariology_group@laoha.org.br



























































LAOHA Periodontal Group

by Dr. Cristina Cunha Villar

To implement the recommendations of the first Regional Consensus on periodontal disease and its impact on general health in Latin America, the LAOHA Periodontal Group was created with representative members from various countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In the first step, the Periodontal Group will plan actions to encourage the general practitioner to perform the periodontal examination as part of the routine oral evaluation of patients. In parallel, the group will develop a communication campaign for the Latin American population to request a periodontal examination.

In November 2021, Dr. Cristina Villar and Dr. Mariel Gomez re-invigorated the Regional Consensus on periodontal disease at the Ibero-Panamerican Federation of Periodontics (FIPP) annual meeting. The LAOHA Periodontal Group was formally announced during the event.

We want to thank everyone who has accepted the invitation to make up the Core Team of our Periodontal Group. We have an important mission ahead of us, and the certainty that implementing these initiatives will contribute to the prevention of periodontal disease in Latin America and the Caribbean.



PERIODONTAL GROUP - CORE TEAM:

Alfonso Alejandro García Huerta (MEX) Andres Duque (COL) Belén Retamal-Valdés (CHI/BRA) Bernal Stewart (CR/US)

Carlos Benítez (MEX)

Cassiano Rösing (BRA)

Claudia Sacio (PER)

Cristina Cunha Villar (BRA)

Elizabeth Lozano (CHI)

Gina Murillo (CR)

Guilherme Amaral (BRA)

James Collins (DR)

Juliano Cavagni (BRA)

Luciene Figueiredo (BRA)

Maria Alejandra Vargas Mora (CR)

Mariel Gomez (ARG)

Paola Carvajal (CHI)

Paula Massiel Yunes Fragoso (DR)

Zilson Malheiros (BRA)



LAOHA alumna is the youngest to participate in the board of the IADR Periodontal Research Group

by Dr. Luciene Figueiredo

Belén Retamal-Valdés, a former LAOHA fellow in the UNG Graduate Program and current professor of the same program, was invited to be a board member of the IADR Periodontal Research Group (IADR/PRG). As "Scientific Group/Network Community Liaison," she became the youngest researcher to assume a IADR/PRG board position. The PRG is a forum for active IADR members involved in any aspect of periodontal research. Its mission is to promote research activities and improve periodontal health at the patient and

population levels. It also aims to facilitate the presentation, discussion, and publication of scientific articles on periodontal research and to identify and support the excellence of young scientists and senior researchers in Periodontics through their awards and scholarships. The position of "Scientific Group/ Network Community Liaison" aims to officially represent the IADR/PRG in the IADR Virtual Community, disseminate scientific events or news related to the group, and promote the interaction of members.

PRG/Network Community; Platforms and Activators

During COVID-19 pandemic, not just IADR HQ but also PRG Officers are trying to activate our research community by Information and Communication Technology (ICT). These attempts would bring new life with digital transformation (DX) (which was defined by Dr. Erik Stolterman and Anna Croon Fors (Information Technology and the Good Life, In: Information Systems Research: Relevant Theory and Informed Practice, Springer, pp 687-692, 2004). We may have not imagined full picture of this new life, but we are sure that this may bring new lifestyle after this pandemic.

IADR Member Discussion Forum has been established and utilized as a courier/vehicle to bring new information/active discussion to us. As mentioned in Dr. Herrera's summary, Dr. Belén Retamal-Valdés has been newly appointed at the position of Scientific Group/Network Community Liaison. In PRG Discussion Forum has been activated, please come to join us!







Get Together

by Dr. Carlos Benítez

Workshop on Diversity, Equality, and Equity

The Get Together is a program created to promote integration between former and current LAOHA and COHI (Caribbean Oral Health Initiative) fellows. One of the themes of this year was to discuss how the issue of equality, diversity and equity is central to future leaders and decision-makers in oral health. Given this, the fellows were invited to participate in the workshop "Understanding differences, promoting equality," presented by Ale Benítez, Ph.D. in Gender Studies from the University of Hull - United Kingdom.

In the workshop, participants reflected on how differences such as gender, sexual orientation, skin color, age, nationality, among others, can define opportunities such as having access to education or health and place us in a privileged situation (or not) compared to other people. We discussed how these differences are intertwined and how that creates problems of inequality

that are not natural but the result of social systems and norms that, despite seeming immovable, can be transformed. Much was discussed about the importance of being aware of these differences and inequalities. With our actions, we can make a difference and achieve a more just society and coexistence.

As oral health professionals, everyone in the Association has the responsibility to know these social issues since our decisions will impact institutions, science, companies, and especially the life and health of the population.

The experience of this workshop was unique and moving: the fellows participated and each of them had an opinion that greatly enriched the conversation. We showed that at LAOHA, equality and diversity are essential topics on the agenda.





PhD Dissertation 2021



Mariana Lopes Galante (2018 -2021)

"Mariana Lopes Galante was an extraordinary student. In addition to her dedication to the research project, she has always shown a deep interest and engagement in our group's projects. She is generous with her peers, dedicated and very committed. As a LAOHA fellow, she developed skills and competencies that qualify her as a professor and a great researcher. Wherever Mariana works, I'm sure she will add value and collaborate with the development of projects and programs relevant to society and to the advancement of knowledge in the field of public oral health."



Dr Fernanda Campos de Almeida Carrer - Supervisor

Comment on the experience of being a member of the LAOHA doctoral program and what makes it unique.

"During the doctorate, I developed my research in three countries, and I knew and learned how dentistry is inserted in different contexts. That allowed me to broaden my understanding of political decision-making and see that we face similar problems although we live in other countries. The union of research groups together with institutions like LAOHA can be a way to leverage the creation of alternatives and propose changes to ensure that dentistry has its place in health systems. Being a LAOHA scholarship holder was fundamental to realizing the dream of doing a doctorate with a complete dedication to studies. Through LAOHA, I met new friends and learned a lot about friendship and companionship. I remember the student meetings and the participation in congresses. Everyone was supportive of each other, which brought a feeling of gratitude to be part of the LAOHA family."

What is your perspective on the future?

"The doctoral degree brings with it a greater sense of responsibility. The experience in the doctorate brings me perspectives to act in defense of dentistry as a right for everyone. The persistence in achieving the goals makes dreams possible, and I know that this will be necessary support and partnerships. LAOHA was and is an excellent ally in this fight for dentistry in Latin America. I hope to be able to fulfill this dream and many others, to be able to develop other projects related to public policy and dentistry, and to be able to add value, results, and innovations in this area."

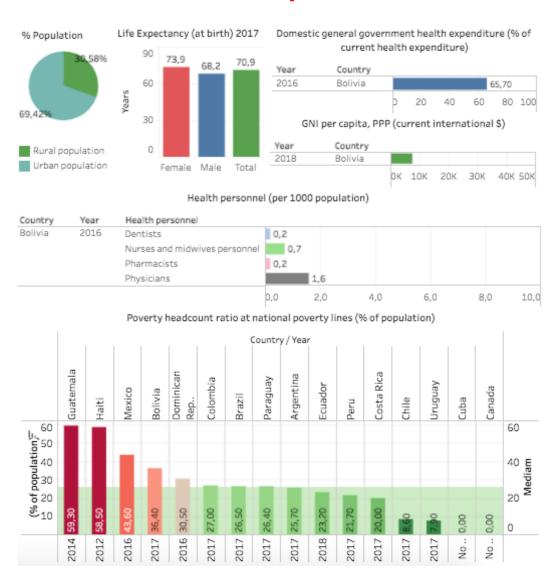
Other projects that were developed during the doctoral period.

"During 36 months, in addition to the thesis itself, I participated in the development of the website of the Ibero-American Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health, under the domain "usp.br", we wrote four scientific articles that are in the peer review process, and 16 books were produced, 15 books were on the health systems of the Observatory countries, and a book with successful experiences in the SUS of Brazil, in addition to 8 book chapters, all accessible for free, available at: https://sites.usp.br/iberoamericanoralhealth/publication/.[2] During this period, we held four workshops at SBPQO in 2018; 2019 and workshops at CIOSP in 2019 and 2020, with the support of LAOHA, IADR, and SBPqO.



One of the most exciting products on the lbero-American Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health was the creation of a **Dashboard with oral health data from Latin America**. This was built in collaboration with regional researchers and decision makers. It is available at: https://sites.usp.br/iberoamericanoralhealth/report/, which allows the user an interactive experience, with the most current indicators of each member country of the Observatory.

Dashboard - A dynamic panel with data on the countries that are part of the Ibero-American Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health





LAOHA Fellow Participation during 68th ORCA Congress 2021

by Dr. Viviana Ávila

The 68th ORCA Congress was planned from July 7-10, 2021, in Zagreb, Croatia. The event was held virtually, due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic.

"This time I participated in the congress as a PhD student from LAOHA. I presented the work entitled "Erosive Tooth Wear related factors in Adolescents: a questionnaire validation" showing the process we carry out to develop a validated instrument for assessing Erosive Tooth Wear (ETW) risk factors. The questionnaire validation process was satisfactory, recommending the use of this questionnaire in practice and research. This presentation permitted me to interact with colleagues that work in the same field of ETW. It was a great experience since the interest showed during the event and the different points of view to enrich my work. These kinds of activities help dental research to stay

active and I highlight the importance of keeping the academic interactions and discussions for sharing the research advances despite the current world situation."

Title: Erosive tooth wear related factors in adolescents: Questionnaire Validation **Authors:** Viviana Avila, David Diaz-Báez, Edgar Beltran, Jaime Castellanos, Stefania Martignon



Viviana Ávila (El Bosque University)

Alumna and LAOHA fellow attend the biannual congress of the International Academy of Periodontology (IAP)

by Dr. Belén Retamal-Valdés

On September 9th and 10th, 2021, the 18th Biannual Conference of the International Academy of Periodontology (IAP) was held in conjunction with the 61st Annual Meeting of the Colombian Academy of Periodontology and Osseointegration (ACPO) in Cartagena, Colombia. The congress, in hybrid format, featured internationally renowned exhibitors

to talk about the theme "Periodontal treatment in the 21st century: biological bases and clinical perspectives".

The event was attended by LAOHA alumna and current professor at Guarulhos University, Belén Retamal-Valdés, and current LAOHA fellow Jonathan Meza. Belén presented the conference



"What is a missing tooth?" as a guest of the event. Furthermore, her work "Moment of systemic metronidazole and amoxicillin administration in periodontal treatment: a 1-year randomized controlled trial", won first place in the clinical

research category. While Jonathan presented the work "Comparison Between a Xenogeneic Dermal Matrix and Connective Tissue Graft for the Treatment of Multiple Adjacent Gingival Recessions: a Randomized controlled clinical trial."









LAOHA/Colgate Brazil IADR Awards

by Dr. Claudio Pannuti

This year LAOHA sponsored two awards: the LAOHA Colgate Internationalization Appreciation Award and the new LAOHA/Colgate Award for Clinical Research Support during the 38th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Dental Research (SBPqO) took place between September 8 and 11 of 2021. The event was held virtually, due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Three thousand twenty-three scientific papers were presented, divided into 15 different modalities.

The participants of the Internationalization Appreciation Award are international students who are attending some Graduate program in the area of Dentistry (Ph.D. level) or who have defended their theses in 2020 or 2021. The PhD student Jhandira Daibelis Yampa-Varga, from the Dental School at University of São Paulo (FOUSP), won first place in this award.

In turn, the Clinical Research Support Award is intended for Brazilian students who attend graduate studies (doctoral level) in Brazil or who have defended their theses in 2020 or 2021 and aimed to reward the best work done in human beings. The first place of this award was awarded to the PhD student Juliana Lays Stolfo Uehara, from the Federal University of Pelotas.

LAOHA - COLGATE INTERNATIONALIZATION APPRECIATION AWARD

Poster Title: Is the practical ability to detect caries lesions of students influenced by teaching methodology? Data from a multicenter study. **Authors:** Jhandira Daibelis Yampa-Vargas,

Gabriele de Oliveira Rodrigues, Ana Carolina Magalhães, Maximiliano Sérgio Cenci, Tathiane Larissa Lenzi, Mariane Emi Sanabe, Marina de Deus Moura de Lima, Mariana Minatel Braga.

"First of all, I would like to say that it is an honor to be recognized by such incredible organizations as LAOHA and Colgate. I feel thrilled and grateful to represent, in some way, my country, Bolivia, and I want to thank the creators of this award. It is crucial and gratifying to know that international students' work, effort, and dedication within Brazilian science are recognized. That encourages us to continue studying and performing with excellence the role of researchers/teachers, both in Brazil and in our countries of origin. Undoubtedly this type of initiative motivates and positively impacts the lives of generations of students, teaching them to value and respect science even more."







LAOHA - COLGATE AWARD FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH SUPPORT

Poster Title: Detection and management of caries lesions around restorations. **Authors:** Juliana Lays Stolfo Uehara*, Cácia Signori, Vitor Henrique Digmayer Romero, Gabriele Soares Maydana, Mariana Minatel Braga, Fausto Medeiros Mendes, Maximiliano Sérgio Cenci.

"Being able to participate in a congress as relevant as this one of SBPqO (Brazilian Division of IADR), presenting the work for which I dedicated myself for many years, and still be awarded the achievement of this award only confirms the importance of science today. It is notorious for taking a part that science has been suffering and participating

in the event that recognizes the importance of clinical research, ensuring that the dedication was worth it. I greatly thank the team that was part of this work, all undergraduate students, graduate colleagues, and professors of the Graduate Program in Dentistry at UFPel for their collaboration, friendship, and partnership in all these years."



Juliana Lays Stolfo Uehara (PhD student at the Federal University of Pelotas)

LAOHA scholar awarded at the Annual IADR Colombian Division Meeting

by Dr. Stefania Martignon

In November of 2021 in Bogotá, Colombia, the Annual IADR Colombian Division Meeting was held. Viviana Avila, PhD student in Universidad El Bosque and scholar of LAOHA, obtained the Award as best proposal and advances in a PhD course.

AWARD FOR THE BEST PhD PROPOSAL AND ADVANCES

Title: Erosive Tooth Wear and its relation with risk factors, dental health status, and saliva and biofilm composition. **Authors:** Viviana Avila, Stefania Martignon, Jaime E. Castellanos

"Being the winner of the Colombia Division - IADR Award for the Best Proposal and Advances of the Doctoral Thesis is a gratifying stimulus that motivates me to continue with the work that I do on a daily basis and encourages me to continue participating in these kind of events. Additionally, this award is very positive because it favored the visibility of the high-quality works that are developed in UNICA, at Universidad El Bosque, and that in the case of my doctoral thesis, helps to show how the support of LAOHA has favored my performance as a student to achieve high impact results that lead to reaping fruits as interesting as the current award."







LAOHA scholars book authorship

Participation of LAOHA Fellows in relevant work in their fields.



Classification of Diseases and Peri-implant Conditions



Mohamed Hassan (Egypt) (PhD student at University of São Paulo)

"If you are looking for an e-book that simplifies the diagnosis of peri-implant diseases and conditions, you need to check this! The idea of the e-book was of Isabella Reis, Prof. Claudio Pannuti, and Prof. Giuseppe Romito as the peri-implant conditions and disease is a topic of great interest. The e-book uses mind maps, flowcharts to summarize and simplify the diagnosis of peri-implant diseases. Through 10 chapters, the book

Through 10 chapters, the book demonstrates several clinical photos, radiographs, illustrations that cover all the aspects. It is a great honor and privilege to be a co-author with great professors, specialists, master, and doctoral students at the University of



Guilherme do Amaral (Brazil) (PhD student at University of São Paulo)

São Paulo."

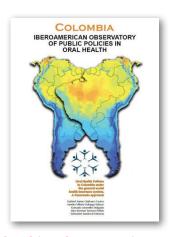
"Having the opportunity to participate in the construction of the e-book on the classification of peri-implant diseases together with the team of specialists in the area of implantology at USP was an enriching experience in this year of 2021. I am sure that the book brings valuable information to the entire academic community and, above all, for clinical colleagues."



"I had the pleasure of working on creating 16 books in partnership with the Ibero-American Observatory of Public Policies in Oral Health. This gave me significant involvement with key stakeholders from some Latin American countries who also contributed to the publishing process. Fifteen electronic books were created on the health systems of the Observatory's member countries and 1 printed and electronic book on the Unified Health System (SUS) and Oral Health in Brazil. Being part of this team also allowed the development of skills in content management, diagramming, and design. It was great learning that brought me new experiences. Making them available for free and online is a way to ensure that everyone can know more about the countries and their respective health systems, being a teaching and learning tool for everyone."



Unified National Health System and Oral Health in Brazil



Colombia - Iberoamerican
Observatory of Public
Policies In Oral Health
1 of 16 e-books on the health
systems of Observatory
member countries



Mariana Lopes Galante (Brazil) (PhD at the University of São Paulo)

Download available on: https://sites.usp.br/iberoamericanoralhealth/publication/



Publications

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Regional Cariology Consensus

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