



Seal America: The Prevention Invention

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Seal America: The Prevention Invention



- Practical guide for establishing a school-based dental sealant program
- Resource for improving existing school-based programs
- Includes videos for students (*Seal in a Smile*) and stakeholders (*Seal America: the Prevention Invention*)

Sponsors

- American Association for Community Dental Programs
- Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Oral Health
- Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Intended Audience

Individuals interested in starting a school-based dental sealant program including:

- State and local oral health program directors
- School nurses
- Community health center staff
- Other safety net providers
- Dental and dental hygiene school faculty
- Other dentists and dental hygienists

Rationale

- 1993 NIH Consensus Conference on Dental Sealants
 - Safe
 - Effective
 - Underutilized in private and public programs
- Everyone reinventing the wheel
- Hours of presentations and consulting led to conception of manual development
 - Easy to read
 - Pictures



Seal America Development

- Hours of presentations and consulting led to conception of manual development
 - Easy to read
 - Pictures
- MCHB agreed to purchase manuals if produced
- Established advisory committee
 - Portland
 - Columbus
 - Seattle
 - Cincinnati
 - Birmingham
 - Oklahoma City
 - Santa Fe



Seal America Development (cont.)

- Manual drafted by Cincinnati Oral Health Program staff and released in 1995.
- Manual very well received (went into 2nd reprint)

Challenges

- Concerns from ADA membership

- Sealing over decay?



- Quality of exams?



- Quality of sealants?



- CDC convened expert panel in 2003 to address concerns

2nd Edition Rationale

- Changes in regulations, materials, and equipment (e.g., HIPAA)
- Lessons learned (e.g., sustainability)
- Updated and new research findings (e.g., sealing over incipient lesions)

2nd Edition Process

- Advisory Committee
 - State and local dental sealant programs
 - Federal agencies
 - Professional associations
 - National Maternal and Oral Health Resource Center
- Electronic manual



www.mchoralhealth.org/seal