



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS  
UL Complex, Meralco Avenue  
Pasig, Metro Manila



*Sama-Sama  
sa DECS*

September 14, 1999

DECS MEMORANDUM  
No. 393, s. 1999

**ORAL HEALTH "BRIGHT SMILES, BRIGHT FUTURES" PROJECT  
FOR TEACHERS**

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Private Elementary and Secondary School Principals

1. The Department of Education, Culture and Sports through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) and Colgate Palmolive Philippines Incorporated (CCPI) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement in 1997 to implement the Oral Health Education "Bright Smiles Bright Futures (BSBF)" Program which aims to strengthen oral health education among Grades I-III pupils. The program is implemented in twelve (12) selected public elementary schools in each of the 136 divisions nationwide. Feedback have shown the effectiveness of the program in the development of dental health habits among the children. There have been observations, however, that some teachers in the pilot classes have missing or defective (bungli) anterior teeth that cause speech defects.

Cognizant of the critical role of the teachers as role models of good dental health to enable them to become credible and effective in teaching the dental health messages, the BSBF Program expands its service coverage to include the teachers. Hence, the BSBF Project for Teachers has been conceptualized for implementation; initially in the schools where the program is implemented.

2. The objectives of the BSBF Project for Teachers are to:
- (a) provide basic restorative dental services to anterior teeth loss,
  - (b) create more attention to oral self care to save costs for rehabilitative dental service
3. In order to operationalize the project, the school dentists are instructed to:
- (a) conduct oral examination to establish baseline data on the caries status of teachers;
  - (b) institute intervention measures such as fillings and extractions;
  - (c) identify teachers with missing anterior teeth and submit the data to the Health and Nutrition Center
  - (d) provide the denture needs to the identified teachers
4. Financial assistance for materials including pontics for anterior teeth and denture processing shall be provided by the DECS through the Health and Nutrition Center and Colgate - Palmolive Phils., Inc. on a cost sharing basis.

**"Quality Education Towards Philippines 2000"**

5 Regional directors and school administrators are enjoined to extend full administrative support to the project. Regional supervising dentists and division dentists in-charge shall take the lead in the monitoring of these activities to ensure the attainment of the project's objectives.

6 Widest dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

*Andrew Gonzalez*  
ANDREW GONZALEZ, FSC  
Secretary

Reference: None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATION  
PROJECTS  
TEACHERS