

## Member Newsletter



## Coalition News

## Oral Health Provisions in Health Reform Webinar Michigan, Kansas and Virginia Partner on April 12 Event

While the ink is still drying on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, it is important for advocates to begin to understand the aspects of the new law. On April 12 (2 to 3 p.m.), join us for a free webinar to learn the oral health details of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Dr. Burton Edelstein from the Children's Dental Health Project will discuss what the law means for children, adults, persons with disabilities and safety net providers. To register, click [here](#).

## Dental Health Cuts: Slashing Our Future?

### Muskegon Chronicle Features Coalition Member's Letter

*Thank you to member Eric Heisser, pre-dental student at the University of Michigan, for his letter to the editor. The complete letter was featured in the Jan. 21, 2010 issue of the Muskegon Chronicle.*

Throughout the summer of 2009, I served as a volunteer within the local public health community. During this time I was blessed with countless opportunities to serve, explore, learn and really begin to determine where I see myself in the dental field.

When Medicaid dental coverage for adults was cut on July 1, it rocked public health clinics throughout the state including Hackley Community Care Center and Muskegon Family Care, the two clinics in Muskegon where I spent my summer as a volunteer. Responding to the anticipated cuts and to take action of some kind, I traveled to Lansing in July to participate in Oral Health Legislative Action Day on Capitol Hill. The goal was to educate the legislators on the dire consequences of their actions. Following is the message I presented to them from my unique perspective as an incoming health professional and also to provide information they needed to consider. [See complete letter.](#)

## Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS Webinar Scheduled April 19

With Medicaid's switch to "CHAMPS" or the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System, many dental providers are still experiencing issues related to claims and reporting. The Michigan Oral Health Coalition

April 1, 2010

United States  
**Census  
2010**

April 1 Marks  
Census Day

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### Upcoming Events

April 12, 2010  
2 to 3 p.m.  
Oral Health  
Provisions in Health  
Reform Webinar

April 19, 2010  
12 to 1 p.m.  
Medicaid Billing and  
CHAMPS Webinar

May 7, 2010  
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Oral Health and  
the Caregiver  
Webinar

invites you and your staff to participate in a CHAMPS webinar. Join us April 19 from 12 to 1 p.m. for "Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS." The program is a great opportunity for the entire dental office staff to learn firsthand about the CHAMPS system and get answer to those nagging billing questions. Fee: \$25. To register, click [here](#).

June 10-11, 2010  
Annual Conference  
Downtown Lansing

## Join Us on FaceBook

### Coalition Fan List Continues to Grow

Our "fan list" continues to grow! Do you have friends, family or colleagues that would benefit from periodic news on issues impacting oral health? Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search "Michigan Oral Health Coalition."

### Quick Links

[Visit Our Website](#)  
[Join the Coalition](#)  
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## State News

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### E-cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products

#### MDCH Sponsors Free Webinar on April 28

The Michigan Department of Community Health Tobacco Section announces a free webinar, "E-cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products: What Are They and How Should Public Health React?" on April 28 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information, contact Elaine Lyon at [lyone@michigan.gov](mailto:lyone@michigan.gov) or call 517.241.1195.

### MDCH Seeks RFP Reviewers

#### Member Volunteers Needed for Fluoridation Grant

The Michigan Department of Community Health-Oral Health Program seeks volunteers to serve on its water fluoridation equipment competitive grant review team. Approximately \$60,000 in grants are available from a generous gift from Delta Dental of Michigan. If you are interested in serving on the review team, please contact [Susan Deming](#). The review team will meet Friday, April 23 from 1 to 5 p.m. in Lansing.

## National News

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### Study to Determine True Cost of Oral Cancer

#### University Partners with Delta Dental and Thomson Reuters

The University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry and Delta Dental of Michigan, Delta Dental of Wisconsin, and Thomson Reuters are working together to determine the true cost-burden of oral cancer. The costs of oral cancer, Dr. Joel Epstein, professor of oral medicine and diagnostic sciences said, include the direct cost of care, including medical, pharmacy and dental costs, and ongoing costs due to complications of therapy and potential disability.

Indirect costs include absenteeism and decreased worker productivity that come along with disabling side effects of treatment, said Dr. Jed Jacobson, chief science officer and senior vice president of Delta Dental of Michigan.

Most oral cancers require costly and disfiguring medical intervention. The survival rate is 80 percent to 90 percent if caught in its early stages, Epstein said. The number decreases to 25 percent to 35 percent if detected in the late stages.

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## School-linked Oral Health Services

### Resources from Maternal and Child Oral Health Center

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) is pleased to announce the availability of two new resources addressing school-based and school-linked oral health services for children and adolescents developed for health professionals, program administrators, and policymakers.

Pain and Suffering Shouldn't Be an Option: School-Based and School-Linked Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents ([fact sheet](#)) provides information about the importance of good oral health during childhood and adolescence. Topics discussed include school readiness, disparities, oral trauma, nutrition, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, and school-based and school-linked services.

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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