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Free dental underuse

Geelong Advertiser, Geelong

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More than 1.5 million Australian children are going without free dental care.

An Australian Dental Association survey reveals that the Child Dental Benefits Schedule is shrouded in confusion and misinformation, with many parents unaware of its existence or unsure of their eligibility, leaving millions of young mouths at risk.

Just 29 per cent of parents believe their child is eligible for free dental treatment, and only 36 per cent of families who are eligible for the free treatment actually use it.