

WHS Academic Alliance Expert Meeting on **“Let’s put the mouth back into the body!”** **Connecting the Dots: Oral Health as a potential biomarker for General Health”**

Rome 8-9 June 2026 | Organi Collegiali – Rectorate Building

Hosted by Sapienza University of Rome, chair of the WHS Working Group on Oral Health and General Health

Scientific organizers: Livia Ottolenghi, Daniela De Biase, Domenico Alvaro (Sapienza University of Rome, IT)

8 June 2026

13:00 – 14:00 Registration and welcome coffee

14:00 – 14:30 Welcome Addresses and Introduction

14:30 – 15:30 **Session 1 - Global Oral Health**

Constituting Global Oral Health: From Inclusion to Influence

Habib Benzian, extraordinary Professor, Faculty of Dentistry, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa and Working Group Lead, Lancet Commission Oral Health.

Discussants:

Paolo Villari (Sapienza, IT), Carlos Miguel Marto (Coimbra, PT)

15:30 – 17:00 **Session 2 - Oral Health and Systemic Chronic Diseases**

Periodontitis and diabetes - a two-way relation that matters

Anders Gustafsson, professor of Periodontology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden.

Luca D’Onofrio, full consultant, Diabetology Unit, Umberto I Hospital, Rome, Italy.

Discussant: Andrea Pilloni (Sapienza, IT)

17:00 – 17:30 Wrap-up of the sessions and THM

9 June 2026

09:00 – 10:30 **Session 3 - Integrated Oral Health for Mothers and Children**

Integrating Oral Health Across Primary and Maternal Health Care

Irene Adyatmaka, Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) and senior lecturer, Faculty of Dentistry, Maranatha Christian University, Bandung, Indonesia.

Hyewon Lee, JW Lee Center for Global Medicine & Global Maternal and Child Oral Health Center, Seoul National University, South Korea.

Discussant: Marta Mazur (Sapienza, IT)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 **Session 4 - Faces of Genetic Disease**

Orofacial Manifestations as the First Clue to Genetic Diseases Diagnosis

Francisco do Vale, associate professor Dental Medicine, director of the Orthodontics Institute, Faculty of Medicine, Coimbra University, Portugal.

Daniela Oliveira, clinical geneticist, Medical Genetics Department, Hospital Pediátrico de Coimbra, Unidade Local de Saúde de Coimbra, Portugal.

Discussant: Gabriella Galluccio (Sapienza, IT)

12:30 – 14:00 Break and light lunch

14:00 – 15:30 **Session 5 - Saliva Biomarkers and Cancer**

Emerging Biomarkers in Oral Cancer and Precancerous Disorders

Federica Rocchetti, researcher, Department of Odontostomatological and Maxillofacial Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy.

Smita Pattanshetty, associate professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, NIMS University, Jaipur, India.

Discussant: Domenico Alvaro (Sapienza, IT)

15:30 – 16:00 Wrap-up of the sessions, THM and concluding remarks

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Each session will include ample time for multidisciplinary international discussion

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