INCREMENTAL dental CARE
• George Cunningham-1907

• The concept of incremental care at the earliest available age has been common to dental services for school children in the U.S.
WHY FOCUS THROUGH SCHOOLS?

1. Ideal setting for promoting oral health.
2. An efficient & effective way to reach over 1 billion world wide
3. School years are influential stages
4. Children - earlier the habits are established, the longer lasting the impact.
5. Schools - network & channel
definition

- periodic care so spaced that increment of dental disease are treated at the earliest time consistent with proper diagnosis and operating efficiency, in such a way that there is no accumulation of dental needs beyond the minimum.
Method of implementation

• Treatment programs are "gotten off the ground" carrying the youngest available group the 1 year & carrying it forward in subsequent years as far as funds permit, each year adding a new class of children at the next earliest served to as high an age as available resources permit.
Controlling facts

- Large increase in DMFS/DMFT which has been found to occur during this period.

- Large increase in chair hours per year needed for dental maintenance care beyond the heavy load of initial care the I year a new patient is seen.
 advantages

1. Prevent pulpal involvement and loss of teeth
2. Economic
3. Periodontal diseases are identified at early stage
4. Preventive programmes can be conducted on periodic basis
5. Habit of periodic return
DISADVANTAGES

- Attention of deciduous teeth
- Early-age incremental care lies in psychology & in the changing patterns modern family life
- Increasing likelihood of interruption in children’s dental health program
- Inertia toward seeking of private dental care
recap