

Message from the Minister of Health, Orazio Schillaci

International Congress on Oral Health

26 June 2026

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to Stefano Giovannardi, President of Curasept, to the distinguished authorities here today, to the representatives of the scientific societies, and to everyone attending the International Congress on Oral Health.

Unfortunately, pressing institutional commitments have prevented me from joining you in person today. I was nevertheless very keen to convey my appreciation for this important opportunity to exchange views and expertise.

Oral health is an integral part of our overall health and wellbeing. It must therefore be fully embedded in our strategies for disease prevention and health promotion. Scientific evidence increasingly demonstrates the links between oral health conditions and a wide range of chronic diseases, reinforcing the need for a more integrated approach to protecting and promoting health.

This is fully consistent with the work of the Ministry of Health to build a healthcare system that puts people at its heart and looks at their health as a whole. It also reflects our firm belief that prevention is one of the most important investments we can make for the future—both to improve the health of our citizens and to ensure the long-term sustainability of Italy's National Health Service.

This approach is at the heart of the policies we are pursuing through the National Prevention Plan, our efforts to promote healthier lifestyles, and the continued strengthening of community-based healthcare.

I therefore welcome with great interest the Manifesto being signed today. It represents an important step towards closer cooperation between the scientific community, healthcare professionals and public institutions.

It is through initiatives such as this that we can build greater awareness of the importance of prevention and promote a genuinely person-centred approach to health.

Thank you, and I wish you all a productive and successful Congress.