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Member Newsletter

December 23, 2009



Coalition News

**Have You Visited the MOHC Website Lately?
Website Provides Resources for Providers and Consumers**

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's website - www.mohc.org - provides resources and information on an array of Coalition initiatives. Visitors will find a complete list of members with board members' contact information; upcoming events; initiatives related to the State Oral Health Plan and more. The site also provides tools and resources for educators and consumers. Check us out!



Wishing you a joyous holiday season filled with peace and happiness!

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**Coalition Education Calendar
Opportunities to Learn, Network and Earn CEs**

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition offers monthly opportunities for members to learn, network and earn CEs. Mark your calendar for our next course scheduled Jan. 15 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. via webinar. The topic is Infection Control with faculty Noel Brandon-Kelsch. Participate from the comfort of your office or gather your team in a conference room--no travel required!

Upcoming Education Events

Time for an Infection Control Check Up?
January 15, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Webinar | [Register Now](#)

Inflammatory Diseases: "It's Not Just Perio Anymore!"
February 5, 10 to 11 a.m.
Webinar | [Register Now](#)

2010 Conference
June 10-11
Radisson Hotel, Downtown Lansing

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.

"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

MI Health Care Spending Lower than U.S. Average Medicaid Reimbursements among the Lowest in Nation

According to an issue brief on health care costs released by the Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation, Michigan's health care spending has been growing at a slower pace than the national average for more than a decade. The issue brief also says Michigan spends less per capita on personal health care than the national average (\$5,058 vs \$5,283), ranking 36th among the 50 states and District of Columbia in 2004 (the most recent year for which state-level data were available), and has one of the lowest rates of Medicaid payments to physicians in the country, ranking 44th on the 2008 Medicaid to Medicare physician fee index. [See Issue Brief.](#)

Michigan Michigan's November Jobless Rate Falls Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth Reports

Michigan's unemployment rate decreased slightly to 14.7 percent in November, according to data released by the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth. The national unemployment rate for November was 10 percent. Michigan's jobless rate was 9.6 percent in November 2008.

Diabetes and Oral Health Statewide Coalition Provides Diabetes Resources

The [Diabetes Partners In Action Coalition](#) (DPAC) works to reduce the impact of diabetes in Michigan. The group encourages all MOHC members to increase their awareness on prevention and self-management strategies related to diabetes. There are several FREE resource guides, which provide information that is evidence-based, consumer-focused and culturally oriented. [Order Now!](#) If you have additional questions, please contact Jennifer Edsall at 517.335.8378 or Dawn Crane at 517.335.9504.

Provider Updates from CHAMPS Help is as Easy as 1-2-3!

Upcoming Events

January 15, 2010
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Time for an Infection
Control Check-Up?
Webinar

February 5, 2010
10 to 11 a.m.
Inflammatory
Diseases Webinar

June 10-11, 2010
Annual Conference
Downtown Lansing

Quick Links

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On Sept. 18, Medicaid made its official switch to the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System or "CHAMPS." The following list includes resources members may find helpful.

1. Providers may access CHAMPS reference materials and implementation updates that are posted on the [CHAMPS web page](#).
2. Providers may submit questions or concerns via e-mail to CHAMPS@michigan.gov.
3. Providers may call the CHAMPS Help Line at 1-888-643-2408 to speak to a CHAMPS representative.

National News

Forget the Partridge in a Pear Tree

Twelve Health and Safety Tips for the Holidays

Give the gift of health and safety to yourself and others by following these [holiday tips](#). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides its own [12 Ways to Health Holiday Song](#).

School-Based Dental Sealants Programs

Updated Recommendations Available

Recommendations designed to provide additional guidance to school-based dental sealant programs have been published in the November issue of the Journal of the American Dental Association. The [updated recommendations](#), "Preventing Dental Caries Through School-based Sealant Programs: Updated Recommendations and Reviews of Evidence," were developed by a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-supported work group of experts in the fields of caries prevention and treatment, oral epidemiology, and evidence-based reviews, as well as representatives of dental professional organizations.

Summer Research Program for Dental Students

Applications Due January 15

To enable future dentists to experience careers in research, the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) offers a summer research training opportunity for dental students. The NIDCR Summer Dental Student Award is designed to give talented dental students hands-on research experience and exposure to the latest advances in oral health research. Selected candidates are assigned to mentors who conduct research in the students' areas of interest. Participation in the program may result in presentation of research findings at a scientific meeting or co-authorship of scientific publications. For more information, visit the [NIDCR website](#).

Pregnancy and Oral Health

Delta Dental Plans Association Study

Most pregnant women in America don't see their dentists for important oral health care as often as recommended. A survey of American children's oral health, conducted in the summer of 2009 on behalf of Delta Dental Plans Association, found that 25% of pregnant women didn't see the dentist at all during pregnancy, and 38% visited the dentist just once.

According to the American Academy of Periodontology, approximately 50% of women get "pregnancy gingivitis," a disease that makes the gums sore and swollen. In some studies, pregnant women with gum disease have given birth to low-weight or pre-term babies, who are at risk for many serious diseases including chronic lung disease, brain injury, motor and sensory impairment, learning difficulties, and behavioral problems. Delta Dental commissioned the Children's Oral Health Survey to build greater knowledge about the state of children's oral health. The results suggest that caregivers recognize the importance of oral health care for infants, but don't always understand the techniques that promote oral health. **Source:** RDH Magazine, December 2009

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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