



For Immediate Release
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**AADR/ADEA Testify Before House Appropriations Subcommittee
in Support of Dental Research and Education**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – On behalf of the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) and the American Dental Education Association (ADEA), James Q. Swift, D.D.S., testified on March 27, 2007, in support of dental research and education programs before the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

Swift, president of ADEA, and director of the Division of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, discussed the FY 2008 budget recommendations for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Title VII Health Professions Education and Training Programs administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Dental Health Improvement Act, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Oral Health Programs, and the Ryan White CARE Act.

“Oral health is an important, vital part of health throughout life, and through dental research and education, we can enhance the quality and scope of oral health,” said Swift, who highlighted the need to address disparities in the oral health of underserved and high-risk communities, adding, “Research is needed to identify the factors that determine disparities in oral health and disease. These disparities in combination with the current shortage of dental school faculty, the scarcity of underrepresented minority dentists, and the need for targeted incentives to draw dentists to practice in rural and underserved communities make our FY 2008 funding recommendations critically important.”

In conclusion, Swift urged Congress to provide \$31.3 billion for NIH, including \$425 million for the NIDCR, as well as \$10 million for the Dental Health Improvement Act, \$15.6 million for CDC's Oral Health Program, \$19 million for the dental programs within the Ryan White CARE Act, and \$10 million for General Dentistry and Pediatric Dentistry Residency Training Grants.

The mission of the American Association for Dental Research is to increase knowledge for the improvement of oral health; to support and represent the oral health research community; and to facilitate the communication and application of research findings.

The mission of the American Dental Education Association is to lead individuals and institutions of the dental education community to address contemporary issues influencing education, research and the delivery of oral health care for the improvement of the health of the public.

Caption: James Q. Swift, president of ADEA, testifies on March 27, 2007, in support of dental research and education programs before the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.