

## **Dr Shilpi Ajwani**

### ***Head of Oral Health Research***

Dr Shilpi Ajwani is the Head of Oral Health Research and Oral Health Promotion at the SLHD Oral Health Services and Sydney Dental Hospital. She started her research career at University of Helsinki, Finland where she was one of the investigators in the Helsinki Ageing Study – a study of home dwelling elderly aged 75 years and over living in Helsinki, Finland. She subsequently completed her Doctorate in Odontology (PhD) from the same University. She has also worked at Wellington School of Medicine & Statistics NZ, Wellington, New Zealand as an investigator in the New Zealand Census-Mortality Study (NZCMS) – part of the Health Inequalities Research Programme.



Dr Ajwani is currently one of the key investigators in the Midwifery Initiated Oral Health Program; a pioneering research focussing on promoting oral health care during pregnancy and one of the lead researchers in the PrIOR Project; a cost-effective strategy for delivering Preventive and Interceptive orthodontic care by public dentists. Her other areas of research interests include modalities for managing tooth decay, association between periodontal disease and general health and tobacco cessation practices among dentists. She has published scientific research papers in numerous dental and medical journals and presented papers in various national and international conferences.

Dr Ajwani has also been involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. She was the Colgate lecturer at School of Dentistry, University of Otago, New Zealand and is currently a Senior Clinical Lecturer at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Sydney.