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Member Newsletter



Coalition News

Coalition Project Receives National Exposure A Member's Perspective on Domestic Violence Program

The National Conference on Health and Domestic Violence was held in New Orleans from October 8-10. As Chair of the Abuse and Neglect Prevention (ANP) Committee, I submitted a poster abstract on behalf of the Michigan Oral Health Coalition titled, "Michigan Oral Health Coalition Outreach Plan on Prevention, Education and Awareness among Dental Providers to Prevent Abuse & Neglect."



The ANP committee updated the Michigan PANDA program and developed three separate booklets for dental providers on child abuse, elder abuse and domestic violence. The booklets are resources for the dental office. The abstract was accepted for the poster session. There were a number of posters but the MOHC poster was the only dental one to address the prevention and awareness issue. There were over 600 attendees from a variety of professions: social work, public health, education, and government agencies. It was a very different group of attendees with a wide variety of experience and knowledge. I received a lot of feedback on the poster from non-dental attendees. One of our goals was to do outreach to other professionals and this was a great chance to do that. I had lots of questions from medical providers, especially about dental neglect.

The real highlight was that there were a few dental professionals at the meeting, and that they specifically sought out the poster to ask me questions about our booklets. They wanted to know attitudes of dental providers and how the booklets were accepted by the dental community. Since these were new, I told them that we did not have an evaluation plan in place regarding attitudes and behaviors yet. They really liked the layout, design and all the information. They also got excited about the fact that the content is on our website for everyone.

I also received comments on whether we were going to do any outreach to Native Americans with the booklets. Actually, individuals from two different states asked me that question. We did not initially have the Tribal Health

October 29, 2009

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Upcoming Events

November 6, 2009
10 to 11 a.m.
Diabetes: Oral Care What's
In There? Webinar

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

December 4, 2009
10 to 11 a.m.
Oral Care and the Patient
with Autism Webinar

January 15, 2009
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Time for an Infection Control
Check-Up? Webinar

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Clinics as a group to target but will add them to our outreach plan. It was a great and rewarding time to mingle with diverse professionals, there were national and international representatives. This conference is held bi-annually. This was a conference that was worth attending. I was happy to be given the opportunity to represent the MOHC at this venue.

Author: Member Chris Farrell, RHD, MPH.

CHAMPS Webinar Scheduled November 16

Coalition Partners with MDCH

With Medicaid's September 18th switch to CHAMPS, many dental providers are experiencing issues related to claims, prior authorization and eligibility. As a follow-up to this month's Provider Outreach trainings in Lansing, the Michigan Oral Health Coalition and Michigan Department of Community Health invite you and your staff to participate in a CHAMPS webinar. Join us November 16 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for "Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS."

For Michigan's more than 1,000 dental providers who serve Medicaid, MI Child and Healthy Kids Dental patients, this is your opportunity to ask questions on remittance advice, place of service editing, PA 161 billing, direct data entry, eligibility verification, and status of claims. Registration Fee: \$25 per site. Continuing Education: Two (2) hours. Click [here](#) to register!

"What Oral Health Providers Need to Know"

Coalition Releases Free Booklets on Abuse and Neglect

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition with funding from Verizon Wireless has released its three "What Oral Health Providers Need to Know" booklets. A professional collaboration of member policy specialists, social workers and hygienists created the booklets to educate oral health professionals on how to respond if they suspect abuse or neglect in a patient. To order copies of the "What Oral Health Providers Need to Know" about domestic violence, elder abuse and child abuse and neglect booklets, call 517.381.8000 today.



State News

Tips to Prevent the H1N1 Influenza Virus

Resources Available from MDCH

During the past week, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has seen a significant increase in the number of H1N1 flu cases throughout the state. Increases in absenteeism related to this illness have led numerous school districts to suspend school activities. As you know, symptoms of influenza can include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, runny nose, tiredness, and occasionally diarrhea and vomiting. MDCH urges people who become ill to stay home from work or school until they are fever free for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications. For up-to-date H1N1 information and resources, visit Michigan's flu [website](#).

"OBGYN 101 for Dental Professionals" Webcast

Join Us November 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Michigan Oral Health Coalition, in collaboration with the New York State Task Force on Special Needs Dentistry and the Michigan Department of Community Health, will present "OBGYN 101 for Dental Professionals: Management of Pregnant Women." This FREE webcast is scheduled Nov. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. and offers two CE credits. For more information, please contact Jill Moore at 517.373.4943.

**Funding for the Michigan/New York Special Needs Conference speakers was partially provided by the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Service Administration Grants to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities (T12HP10742). The Contents of this conference are solely the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily represent the official view of HRSA.*

National News

Healthy People 2020 and Oral Health

Public Comment Opens October 30

Since March, CDC has hosted regional meetings to discuss the *Healthy People 2020* framework. As you know, Healthy People provides science-based, 10-year national objectives for promoting health and preventing disease. On Oct. 30, the CDC will begin accepting public comment on *Healthy People 2020* objectives. To view the *Healthy People 2020* objectives related to oral health, click [here](#).

Halloween Treats Can Play Tricks On Teeth

Four Academy of General Dentistry Healthy Tips

With Halloween fast approaching, here are some helpful tips for you to consider.

1. Offer healthy alternatives to candy. Eating sweets causes damaging acids to form in the mouth. These acids continue to affect the teeth for at least 20 minutes before they are neutralized. Sugar-free gum containing the artificial sweetener xylitol is effective in combating the bacteria in plaque and fighting the acid that eats away at enamel. The chewing motion also stimulates the flow of saliva, which helps cleanse the teeth. That makes sugar-free gum a smart choice to drop into Halloween bags.

2. Limit the amount of time that sugar is in contact with your child's teeth. When buying candy for Halloween, look for treats that can be eaten quickly, like miniature candy bars. When you get home from trick-or-treating, discard hard or sticky candies like sugared fruit snacks, caramels or lollipops, as they increase the period of time in which teeth are exposed to sugar. Encourage your child to eat a small amount of candy in one sitting followed by a glass of water and thorough tooth brushing. It is not a good idea to allow your child to graze on candy as this will increase the amount of time sugar comes in contact with teeth.

3. Teach your child to eat all foods in moderation. Although sweets are blamed for much tooth decay, all foods - even healthy alternatives to candy, such as fruit and nuts - can promote tooth decay if eaten in excess. Children (like adults) should eat all foods in moderation. Read nutrition labels to avoid foods and drinks loaded with sugar, fructose and other sweeteners.

4. Set up a candy bank. Allow your child to make daily withdrawals from the bank and monitor the progress. This way, you can control how much candy your child consumes.

Dental Public Health Residency Program University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Opportunity

The North Carolina Oral Health Section conducts a one-year professional training program for dentists who have completed formal academic training in public health, such as a Master's in Public Health, and are seeking training in the specialty of dental public health. The Dental Public Health Residency Program is accredited by the American Dental Association. If you are interested in this residency in Dental Public Health, please read the Residency Program in Dental Public Health [brochure](#) for information on program goals, resources, residency requirements and responsibilities, admission requirements, and the application process before completing and submitting the [Dental Public Health Residency Application](#).

Loan Repayment for Dental Providers What is National Health Service Corps Program?

The National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program is a loan repayment program administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, physician assistants, dentists, dental hygienists, and behavioral and mental health providers are eligible for up to \$50,000 in loan repayments for the initial two-year service commitment and may be eligible to continue their loan repayment beyond two years if they have unpaid qualifying educational loans and continue to serve at an eligible site. [See application](#).

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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