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Member Newsletter



Coalition News

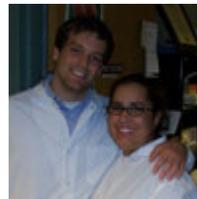
New Look for Coalition Newsletter September a Time for Change

September is a definite time for change...a new school year, fall begins and now the Coalition's newsletter. In recent weeks, our biweekly electronic newsletter has gone through a makeover. The new format and design truly reflect the newsletter's growth in the last few months. Besides the bright colors and attractive fonts, there are also "In This Issue" and "Upcoming Events" features to help you quickly find articles of interest. I welcome your comments and suggestions to improve the newsletter further. Happy Reading! --Karlene Ketola, Executive Director

MOHC Mentorship Program Fulfilling Michigan's State Oral Health Plan to Develop Workforce Programs

The MOHC Mentorship Program has wrapped up! Seven pre-dental students have experienced a week in a Community Health Center with clinicians and administrative staff. Site visits were made to three out of four health centers by Mel Christensen, MOHC Project Coordinator. Many positive, encouraging comments were made by the students and dentists participating in the program. Dr. Jane Grover, Dental Director for the Center for Family Health in Jackson thanked MOHC for creating such an important program. She felt that the pre-dental student population was an excellent age group to target. It was clear, from each site visit, that the dentists and other staff were happy to be a part of the program. The students' attitudes were equally as upbeat. The most encouraging element to the visits was the effort clinic staff made to educate the students. One of the students had been invited to sit in on a staff meeting. Another had time to learn how the recent cut to Medicaid adult dental affects the number of patients the clinic loses each week. One student expressed, "The experience was everything I was looking for. The director took time out of her busy schedule to sit down with me and answer my questions regarding costs of starting up a clinic and maintaining a staff...It was incredibly informative." To view the program

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September 3, 2009

In This Issue

[Coalition Kicks Off Education Calendar](#)

[Michigan's Economy and Budget](#)

[Medicaid Moves to CHAMPS Sept. 18](#)

[Fluoride Varnish Course Available](#)

[Tax Dollars at Work 2009](#)

[Addressing Health Care Spending](#)

[MN New Law on Mid-level Providers](#)

Upcoming Events

September 25, 2009
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
MOHC Board Meeting
Okemos

October 2, 2009
10 to 11 a.m.
Osteonecrosis of the Jaw Webinar

October 9, 2009
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
MOHC Member Town Hall Meeting
Lansing

November 6, 2009
10 to 11 a.m.
Diabetes and Periodontal Disease Webinar

November 16, 2009
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS Update Webinar

Quick Links

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Staff

report in its entirety, click [here](#). --Melissa Christensen, Project Coordinator

Coalition Kicks Off 2009-10 Education Calendar **Opportunities to Learn, Network and Earn CEs**

New for 2009! The Michigan Oral Health Coalition will offer monthly opportunities for members to learn, network and earn CEs. Mark your calendar for our first course scheduled Oct. 2 from 10 to 11 a.m. via webinar. The topic is Osteonecrosis of the Jaws (ONJ) with faculty Junu Ojha, B.D.S., M.S., Assistant Professor, University of Detroit Mercy, Department of Diagnostic Sciences. Participate from the comfort of your office or gather your team in a conference room--no travel required! Each registration comes with access to the archived version of the program and the materials for six months. Registration materials are forthcoming.

Member Price: \$40 per location

Upcoming Education Events

Osteonecrosis of the Jaw

October 2, 10 to 11 a.m.

Webinar

MOHC Member Town Hall Meeting

October 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lansing

Diabetes and Periodontal Disease

November 6, 10 to 11 a.m.

Webinar

Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS Update

November 16, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Webinar

Do you have an idea for an upcoming course or an interest in teaching? Would your organization like to collaborate with MOHC, then contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at 517.381.8000.

A Fond Farewell **For Student Coordinator Rebecca Van Tassel**

Michigan Oral Health Coalition shares a fond farewell to Student Coordinator Rebecca Van Tassel. Since September 2008, Becca has worn many hats as part of her work study experience. From handling incoming registrations to coordinating our Abuse and Neglect Project Committee, her skills and infectious smile will be missed.



This week, Becca returns to Michigan State University to complete the final year of her MSW program. She has also accepted a position with a Lansing-area treatment center. Best wishes for the future, Becca!

Beyond the Dental Office **Free On-line Course for Dental Hygienists and Assistants**

Michigan Oral Health Coalition and the Michigan Department of Community Health are pleased to bring Hygienists and Assistants a training tool for the dental care needs of Michigan's nursing home patients. The training will be followed by a questionnaire earning registered

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clinicians one continuing education credit. Visit www.mohc.org or click [here](#) to learn more!

2009 Member Survey

A Hearty Thank You!

According to the 2009 Member Survey, 64% of respondents indicated that access is the biggest challenge facing oral health in Michigan. Thank you to those who completed the survey. The results will be incorporated into our planning process and discussed at the Oct. 9 Member Meeting. Congratulations to member Nancy Harmon from Guidance Center, Head Start in Dearborn. Nancy was our lucky drawing winner for the \$25 Barnes & Noble gift card.

Special Care Dentistry

Free Webcast of July 22 Training Session

Further your knowledge of patients with special needs today. On July 22, Michigan partnered with New York to bring clinicians a free training in special-care dentistry. Topics included: an introduction to Developmental Disabilities; Legal/Ethical Issues and Autism. This training is available for on-line access for one year and is brought to you by the Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan Oral Health Coalition and Michigan Public Health Institute. To access the training, visit <http://learning.mihealth.org/mediasite/oralhealth>.

State News

Michigan's Economy and Budget

FY 2010 Begins October 1; 27 Days and Counting...

Last Thursday, Rep. Joan Bauer (D-Lansing) hosted a community event in downtown Lansing to discuss the state's budget crisis and how proposed cuts would affect residents. At the event, House Fiscal Agency Director Mitchell Bean provided an update on the current state of the budget. To view his presentation, click [here](#).

House Speaker Andy Dillon said Tuesday the governor and legislative leaders are "very close" to a budget agreement for the coming fiscal year. Today in Lansing, Granholm and leaders in the Republican-controlled Senate and Democrat-dominated House will hold a "marathon session" to negotiate how to wipe out the state's \$2.8 billion shortfall in the 2010 budget. The Governor does expect to have a budget agreement by the end of the month. However, Speaker Dillon shared with reporters there are three sticking points: Promise Grants, Revenue Sharing and Community Health.

Medicaid Moves to CHAMPS on September 18

MDCH Training Sessions October 7 and 14

On Sept. 18, 2009, Medicaid will make its official switch to the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System or "CHAMPS." This fall, Medicaid Provider Outreach will begin a series of CHAMPS "Go-Live" sessions. The CHAMPS sessions will cover topics such as: domain issues, managing your Provider Enrollment applications, instructions on how to use the Eligibility,



Prior Authorization, and Claims subsystems. Billing information will NOT be available. Dental Provider Sessions will be held in the Lansing area on Oct. 7 and 14. To register click [here](#).

New Fluoride Varnish Course Available On-line MDCH, Delta Dental and Washtenaw Head Start Partner

There is a new on-line course available for those wanting to initiate a fluoride varnish program to high-risk preschool children across Michigan. Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) with funding from Delta Dental and the varnish program has teamed up with Washtenaw Head Start to make this a reality.

Video was captured with the help of MPHI and a Head Start class from the Early Childhood Center in Ann Arbor and coordinated with a PowerPoint presentation from MDCH to make this available to dental and medical professionals. There is one CE credit available to dental professionals for taking the course and completing the quiz at the end.

Fluoride varnish has been shown to be quite effective if started at a young age. Head Starts and similar preschool groups are ideal settings for teaching the staff about oral health, performing an oral screening, applying fluoride varnish and most importantly connecting these children to a dental home for comprehensive and preventive care. You can access the course at <http://tiny.cc/mdchvarnishvideo>. For more information, please contact Susan Deming at demings@michigan.gov or 517.373.3624.

Tax Dollars at Work 2009 Michigan League for Human Services Report

This report includes data on spending and recipients for an array of health and social programs administered by the Departments of Human Services, Community Health, Education, and Labor and Economic Growth. With Michigan's fiscal woes and a structural deficit (public needs outpacing revenue) continuing for the foreseeable future, fiscal solutions that further erode the safety net will likely continue to be proposed and considered, and perhaps approved. This does not bode well for low-income Michigan residents struggling to meet their needs in this challenging economic time. [See Full Report](#).

National News

Bending the Curve: Effective Steps to Address Health Care Spending Growth

Much of the rhetoric around health reform has centered on the over-riding need to reduce the growth of health care costs, but agreeing on approaches that accomplish this goal has proven elusive. In order to slow the rise in health care costs, steps must be taken to address significant problems that exist with payment, benefits, regulations, and organizations in the current health care system.



According to a [new report](#), health care reform should include comprehensive efforts to achieve higher-value care. The strategy the authors lay out consists of four interrelated pillars:
1. Investments in better information and tools (e.g., health IT) to guide a

reformed system.

2. Support for accountable payment systems that reward providers who deliver lower-cost, high-quality care.
3. Reform of health insurance markets and coverage subsidies around an exchange model that pools risk outside of employment and promotes competition on cost and quality.
4. Support for better individual choices to improve health and save health care costs.

MN New Law on Mid-level Oral Health Providers

August ADHA Magazine Excerpt

From the American Dental Hygienists' Association's August magazine, author Heidi Emmerling, RDH, PhD discusses the recent passage of a bill, establishing the Advanced Dental Therapist, into law on May 13, 2009. Minnesota is the first state to pass legislation allowing a mid-level oral health provider (dentistry's version of a nurse practitioner). The Advanced Dental Therapist (ADT) is Minnesota's version of ADHA's Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP) model. According to Colleen Brickle, RDH, EdD, Interim Dean of Health Sciences at Normandale Community College, "This is one step toward health reform that addresses those who need oral health care the most." Dental hygienists everywhere are not only celebrating Minnesota's victory, but there are a number of states that hope to follow Minnesota's lead.

Saliva May Help Spot Oral Cancer Early

American Association for Cancer Research Study

In a major step towards early diagnosis of oral cancer, researchers have found that saliva contains at least 50 microRNAs that could aid detection. In a recent American Association for Cancer Research study, researchers measured microRNA levels in the saliva of 50 people with oral squamous cell carcinoma and 50 healthy people. They identified at least 50 microRNAs that may be associated with oral cancer.

"The oral cavity is a mirror to systemic health, and many diseases that develop in other parts of the body have an oral manifestation," study author Dr. David T. Wong, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Dentistry, said. The study findings, published on-line Aug. 25 in the journal *Clinical Cancer Research*, need to be confirmed by a larger and longer analysis, Wong said.

Key Oral Health Indicators Data

DRC Expands Data Query System

The Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Data Resource Center (DRC) has recently expanded its Data Query System to include additional years of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) data for key oral health indicators. The years 1996-2006 are now available to be used to create a customized query to produce reliable national statistics. To go to the Data Query System click [here](#). The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, conducted by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, is a set of large-scale surveys of families and individuals, their medical providers, and employers across the United States. MEPS is the most complete source of data on the cost and use of health care and health insurance coverage.

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's mission is to improve oral health in

Michigan by focusing on prevention, health promotion, oral health data, access and the link between oral health and overall health.

Michigan Oral Health Coalition

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