Title: Life Course Perspectives of Oral Health
Vulnerability and Resilience

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Even though numerous studies have shown that people living in deprived areas in the UK have poorer oral health than people living in less deprived areas, the exact mechanisms by which deprivation affects oral health remains ill-defined. Our oral health survey of adults living in Outer North East London (ONEL), UK in 2008-10, confirmed these oral health differences (inequalities) but also identified “resilient” individuals living in the most deprived areas in ONEL who had clinically-defined good oral health and vulnerable individuals living in the least deprived areas who had poor oral health. Resilience describes the ability to thrive in spite of challenging life circumstances and adversity. Understanding why some people maintain good oral health in the face of socioeconomic disadvantage, while others do not is crucial for developing effective and evidence-based interventions and services to reduce oral health inequalities.

This presentation will present the findings from a mixed method study exploring oral health resilience and vulnerability. It will highlight the complex interrelationships between participants’ oral health behaviours, inextricably shaped and influenced by life course experiences (life course factors), personal perceptions and beliefs (psychosocial factors) within the context of where and when participants were born (Birth Cohort Factors).

Time & Place: Tuesday, December 4, 2012
11:30 a.m. in the Rogers Faculty Council Room (M/48)
3640 University St., Strathcona Anatomy & Dentistry Bldg.

Small lunch served. All are welcome. Host: Dr. Christophe Bedos at (christophe.bedos@mcgill.ca)