



Request for Proposals
Scoping Review on Orofacial
Myofunctional Therapy
January 2023

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Expression of Interest

Introduction

The Federation of Dental Hygiene Regulators of Canada (FDHRC) is a federation of provincial colleges which have statutory responsibilities to regulate the dental hygiene profession within their jurisdictions. 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 FDHRC seeks a consultant to conduct a scoping review and an environmental scan. The scoping review should answer the following question: What evidence exists to support the effectiveness of Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy (OMFT)? The environmental scan should provide a list and summary of existing guidelines or statements on OMFT from Canadian regulatory bodies.

The main source of information on 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.”¹

Examples of Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders cited by the IAOM include one or a combination of the following²:

- 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 include³:

¹ <https://www.iaom.com/faq/>

² <https://www.iaom.com/faq/>

³ <https://www.iaom.com/faq/>

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

Scope

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

- What are the key competencies required to perform OMFT?
- What courses/programs are offered in OMFT?
- 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 scoping review of all relevant research including peer-reviewed articles, research reports, program evaluations, and other relevant documents related to the proposed topic,
- Prepare a scoping review report regarding the evidence available on the practice of OMFT and its effectiveness,
- Prepare a summary of research gaps, if any identified,
- Provide a detailed reference list/bibliography of articles used to create the written report, and
- Provide a summary and list of available guidelines or statements on OMFT from Canadian and international regulatory bodies.

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 exam@fdhrc.ca. Proposal must be received by **January 31, 2023**. ***Extended to March 1, 2023