



# Sugar Sweetened Beverages and Tooth Decay Impact on Chronic Diseases in SF

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# The Dental Safety Net in SF

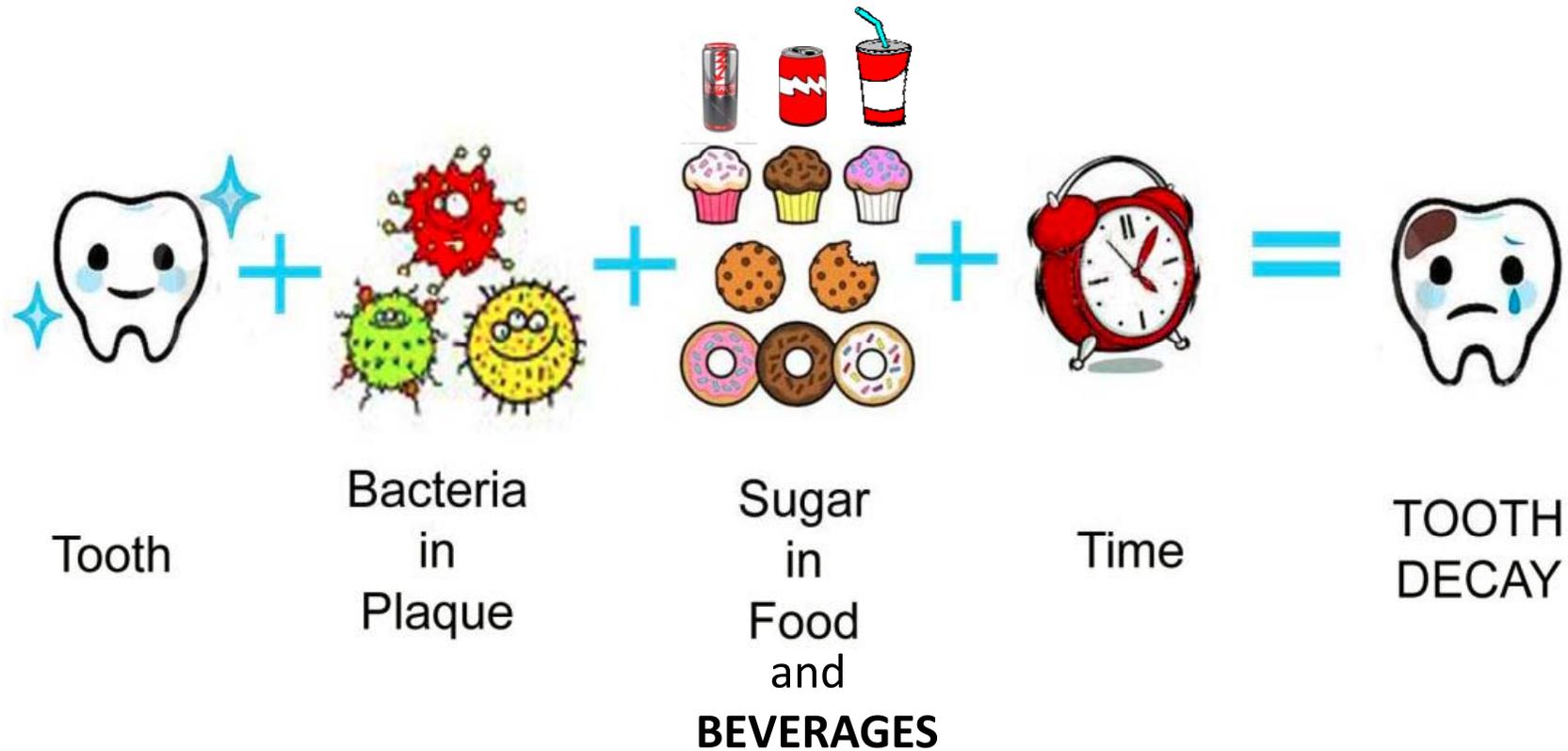
- SFCCC has 3 Partner Health Centers (outside of SF DPH) that provide a full array of dental services for children to seniors.
- In 2014, our Partners provided over 38,000 dental visits to our patients.
- Our health centers collectively employ over 13 dentists and 5 dental hygienists.
- We have 5 dental offices in our Partner Health Centers, strategically located throughout the City.
- Our target populations are patients and their families living 200% of Poverty Level and below. Services are provided in over 5 languages.

# Tooth Decay- Dental Caries

- #1 Chronic disease amongst children in the US
  - 5x more common than asthma
  - 7x more common than allergies
  - Major health disparities for low SES/minorities
- Transmissible, multi-factorial disease
- Almost 100% preventable
- Access issues in SF's low-income and vulnerable populations
- High prevalence for adults- 92% in the US

# Tooth Decay and Sugar Sweetened Beverages

Here the skinny on Tooth Decay:



# Sugar Sweetened Beverages in the Mouth

Exponentially damaging to the teeth

- Particularly damaging in baby teeth
- Highly acidic nature of SSBs (pH 2.4-4.4)
  - introducing more acid to acid-loving, tooth-eating bacteria
- High sugar content
  - Hyper activates the cavity-causing bacteria
- Prolongs the duration of caries (cavity) causing activity
  - From 20 minutes to up to 4 hours
- Speeds the loss of Calcium from the teeth

# Other considerations

- SSB consumption for children is increasing
- Milk and other nutritious drinks are decreasing
- Empowering the public to see the dangers in consumer products is very difficult



# Questions

The San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium supports the Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax Initiative.

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