

August 25, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great respect and appreciation that we provide this endorsement for Jennifer Cicci, who recently delivered her presentation, *Considerations for the Head & Neck Cancer Patients in the Dental Chair*, to our second- and third-year dental hygiene students and third- and fourth-year dental students during Orientation Week.

Jennifer's session was both powerful and inspiring. She openly shared her journey as a stage 4 survivor of HPV-associated squamous cell carcinoma, offering a unique perspective that bridged her experience as both a patient and a Registered Dental Hygienist with nearly two decades of clinical practice. Her presentation highlighted critical issues such as the importance of early detection, the role of oral health care providers in prevention and advocacy, and the lasting value of keeping the patient's voice central to care.

Our students and faculty were deeply engaged throughout the session. Jennifer has an extraordinary ability to connect with her audience, weaving clinical insight with lived experience in a way that is educational, authentic, and impactful. Her message challenged our future oral health care providers to reflect on their responsibilities, not only as clinicians but also as advocates who can make a life-saving difference.

Jennifer's courage, advocacy, and dedication to education left a lasting impression on all in attendance. We are grateful for the opportunity to have hosted her and are confident in recommending her as a speaker to any healthcare or academic program seeking to inspire learners with a patient-centered perspective.

Sincerely,



Kaleigh Warden RDH, BA(IS), MAIS
Instructor II & Clinical Coordinator
School of Dental Hygiene, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry
Rady Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Manitoba