MATERNAL ORAL HEALTH RESOURCE GUIDE

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In 2003, the U.S. Surgeon General called for increased attention to oral health education and care during pregnancy as an important strategy for improving maternal and infant health, and he highlighted the link between oral health and overall maternal health. Hormonal changes in pregnancy impact a woman's oral health. Many women experience inflammation of the gums, known as pregnancy gingivitis; increased risk of caries and enamel erosion due to fluctuations in saliva production and nausea; and lesions on the gums, often called pregnancy tumors. Conversely, oral health potentially impacts pregnancy outcomes. Several recent studies have identified periodontal disease as a possible risk factor for preterm birth and low birthweight.

The findings of the Obstetrics and Periodontal Therapy Study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in November 2006 demonstrate that treatment during pregnancy is safe and effective in improving the periodontal status of women. The study did not show a significant difference in birth outcomes among women treated for periodontal disease during pregnancy vs. those in a control group who received treatment postpartum. Although the occurrence of adverse events before 32 weeks of gestation was not a pre-specified outcome, it was less common in the treatment group than in the control group. Therefore, additional research trials are needed with refined outcome variables to further investigate the association between periodontal disease and increased risk for adverse birth outcomes.

Research indicates that tooth decay is an infectious disease that can be transmitted from mother to child. Providing oral health education and care to pregnant women will lead not only to improved maternal oral health but also to improved oral health among infants and children. Providing pregnant women with anticipatory guidance on oral development and highlighting the importance of the first dental visit occurring by age 1 can further contribute to improved oral health among infants and children.

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) developed this publication, *Maternal Oral Health Resource Guide*, to assist health professionals, program administrators, educators, researchers, policymakers and others working to improve oral health care for women, infants, and children. The resource guide is divided into three sections. The first section lists journal articles appearing in the literature between 2004 and 2006. The second section describes materials, including brochures, fact sheets, guidelines, kits, manuals, reports, and papers. The third section lists advocacy organizations, federal agencies, policy centers, professional associations, resource centers, and voluntary organizations that may serve as resources. Materials cited in the resource guide have been added to the OHRC library.

Many of the items in the Materials section are available from the Internet. Others are available for loan from OHRC or can be requested directly from the organizations that produced them. Inclusion in the resource guide does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Maternal and Child...
We are grateful to the following experts for their review of the resource guide: Mary Foley, R.D.H., M.P.H., Children’s Dental Health Project; Marjorie Jeffcoat, D.M.D., University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine; Jayanth Kumar, D.D.S., M.P.H., New York State Department of Health; and Beth McKinney, R.D.H., M.S., Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Health and Human Services. We would also like to thank those who submitted items for inclusion in the resource guide.

Although we have tried to present a thorough overview of materials, we realize that this list is not complete. For further information, we encourage you to contact the organizations listed in the third section. Your state and local departments of public health and university-based libraries are additional sources of information. OHRC will update the resource guide periodically, and we would appreciate hearing from you if you know of any resources that are not included in this edition.
Most of the articles listed in this section appear in the peer-reviewed literature from January 2004 to November 2006; a few seminal articles listed were published earlier.

ACCESS/UTILIZATION

COMMUNITY-BASED, CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANT PREGNANT WOMEN IN NEW YORK CITY


Cruz et al. presented information on the design and implementation of an oral-health-promotion program to meet the needs of immigrant pregnant women with low incomes living in New York City. Baseline surveys showed a lack of current and appropriate oral health care knowledge among this group of women who have access to prenatal care. Only 54 percent of the women reported receiving information about oral health care during pregnancy. Ninety-three percent of the women realized the importance of maintaining their oral health during pregnancy, and 62 percent reported perceived need for oral health care. Seventy percent of the women reported having dental insurance, but only during their pregnancy.

DENTAL CARE USE AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES REPORTED IN 1999 AND 2002


Timothe et al. reviewed national and state-specific estimates of oral-health-service utilization among adult pregnant women using data from two 12-month periods. The study also determined person-level characteristics that may predict failure to utilize oral health services within this subgroup. Pregnant women who utilized oral health services were more likely to be non-Hispanic white, married, and with an education level greater than high school. Income and smoking status were significant predictors for not utilizing oral health services.

DENTAL CARE USE AND SELF-REPORTED DENTAL PROBLEMS IN RELATION TO PREGNANCY


Lydon-Rochelle et al. examined the association between selected sociodemographic, pregnancy, and health-service factors amenable to intervention and the likelihood of utilizing oral health services during pregnancy. Women were assessed based on self-reported absence or presence of oral health problems during pregnancy. Overweight, obesity, and smoking were risk factors for not utilizing oral health services among women who reported oral health problems during pregnancy. Not receiving oral health counseling during pregnancy was a significant risk factor for not utilizing oral health services among women who reported oral health problems during pregnancy and among those who did not.

FACTORS RELATED TO UTILIZATION OF DENTAL SERVICES DURING PREGNANCY


Al Habashneh et al. assessed the extent of women’s knowledge about the association between oral health and pregnancy and investigated additional factors related to utilization of oral health services during pregnancy. Forty-nine
percent of respondents reported dental visits during pregnancy, and 43 percent reported awareness of the possible association between oral health and pregnancy outcomes. Personal factors (being married, greater frequency of visiting the dentist before pregnancy, and use of inter-proximal cleaning aids), financial factors (dental insurance), and knowledge of the possible connection between oral health and pregnancy outcomes were significantly associated with reporting dental visits during pregnancy.

EDUCATION AND CARE

CHANGING DENTISTS’ KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR REGARDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA TUTORIAL


Hsieh et al. developed a brief interactive multimedia tutorial with the goal of changing practicing dentists’ knowledge, attitudes, and behavior regarding domestic violence. A 24-question domestic-violence-assessment instrument was completed at two points in time, and a 20-question empathy scale was also administered. Dentists who received the brief interactive multimedia tutorial improved their scores, on average, significantly more than dentists in the control group. Empathy scores did not show significant correlation with change scores on the domestic-violence-assessment instrument.

ORAL HEALTH AND PREGNANCY: A REVIEW


This article provides an overview of the oral health conditions associated with pregnancy, addresses considerations in providing oral health care to pregnant women, and describes barriers in access to oral health care during pregnancy.

PREPARING DENTAL STUDENTS TO RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: THE IMPACT OF A BRIEF TUTORIAL


Danley et al. evaluated the impact of a brief, interactive multimedia tutorial designed to prepare dentists to recognize and respond to domestic violence. After the tutorial, compared with the control group, both experimental groups demonstrated significantly improved attitudes and knowledge about the need to ask patients about domestic violence, validate patients’ worth, document findings, and refer patients.

EMERGING ISSUES

CLINICAL RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH INCIDENCE AND PROGRESSION OF PERIODONTAL CONDITIONS IN PREGNANT WOMEN


Moss et al. identified clinical factors that were predictive of the incidence and progression of periodontal conditions in pregnant women. This research took place as part of a larger study, Oral Conditions and Pregnancy, conducted at Duke University Hospital between 1997 and 2001. Participants received periodontal examinations before 24 to 26 weeks’ gestational age and within 48 to 72 hours of delivery. Several clinical measures were identified, with the most predictive being the combination of bleeding on probing and four or more sites with probing depths of 4 or more millimeters at the time of enrollment in the study.
MATERNAL PERIODONTAL DISEASE IN EARLY PREGNANCY AND RISK FOR SMALL-FOR-GESTATIONAL-AGE INFANT


Boggess et al. examined the relationship between maternal periodontal disease and delivery of a small-for-gestational age (SGA) infant (birthweight less than the 10th percentile for gestational age) and the role of maternal systemic inflammation in this relationship. Moderate or severe periodontal disease early in pregnancy was associated with delivery of an SGA infant, adjusted for age, smoking, drugs, marital and insurance status, and pre-eclampsia.

MATERNAL PERIODONTAL DISEASE IS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INCREASED RISK FOR PREECLAMPSIA


Boggess et al. examined whether maternal periodontal disease was associated with the development of preeclampsia, a common hypertensive disorder of pregnancy. Maternal clinical periodontal disease at delivery was associated with increased risk for the development of preeclampsia, independent of maternal age, race, smoking, gestational age at delivery, and insurance status.

MERCURY EXPOSURE FROM DENTAL FILLING PLACEMENT DURING PREGNANCY AND LOW BIRTHWEIGHT RISK


Huoel et al. examined the potential associations between mercury-containing dental fillings placed during pregnancy and risk of delivering a low-birthweight infant. The placement of mercury-containing dental fillings during pregnancy did not result in an increased risk of delivering a low-birthweight infant.

THE ORAL CONDITIONS AND PREGNANCY STUDY: PERIODONTAL STATUS OF A COHORT OF PREGNANT WOMEN


Lief et al. examined oral health changes during pregnancy and factors associated with maternal periodontal health or disease. Race, smoking, and insurance status were significantly associated with maternal periodontal disease. African-American women were more likely than white women to have periodontal disease at enrollment in the study, during the study, and at delivery.

ORAL HEALTH IN WOMEN DURING PRECONCEPTION AND PREGNANCY: IMPLICATIONS FOR BIRTH OUTCOMES AND INFANT ORAL HEALTH


This literature review addresses the potential influence of a woman’s preconception and pregnancy experience with periodontal disease and dental caries on her overall health and her child’s oral health. The authors summarize research findings on oral health and preterm birth and other adverse pregnancy outcomes, children’s experience with tooth decay, preconception preventive oral health care, and access to oral health care during pregnancy.
PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND ADVERSE PREGNANCY OUTCOMES: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW


Xiong et al. conducted a systematic review of 25 studies that examined periodontal disease and its association with adverse pregnancy outcomes. The studies included 13 case-control and 9 cohort studies and 3 controlled trials. An association between periodontal disease and an increased risk for poor birth outcomes, particularly among economically disadvantaged populations, was suggested in 18 studies. However, the heterogeneity of study design and data analysis calls for more methodologically rigorous research before a true relationship between periodontal disease and adverse pregnancy outcomes can be confirmed.

PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND PRETERM BIRTH: RESULTS OF A PILOT INTERVENTION STUDY


Jeffcoat et al. assessed the feasibility of an intervention trial during pregnancy to determine whether an association exists between treatment of periodontitis and birth outcomes. The trial demonstrated that performing scaling and root planing in pregnant women with periodontitis may reduce preterm birth in this population, whereas adjunctive metronidazole therapy did not reduce preterm birth.

PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND UPPER GENITAL TRACT INFLAMMATION IN EARLY SPONTANEOUS PRETERM BIRTH


Goepfert et al. examined the relationship between maternal periodontal disease and both early spontaneous preterm birth and selected markers of upper-genital-tract inflammation. Women with early spontaneous preterm birth were more likely to have severe periodontal disease than women with anticipated preterm birth or term birth. Periodontal disease was not associated with selected markers of upper-genital-tract inflammation.

PERIODONTAL INFECTION AND PRETERM BIRTH: RESULTS OF A PROSPECTIVE STUDY


Jeffcoat et al. conducted a prospective study to correlate the presence of periodontal infection and preterm birth. The data showed an increased risk for preterm birth among pregnant women with periodontitis at 21 to 24 weeks’ gestation. The odds of increased prematurity were 4.5-fold to 7.0-fold.

PERIODONTITIS AND GESTATIONAL DIABETES MELLITUS: EXPLORING THE LINK IN NHANES III


Novak et al. analyzed data collected in the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III) and compared the prevalence of periodontal disease in pregnant women with a history of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) vs. women without GDM. Women with a history of GDM are more likely to have more severe periodontal disease than women with a history of pregnancies without GDM.
PROGRESSIVE PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND RISK OF VERY PRETERM DELIVERY


Offenbacher et al. explored the role of periodontal conditions present before birth, periodontal disease onset, and periodontal disease progression during pregnancy on preterm birth risk. Maternal periodontal disease, identified either early in pregnancy or progressing during pregnancy, was a risk factor for preterm and very preterm birth, respectively, independent of other risk factors.

TREATMENT OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND THE RISK OF PRETERM BIRTH


Michalowicz et al. found no significant difference in birth outcomes among women treated for periodontal disease during pregnancy vs. those in the control group who received treatment postpartum. The study consisted of 825 pregnant women randomly assigned to either a treatment or a control group. Those in the treatment group received scaling and root planing and oral hygiene instruction before 21 weeks of gestation, as well as monthly tooth polishing and ongoing scaling and planing as needed until delivery. Control group participants were offered the same treatment after delivery. This study is one of the first to demonstrate that treatment during pregnancy is safe and effective in improving the periodontal status of women.
POLICY

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PERIODONTOLOGY STATEMENT REGARDING PERIODONTAL MANAGEMENT OF THE PREGNANT PATIENT


This statement presents recommendations for periodontal examinations of women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. The statement includes information on research findings, preventive oral health care and services, and diagnosis and treatment considerations for pregnant women.


ENHANCING DENTAL MEDICAID OUTREACH AND CARE COORDINATION


This brief discusses ways to increase awareness of the importance of oral health and to improve care coordination for Medicaid participants, thereby decreasing the rate of no-show appointments and increasing compliance with oral health instructions. The brief focuses on innovative strategies and approaches that some states are using. Topics include consumer outreach, locating Medicaid oral health professionals, obtaining oral health screenings and referrals, case management and support services, reducing the number of missed appointments, and coordinating oral health care for young children and pregnant women. Brief case studies of several state programs are presented. Much of the information in the report is presented in tabular form.

Contact: American Dental Association, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678. Telephone: (312) 440-2500; fax: (312) 440-7494; e-mail: info@ada.org; Web site: http://www.ada.org. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.ada.org/prof/advocacy/issues/medicaid_outreach.pdf.

IMPROVING WOMEN’S HEALTH AND PERINATAL OUTCOMES: THE IMPACT OF ORAL DISEASES


This brief discusses the impact of oral diseases on women’s health and on perinatal outcomes. It is divided into the following sections: (1) oral health status of women in the United States, (2) determination of women’s oral health status, (3) periodontal diseases and general health status, (4) maternal oral health status and perinatal outcomes, (5) addressing women’s oral health needs, and (6) implications of current research for improving women’s oral and general health status. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: Women’s and Children’s Health Policy Center, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, 615 North Wolfe Street, Baltimore, MD 21205. Telephone: (410) 502-5450; fax: (410) 502-5831; e-mail: lzerbe@jhsphealth.edu; Web site: http://www.jhsphealth.edu/wchpc. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.jhsphealth.edu/wchpc/publications/oralbrief.pdf.
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE-SECTOR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE ORAL HEALTH OF PREGNANT WOMEN: POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND PRACTICES


This paper describes a sampling of policies, programs, and practices in the public and private sectors that typify how some agencies have built upon the putative relationship between periodontal disease during pregnancy and unfavorable birth outcomes. This review provides information on how academics, insurers, state governments, policy organizations, professional societies, practitioners and others have featured this oral-systemic connection in their efforts to address the oral health of pregnant women. The Roger's conceptual model of innovation diffusion is employed to help explain these efforts. This paper was commissioned for the “Research to Policy and Practice: Periodontal Health and Birth Outcomes” forum held on December 11–12, 2006, in Washington, DC.


PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

AVDR TUTORIAL FOR DENTISTS: ASK, VALIDATE, DOCUMENT, AND REFER—INTERVENTION FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE


This DVD provides a multimedia learning experience to help dentists and dental students recognize and respond to domestic violence. Contents include a case study demonstrating how to conduct the Ask, Validate, Document, and Refer (AVDR) intervention, which is a four-step intervention that oral health professionals can use as part of a response to domestic violence. The folder for dental schools includes an instructional plan, which explains how to use the other documents included on the DVD. The folder for dentists contains a two-page downloadable document titled “Training Your Staff,” which explains how to use the tutorial in a small group, practice the AVDR steps, and assign follow-up tasks such as creating or updating a list of local resources.

Contact: University of California San Francisco, Center for Health Improvement and Prevention Studies, School of Dentistry, 350 Parnassus Avenue, Suite 905, San Francisco, CA 94117. Telephone: (415) 502-7283; fax: (415) 502-7314 e-mail: chips@ucsf.edu Web site: http://www.ucsf.edu/chips. Single copies available at no charge.

DENTAL REFERRAL BY MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS: MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR PREGNANT WOMEN


This information package contains two sets of materials distributed to members of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Louisiana to encourage their participation in the implementation and evaluation of a new Medicaid oral health program for pregnant women. The first set of materials includes (1) a letter that discusses recent changes to oral health service coverage for pregnant women eligible for Medicaid and the health professional’s role in the success and continuation of the program, (2) a referral form for pregnancy-related oral health services, and (3) a 4 x 6-inch laminated card with clinical signs of periodontal disease printed on one side and instructions for making oral health care referrals on the other. The second set of materials includes a letter, a survey, and a modified referral form used in analyzing the program’s effectiveness. Similar materials were distributed to nurses and dentists who participate in Louisiana’s Medicaid program, and to public health clinics.
Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: info@mchoralhealth.org; Web site: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Single photocopy available at no charge.

DENTISTRY AND THE PREGNANT PATIENT


This booklet for oral health professionals in Colorado provides guidance in managing oral health care for pregnant women. Topics include physiologic changes in pregnancy, fetal development milestones for each trimester, key principles to observe, common oral health conditions that may arise during pregnancy, oral health considerations to observe in treating these conditions, and a guide to medication use in pregnancy.


ORAL HEALTH AND HEALTH IN WOMEN: A TWO-WAY RELATIONSHIP


This fact sheet provides general information and national data on women’s oral health. Topics include women’s oral health status, the relationship between oral health and general health in women, oral health care, and strategies for improving women’s oral health. A list of references and resources is also provided. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: HRSA Information Center, P.O. Box 2910, Merrifield, VA 22116. Telephone: (888) ASK-HRSA (275-4772); (877) 489-4772; fax: (703) 821-2098; e-mail: ask@hrsa.gov; Web site: http://www.ask.hrsa.gov. Document code: MCH00123. Available at no charge; also available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/WomensFactSheet.pdf.

ORAL HEALTH CARE DURING PREGNANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD: PRACTICE GUIDELINES


These practice guidelines are intended for use by prenatal, oral health, and child health professionals in bringing about changes in the health care delivery system and improving the overall standard of care for pregnant women and young children. Content includes general information about oral health and pregnancy and oral health and early childhood, along with background information and specific recommendations for prenatal, oral health, and child health professionals. An executive summary, instructions for using the guide, and references are also provided. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


ORAL HEALTH RISKS DURING THE PRENATAL PERIOD


These printed slides are from a presentation about oral health and pregnancy to help integrate an oral health component into Colorado’s Nurse Family Partnership Program. Topics include frequently asked questions, warning signs of periodontal disease, tips for pregnant women, and barriers to accessing oral health care. An evaluation summary sheet is also included. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]
PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND PREGNANCY OUTCOMES: STATE OF THE SCIENCE


This paper synthesizes the current evidence on the relationship between periodontal disease and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Forty-four studies (26 case-control, 13 cohort, and 5 controlled trials) were included in this review, which builds and expands upon the findings of a previously published systematic review article (Xiong et al. 2006. *Periodontal disease and adverse pregnancy outcomes: A systematic review.* BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 113(2):135–143). This paper was commissioned for the “Research to Policy and Practice: Periodontal Health and Birth Outcomes” forum held on December 11–12, 2006, in Washington, DC.


PREGNANCY AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE


This information package for health professionals discusses periodontal disease in pregnant women and its connection to negative pregnancy outcomes. Section topics include oral infections and health, oral infections and pregnancy, premature and low-birthweight infants, periodontal disease, the tooth and the periodontium, 10 warning signs of periodontal disease, facts on periodontal disease, and women and periodontal disease. A directory of related links and references is provided.

Contact: Christine Wood. Nevada State Health Division, Oral Health Initiative, 3427 Goni Road, Suite 108, Carson City, NV 89706. Telephone: (775) 684-4285; e-mail: pcwood@nvhd.state.nv.us; Web site: http://health2k.state.nv.us/oral. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://health2k.state.nv.us/oral/SpecialFolder/index.html.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

BRIGHT FUTURES IN PRACTICE: ORAL HEALTH—POCKET GUIDE


This guide is designed to help health professionals implement specific oral health supervision guidelines during pregnancy and the postpartum period, infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence. It addresses risk assessment for dental caries, periodontal disease, malocclusion, and injury. Appendices include a tooth-eruption chart, a caries-risk-assessment tool, and recommended dosages for systemic fluoride supplements. The guide concludes with a glossary and resources. [ Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]
Contact: Bright Futures Distribution Center, c/o RMS Direct, Department B, 4510 Buckeystown Pike, Unit M, Frederick, MD 21704-3539. Telephone: (301) 279-8890; fax: (301) 838-0648; Web site: http://www.rmdirectnc.com. 1–19 copies, $10.00 each; 20–49 copies, $7.50 each; 50+ copies, $5.00 each; plus 7% shipping and handling; also available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/BFOHPocketGuide.pdf.

CAVITY FREE KIDS: AN EARLY START—ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PREGNANT WOMEN, INFANTS, AND TODDLERS (REV. ED.)


This curriculum includes information and activity suggestions for preschool teachers, family health advocates, oral health professionals, and nutrition coordinators to use in formulating sessions on the importance of oral health and proper oral health care for pregnant women, infants, and toddlers. Sections include (1) getting started (2) essential information for parents, (3) references for teachers and parent educators, (4) the tooth kit, (5) training guide, (6) a training agenda, (7) oral health training, (8) training aids, and (9) resources. The resources section provides sources for supplies, printed or downloaded materials sources, song lyrics, a book list, and references. Handouts and other reproducible materials are included throughout. The curriculum is extensively illustrated, and some materials are offered in Spanish. A CD-ROM of the curriculum is provided, along with presentation materials and downloadable materials formatted as PDF files.

Contact: Washington Dental Service Foundation, P.O. Box 75688, 9706 Fourth Avenue, N.E., Seattle, WA 98115-2157. Telephone: (206) 522-1300; (800) 367-4104; e-mail: info@deltadentalwa.com; Web site: http://www.deltadentalwa.com. Available in conjunction with train-the-trainer sessions only; host organization to assume printing costs.

HEALTHY SMILES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN


This kit for parent educators, including home visitors from Head Start and other programs, comprises a series of learning modules about pregnancy and oral health, and about early childhood and oral health, to provide education to pregnant women and parents. Topics covered include (1) effects of the mother’s oral health on the fetus and newborn, (2) effects of pregnancy on oral health, (3) oral health care during pregnancy, (4) gingivitis and periodontitis, (5) oral hygiene habits, (6) action steps to a healthier mouth, and (7) nutrition. Also included in the kit are a variety of booklets and brochures about oral health during pregnancy and oral health for infants and children, a tip sheet for Early Head Start staff about working with health professionals to improve access to oral health care, and a flip chart with color photographs about oral health during pregnancy and childhood.

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: info@mchoralhealth.org; Web site: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available for loan.

HELP ME SMILE: ORAL HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT PROTOCOLS, TRAINING MODULES, AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR USE WITH FAMILIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN


This collection of materials provides oral health professionals with protocols, modules, and educational materials to promote good oral health for pregnant women and families with young children. The collection is divided into the following sections: prenatal and mother, infancy (0–11 months), toddler (12–35 months), and early child-
hood (3–5 years). Topics include fluoride in the water; teeth cleaning; nutrition; the dental home; bad breath, bleeding gums, and toothache; and “lift the lip” protocols for infants and young children. Also included are handouts, a laminated and illustrated flip chart, an instruction sheet, a checklist, and instructions for obtaining a fluoride analysis of a water sample. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**IMPROVING WOMEN’S AND CHILDREN’S ORAL HEALTH / MEJORANDO LA SALUD ORAL DE MUJERES Y NIÑOS**


This illustrated flipchart provides information for new mothers and other women on the importance of good oral health during pregnancy and of preventing early childhood caries (ECC). Sections summarize issues related to tooth decay, periodontal disease, pregnancy and oral health, brushing, flossing, ECC, fluoride, dental sealants, and visiting the dentist, and provide tips for cleaning infants’ and toddlers’ teeth. A summary of important points is also provided. The information is presented in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Contact: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 South West Jackson Street, Topeka, KS 66612. Telephone: (785) 296-1500; (785) 296-1538; fax: (785) 368-6368; e-mail: info@kdhe.state.ks.us; Web site: http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/ohi/download/early_care_and_edu.pdf.

**PREGNANCY AND YOUR ORAL HEALTH**


This PowerPoint presentation is part of the Pregnancy/Postpartum Physical Training Program of the U.S. Army to establish a safe, standardized program that can be used to educate pregnant soldiers on the topic of pregnancy and oral health. Topics include when to see a dentist, safe oral health treatment, fetal growth and development, childhood enamel hypoplasia, changes during pregnancy that affect oral health, plaque and tooth decay, diet and dental caries, pregnancy gingivitis and granuloma, possible treatments, oral
diseases that can affect pregnancy, and prevention through proper oral hygiene and nutrition. Slides with test questions and photographs are included throughout the presentation.


**PRENATAL ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT: A RESOURCE MANUAL**


This resource manual from New Hampshire’s Prenatal Oral Health Education Project includes a PowerPoint presentation on prenatal oral health; articles on periodontal disease during pregnancy; an article on nutrition and oral health for pregnant women, infants, and children; and the American Academy of Periodontology’s statement on periodontal management of pregnant women.

**Contact:** National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: info@mchoralhealth.org; Web site: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Available for loan.

**PRENATAL PROVIDER PACKET “GOOD HEALTH STARTS WITH A SMART MOUTH”**


This information package, which is intended for use by health professionals who provide prenatal care to women in Colorado, discusses the importance of oral health for pregnant women and contains key messages to impart to women about ensuring their own oral health. The package contains a cover letter, health professional reference guides, a client brochure, a policy brief, an evaluation form, and a materials order form. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

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**THE SMILE GUIDE: DENTAL HEALTH AND PREGNANCY**

Class on Demand. 2002. *The Smile Guide: Dental Health and Pregnancy.* Evanston, IL: United Learning. 3 items; 1 facilitator’s guide, 1 set of master handouts, 1 videotape (VHS, 13 min.).

This kit for health professionals contains a videotape, a facilitator’s guide, and master handouts for use in educating pregnant women and new mothers about oral health during pregnancy and infancy. Advice on eating a variety of foods for good health, on developing good oral health habits, and on finding a dentist are presented. The cariogenic process is described, with an emphasis on sugar as a key component. Basic tooth-brushing and flossing skills are demonstrated, and graphics and illustrations are included. A section on newborn oral health care offers information on preventing early childhood caries. A pre-test and post-test, recipes, and fact sheets are also included.

**Contact:** Jason Altschul. Discovery Education, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 100, Evanston, IL 60201. Telephone: (800) 323-9084; (800) 421-2363, ext. 7201; fax: (847) 328-6706; e-mail: info@unitedlearning.com; Web site: http://school.discovery.com. $89.00, plus shipping and handling (videotape); facilitator’s guide and handout masters available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.unitedstreaming.com/videos/11176/11176_TG.pdf (facilitator’s guide) and http://www.unitedstreaming.com/videos/11176/11176_BM.pdf (handout masters). Bulk discounts are available.
SOUNDBITES: NUTRITION AND ORAL HEALTH GUIDELINES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN, INFANTS, AND YOUNG CHILDREN. VIDEO AND VIDEO GUIDEBOOK


This videotape and guidebook are designed for health professionals to use to help promote good nutrition and oral health for pregnant women, infants, children, and infants’ and children’s caregivers. The videotape discusses common oral health topics such as care of the mouth, nutrition to promote good oral health, and how to prevent common childhood oral health problems. The guidebook includes the following sections: pregnancy, birth to 6 months, 6 months to 1 year, 1 year to 2 years, 2 years to 3 years, and children with special health care needs. Additional sections include a review of the Soundbites program goals and suggestions for learning; a discussion of the importance of nutrition and oral health care during pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood; a videotape; and an evaluation form.

Contact: Carole Palmer. Tufts-New England Medical Center, Francis Stern Nutrition Center, 750 Washington Street, Box #783, Boston, MA 02111. Telephone: (617) 636-6808; fax: (617) 636-6834; e-mail: carole.palmer@tufts.edu; Web site: http://www.nemc.org/fsnc. $40.00 plus shipping and handling.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

BABY YOUR ORAL HEALTH: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ORAL HEALTH AND PREGNANCY


This brochure discusses the importance of good oral health during pregnancy. Topics include the effects of poor oral health and periodontal disease on the risk for premature birth or low-birthweight infants, visiting the dentist while pregnant, risks associated with having dental work performed during pregnancy, and oral health tips. Internet resources are provided, along with brief facts about periodontal disease during pregnancy and risks to the fetus.

Contact: National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition, 2001 North Beauregard Street, 12th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22311-1732. Telephone: (703) 836-6110; fax: (703) 836-3470; e-mail: info@hmhb.org; Web site: http://www.hmhb.org. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.hmhb.org/oralhealth_april03.pdf.

BRUSH FOR TWO . . . FOR BABY AND YOU


This brochure describes the importance of proper oral health during pregnancy, the risks that gum
disease can pose to both a pregnant woman and her developing infant, and how gum disease may contribute to premature delivery or low birth weight. The brochure provides advice on nutrition, oral hygiene, vaccination, use of multivitamins, avoiding smoking and alcohol use, exercise, and the use of seatbelts. Also discussed are the importance of seeing an oral health professional before and during pregnancy and how pregnancy can affect the teeth and gums.

**Contact:** National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition, 2001 North Beau Regard Street, 12th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22311-1732. Telephone: (703) 836-6110; fax: (703) 836-3470; e-mail: info@hmhb.org; Web site: http://www.hmhb.org. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.hmhb.org/pdf/brush-for-two_brochure.pdf.

**DENTAL HEALTH DURING PREGNANCY**


This lesson plan provides information about oral health problems that women may experience during pregnancy and the consequences of these problems, foods that contribute to tooth formation in developing infants, and what pregnant women can do to prevent oral health problems. The lesson plan provides teaching tips for the instructor, handouts for participants, and two evaluation survey forms, one for the instructor and one for participants. The lesson plan is intended for use with the videotape *Dental Health and Pregnancy,* produced by United Learning.

**Contact:** Texas Department of State Health Services, Bureau of WIC Nutrition, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199. Telephone: (512) 458-7444; (800) 942-3678; fax: (512) 458-7446; e-mail: wicgeneral@dshs.state.tx.us; Web site: http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wichd. Available from the Web site at no charge to Washington residents, one sample copy available at no charge to out-of-state residents, unable to fulfill international orders; may be ordered online at http://www.hmhbwa.org/forprof/materials/requestform.php, or print form and mail.

**DENTAL HEALTH TIPS FOR PREGNANT MOMS**


This two-sided bookmark provides tips on oral hygiene during pregnancy, including brushing, flossing, visiting the dentist, snacking on healthy foods, and avoiding foods that are high in sugar. Information is also provided on oral health services and insurance available to pregnant women in Maryland through Medicaid and the Maryland Children’s Health Program.

**Contact:** Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Oral Health, 201 West Preston Street, Third Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201. Telephone: (410) 767-5300; fax: (410) 333-7392; e-mail: oralhealth@dhmh.state.md.us; Web site: http://www.fha.state.md.us/oralhealth. Available at no charge.
DO WOMEN NEED TO BE MORE CAREFUL WITH THEIR ORAL HEALTH?


This fact sheet discusses the oral health of women during their lifespans. It outlines the role of hormones on oral health during puberty, pregnancy, and menopause, and when oral contraceptives are being used. The fact sheet also touches on oral health consequences of diet-pill consumption, eating disorders, and smoking.


FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ORAL HEALTH


This handout provides answers to frequently asked questions about oral health, how oral health and general health are connected, special concerns during the prenatal and postnatal periods, and infant oral health care. Resources for more information are included.


HOW DOES PREGNANCY AFFECT MY ORAL HEALTH?


This fact sheet describes how changes during pregnancy, particularly hormonal changes, can affect oral health. Topics include plaque development, pregnancy tumors, gingivitis, and the importance of proper oral hygiene and regular dental visits. The fact sheet also touches upon procedures such as the use of anesthesia and X-rays that should be discussed with the dentist and the obstetrician before being implemented during pregnancy.


MENSTRUATION, PREGNANCY AND MENOPAUSE SPELL TROUBLE FOR TEETH


This fact sheet briefly explains oral health issues that may occur during a woman’s lifespan. The fact sheet describes symptoms such as swollen gums, pain, changes in taste, and dry mouth, as well as osteoporosis (bone loss) that may occur as part of puberty, pregnancy, lactation, menstruation, and menopause.


ORAL HEALTH AND PREGNANCY


This fact sheet outlines the importance of good oral hygiene and proper nutrition during pregnancy. It discusses gingivitis, premature and underweight infants, tooth decay, oral treatments, and dental visits. The fact sheet is available in English and Spanish.

Contact: Christine Wood. Nevada State Health Division, Oral Health Initiative, 3427 Goni Road, Suite 108, Carson City, NV 89706. Telephone: (775) 684-4285; e-mail: pcwood@nvhd.state.nv.us;
ORAL HEALTH AND YOUR HEALTHY BABY


This handout for consumers with low literacy skills tells a story about the importance of proper oral health during pregnancy. The handout also illustrates how the bacteria in gum disease may result in premature or low-birthweight infants. The handout is available in English, Spanish, French, and Russian.


ORAL HEALTH TIDBITS


This fact sheet provides information about tooth decay and early childhood caries (ECC). Topics include ECC prevalence and etiology; foods, snacking, and oral health; oral health and infants, children, and pregnant women; breastfeeding and ECC; and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. The fact sheet also provides references and a chart illustrating the caries process.

Contact: Food and Nutrition Information Center, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Avenue, Room 105, Beltsville, MD 20705-2351. Telephone: (301) 504-5719; fax: (301) 504-6409; e-mail: fnic@nal.usda.gov; Web site: http://www.nal.usda.gov/wicworks/Topics/oralhealth.pdf.

PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND PRETERM BIRTH


This fact sheet describes research into the association between periodontal disease and preterm birth. Sections include a summary of the evidence and issues; brief descriptions of research on the links between periodontal disease, preterm birth, and low birthweight; potential mechanisms and pathways; and preventive factors in treating periodontal disease to reduce the risk of preterm birth.


PREGNANCY AND GINGIVITIS


This fact sheet describes oral health concerns for women during pregnancy or when oral contraceptives are being used. Conditions such as gingivitis and other oral health factors that may lead to premature delivery or that may affect fetal development are described, and treatment options are outlined.

PREGNANCY AND ORAL HEALTH: DENVER HEALTH PATIENT INFORMATION


This handout provides answers to frequently asked questions about oral health during pregnancy. The handout discusses how pregnancy can affect oral health, why maintaining proper oral hygiene is important, and what happens at a dental visit during pregnancy. The handout also outlines how payment for an appointment is arranged as well as other administrative issues.


PREGNANCY AND YOUR MOUTH


This handout for consumers with low literacy skills describes oral health issues that may arise during pregnancy. The handout discusses hormonal changes that affect bacteria in the mother's mouth and how bacteria may affect the infant's development. The handout advises pregnant women to maintain proper oral hygiene, visit the dentist for cleanings, stop smoking, and eat nutritious food. A story-like format provides information about when is the best time during pregnancy to visit a dentist. The handout is available in English, Spanish, Russian, and French.


PREGNANT WOMEN AND ORAL HEALTH

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, School of Dentistry Oral Health Program. 2003. *Pregnant Women and Oral Health.* New Orleans, LA: Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, School of Dentistry Oral Health Program. 2 items; 1 brochure, 1 CD-ROM.

This information package includes one print brochure and one CD-ROM containing a 30-second public-service announcement on the importance of oral health care during pregnancy. Topics include periodontal disease, services covered by the Louisiana Medicaid oral health program, how and when pregnant women should seek oral health care, and healthy habits for oral health during pregnancy.

Contact: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center, Georgetown University, Box 571272, Washington, DC 20057-1272. Telephone: (202) 784-9771; fax: (202) 784-9777; e-mail: info@mchoralhealth.org; Web site: http://www.mchoralhealth.org. Single copies available at no charge.

PRENATAL DENTAL CARE


This brochure discusses the importance of oral health care during pregnancy. Topics include eating the right foods, going to the dentist, brushing and flossing daily, and oral health problems that may arise during pregnancy.

START MOTHERHOOD WITH A HEALTHY MOUTH


This bookmark provides information about the importance of good oral health and nutrition during and after pregnancy. The bookmark includes tips for preventing gum disease during pregnancy, when to talk with an oral health professional and what to talk about, and steps for preventing dental caries in infants. The bookmark is available in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, and Somali.

Contact: Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Washington State, 11000 Lake City Way, N.E., Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98125. Telephone: (800) 322-2588; (206) 284-2465; e-mail: info@hmhbwa.org; Web site: http://www.hmhbwa.org. Available at no charge to Washington residents, one sample copy available at no charge to out-of-state residents, unable to fulfill international orders.

WANT SOME LIFE SAVING ADVICE? ASK YOUR DENTAL HYGIENIST ABOUT WOMEN AND SMOKING


This handout for women describes how important it is not to smoke. Topics include the connections between smoking and secondhand smoke and various forms of cancer, research on smoking-linked cancer in women, the effects of smoking on appearance, and the relationship between smoking and oral health issues such as stained teeth and periodontal disease. Additional information focuses on the effects of smoking on adolescent females and young women.

Contact: American Dental Hygienists’ Association, 444 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3400, Chicago, IL 60611. Telephone: (312) 440-8900; fax: (312) 467-1806; e-mail: mail@adha.net; Web site: http://www.adha.org. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.adha.org/downloads/women_smoking.pdf.

WOMEN AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE


This fact sheet describes oral health issues unique to women throughout their lifespans. The brochure discusses periodontal disease, plaque, gingivitis, and the effect of hormonal changes on gums and on oral health during puberty, menstruation, pregnancy, and menopause and when using oral contraceptives.


STATE PROFILES

ORAL HEALTH: A LINK TO GENERAL HEALTH


This brief provides a snapshot of oral health status in Illinois. Topics include information on pregnancy and oral health, children’s oral health status, and early childhood caries; issues in access to oral health care for children; oral cancer; and oral health and general health.

Contact: Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Oral Health, 535 West Jefferson Street, Room 500, Springfield, IL 62761. Telephone: (217) 782-4977; (800) 547-0466; fax: (217) 524-2831; e-mail: mailus@idph.state.il.us; Web site: http://www.idph.state.il.us/HealthWellness/oralhlth/home.htm. Available at no charge from the Web site at http://www.idph.state.il.us/HealthWellness/oralhlth/BurdenDocument.pdf.
ORAL HEALTH CARE AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN AND WOMEN IN ALASKA

Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Women’s, Children’s, and Family Health Section. 2005. Oral Health Care Among Pregnant Women and Women in Alaska. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Women’s, Children’s, and Family Health Section. 3 pp.

This fact sheet outlines the oral-health and oral-health-related-service needs of pregnant women and other women in Alaska, a chosen priority issue for the Title V Block Grant needs-assessment reporting requirement. Topics include prevalence of tooth decay among women in Alaska and nationwide, interventions and recommendations, and capacity. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


PREGNANT WOMEN, MOTHERS AND INFANTS: DENTAL HEALTH FOR WOMEN


This fact sheet outlines the oral-health and oral-health-related-service needs of pregnant women, mothers, and infants in Minnesota, a chosen priority issue for the 2005 Title V Block Grant needs-assessment reporting requirement. The fact sheet addresses the following topics: the magnitude and seriousness of the problem, interventions to increase access to oral health services and integrate oral health care within the current system of care accessed by women throughout their life-spans, the effectiveness of specific interventions, and state programs and strategies to increase access to oral health services for women of child-bearing age. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Organizations
ORGANIZATIONS

ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES COALITION

2001 North Beauregard Street, 12th Floor
Alexandria, VA 22311-1732
Telephone: (703) 836-6110
Fax: (703) 836-3470
E-mail: info@hmhb.org
Web site: http://www.hmhb.org

The National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition (HMHB) is a coalition of governmental and national professional and voluntary organizations with a common interest in maternal, infant, and child health. HMHB fosters education efforts for pregnant women, children, and families through collaborative activities and sharing of information and resources, and the coalition conducts outreach and legislative advocacy activities. The Web site provides resources for professionals and consumers on topics including nutrition and oral health and pregnancy.

ORAL HEALTH AMERICA

410 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 352
Chicago, IL 60611-4211
Telephone: (312) 836-9900
Fax: (312) 836-9986
Web site: http://www.oralhealthamerica.org

The mission of Oral Health America (OHA) is to raise awareness of oral health’s importance to overall health. The organization develops resources for improving and promoting the oral health of people through broad-based public advocacy. OHA’s programs strive to raise awareness about oral health issues among policymakers, opinion leaders, and the public; improve access to effective oral health services; and develop innovative projects that improve the effectiveness of the nation’s oral-health-care system in reaching those without access to care. The organization’s programs include the National Periodontal Disease Coalition, which meets annually to discuss recent scientific developments, including developments related to the possible link between periodontal disease and preterm birth and low birthweight. The Web site contains an electronic newsletter, program descriptions, and information about hearings and legislation related to oral health.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Division of Oral Health
4770 Buford Highway, N.E., Mailstop F-10
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717
Telephone: (770) 488-6054
E-mail: oralhealth@cdc.gov
Web site: http://www.cdc.gov/OralHealth

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is responsible for promoting oral health through public health interventions. Activities of the Division of Oral Health include supporting state- and community-based programs to prevent oral disease, evaluating the cost-effectiveness of prevention strategies, and fostering applied research to enhance oral-disease prevention in community settings. The Web site includes links to fact sheets, journal articles (including articles reporting on the possible link between periodontal disease and preterm and low birthweight), press releases, guidelines, data systems, and descriptions of activities in states receiving CDC funding for oral health programs.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES
Office of Oral Health
7500 Security Boulevard, C2-26-12
Baltimore, MD 21244
Telephone: (410) 786-3000
Fax: (410) 786-3194
Web site: http://cms.hhs.gov/oralhealth

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provides health insurance to Americans through Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program. CMS’s Office of
Oral Health provides guidance to states administering these programs and services to beneficiaries and providers. The Web site provides an overview of Medicaid oral health services and links to state Medicaid contacts.

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BUREAU**
Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Parklawn Building, Room 18-05
Rockville, MD 20857
Telephone: (301) 443-2170
Fax: (301) 443-1797
Web site: http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov

The Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) provides leadership, partnership, and resources to advance the health of mothers, infants, children, and adolescents, including those from families with low incomes, those with diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, and those living in rural or isolated areas who lack access to care. The objective of MCHB’s oral health program is to promote comprehensive, community-based oral health services that combine public and private delivery systems, maximize the effectiveness of Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program’s oral health programs, and encourage the application of science to practice to reduce disease burden (see http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/default.htm). The Web site provides information about funding opportunities, data, and publications.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH**
National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive, MSC2190
Building 31, Room 5B55
Bethesda, MD 20892
Telephone: (301) 496-4261
Fax: (301) 496-9988
E-mail: nidcrinfo@mail.nih.gov

The National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research seeks to improve oral, dental, and craniofacial health through research, training, and the dissemination of health information. Activities include performing and supporting basic and clinical research; conducting and funding research training and career development; coordinating and assisting relevant research and research-related activities among all sectors of the research community; and promoting the timely transfer of knowledge gained from research and its implications for health to researchers, health professionals, policymakers, and the public. The Web site provides information about oral diseases and conditions, funding opportunities, research, clinical trials, and press releases on a variety of topics, including periodontal disease in pregnancy.

**POLICY CENTERS**

**CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH PROJECT**
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 833-8288
Fax: (202) 318-0667
Web site: http://www.cdhp.org

The Children’s Dental Health Project (CDHP) forges research-driven policies that improve children’s access to oral health care and engages a broad base of partners committed to children and oral health. CDHP’s Improving Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Care Project is an initiative designed to reduce oral health disparities among women and infants and to increase access to oral health services. The three main goals of the project are to (1) expand availability of prenatal oral health care, (2) expand availability of infant oral health care, and (3) raise public awareness about oral health care for pregnant women and infants. The Web site contains a database of state-specific data pertinent to oral health policy and current and archived issues of News*Bytes, CDHP’s biweekly e-mail newsletter that collects and disseminates press reports on children’s oral health.

**NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH POLICY CENTER**
UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities
1100 Glendon Avenue, Suite 850
Los Angeles, CA 90095-6939
Telephone: (310) 794-2583
Fax: (310) 794-2728
Web site: http://www.healthychild.ucla.edu/nohpc

The National Oral Health Policy Center seeks to identify policy roadblocks and improvements to
accessing oral health care, with a particular focus on children and families with low incomes who are covered by Medicaid. The center provides consultations and technical assistance to organizations and states and develops publications on maternal and child oral health policy. The Web site contains links to publications, legislative issues, and policy approaches.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

**ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY**
211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 900
Chicago, IL 60611-1999
Telephone: (888) 243-3368
Fax: (312) 440-0559
Web site: http://www.agd.org

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) facilitates the practice of the profession of general dentistry by investigating and determining policies that advance dentists professionally and provide optimal oral health care for consumers. AGD fosters the continued proficiency of members through high-quality continuing-oral-health education. The Web site features information about annual conferences, membership, and publications. In addition, the site provides links to consumer fact sheets on various oral health topics. Consumers can submit questions via the Web site, which are answered by academy members.

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PERIODONTOLOGY**
737 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60611-2690
Telephone: (312) 787-5518
Fax: (312) 787-3670
Web site: http://www.perio.org

The American Academy of Periodontology seeks to advance the periodontal health of the public and to represent and serve the academy’s members. The academy publishes position papers, develops guidelines, and, through its media-relations campaign, distributes more than 1,000 stories annually to the press on a variety of subjects, including women’s oral health. Oral health information for the public is available on the Web site on a range of topics, such as women’s oral health across the lifespan. Resources for professionals include information about the annual meeting, clinical and scientific papers, and online access to the *Journal of Periodontology*.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY**
P.O. Box 7536
1224 Centre West, Suite 400B
Springfield, IL 62791-7536
Telephone: (217) 391-0218
Fax: (217) 793-0041
Web site: http://www.aaphd.org

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) is committed to educating health professionals and the public to advance oral-disease prevention and health promotion. AAPHD membership is open to all individuals concerned about improving the oral health of the public. AAPHD has a variety of committees to address oral health issues; sponsors annual conferences, workshops, and training seminars; and produces publications, including a quarterly newsletter, *Communiqué*, and a quarterly journal, *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*. PowerPoint presentations from previous National Oral Health Conference sessions on topics including perinatal oral health are available on the Web site.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN DENTISTS**
216 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone: (800) 920-2293
Fax: (312) 750-1203
E-mail: info@aawd.org
Web site: http://www.womendentists.org

The American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD) is a national network for employment opportunities and scientific exchange. It represents women dentists across the United States, internationally, and in the armed forces. AAWD’s not-for-profit foundation, Smiles for Success, assists women in transition from welfare to work who cannot afford oral health care. The Smiles for Success Foundation Web site (http://smilesforsuccess.org) contains more information about the program.
The American Dental Association encourages community-health improvement, promotes the art and science of dentistry, and represents the interests of the oral health profession and the public. Activities include research, education, and promotion of legislation. The association also publishes the Journal of the American Dental Association. Resources are available on the Web site for members and the public. The Oral Health Topics A-to-Z section includes an overview of oral health care for women and links to other resources.

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association’s mission is to advance the art and science of dental hygiene and to promote the highest standards of education and practice in the profession. Through its public health section, the association advocates for treatment of underserved populations and for inclusion of comprehensive oral health services in the design of health care programs. Fact sheets on topics including women and smoking and premature birth are available on the Web site, along with position papers, online continuing-education courses, and press releases.

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors formulates and promotes the establishment of national oral health public policy and assists state oral health programs in developing and implementing programs and policies for the prevention of oral diseases. The association builds awareness and strengthens oral public health professionals’ knowledge and skills by (1) developing position papers and policy statements on oral health issues, (2) conducting special studies on oral public health practices, (3) providing information on oral health to health officials and policymakers, (4) publishing a quarterly newsletter, and (5) conducting conferences for the oral public health community. The Web site includes an A-to-Z topics section with information on oral health conditions, programs, and special populations; a member directory; guidelines for state and territorial oral health programs; and examples of best-practices approaches.

The Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) provides leadership and represents professionals who share a commitment to improving the oral health of the Hispanic community and increasing the number of Hispanics entering the oral health profession. Services include responding to information requests, publishing a newsletter, hosting a discussion list, and sponsoring an annual meeting, which will include a presentation on perinatal oral health care in 2007. The Web site contains links to HDA state chapters; news and announcements; scholarship information; and tips for perinatal, infant, and children’s oral health care in Spanish and English.

The National Dental Association (NDA) is dedicated to improving the oral health of the underserved. It is the parent organization of the Student National Dental Association, the National Dental Hygienists Association, and the National Dental Hygienists’ Association.
Assistants Association. The association’s foundation provides funding for research projects and financial aid to African Americans and other underrepresented minority students pursuing careers in oral health. The Web site contains position statements and describes the NDA’s many ongoing outreach projects.

RESOURCE CENTERS

HRSA INFORMATION CENTER
P.O. Box 2910
Merrifield, VA 22116
Telephone: (888) ASK-HRSA (275-4772)
Fax: (703) 821-2098
E-mail: ask@hrsa.gov

The HRSA Information Center provides publications, resources, and referrals on health care services for individuals with low incomes, those with no insurance, and those with special health care needs. Materials developed by the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA’s) bureaus and offices are available free of charge. The Web site features information on organizations, news sources, current HRSA initiatives, and publications on women’s oral health.

NATIONAL MATERNAL AND CHILD ORAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER
Georgetown University
Box 571272
Washington, DC 20057-1272
Telephone: (202) 784-9771
Fax: (202) 784-9777
E-mail: info@mchoralhealth.org
Web site: http://www.mchoralhealth.org

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) responds to the needs of health professionals, program administrators, educators, policymakers, and others working in states and communities to address current and emerging public oral health issues with the goal of improving oral health services for infants, children, adolescents, and their families. Activities include collecting programmatic materials such as standards, guidelines, curricula, manuals, policies, and reports for the resource collection; developing and disseminating publications; and providing technical assistance and responses to information requests. The OHRC Web site provides electronic materials produced by the resource center, links to materials produced by others, and links to relevant Web sites.

NATIONAL WOMEN’S HEALTH INFORMATION CENTER
8500 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 300
Fairfax, VA 22031
Telephone: (800) 994-9662
Fax: (703) 560-6598
Web site: http://www.4woman.gov

The National Women’s Health Information Center (NWHIC) is a service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office on Women’s Health. NWHIC serves as a gateway to a wide variety of federal and other women’s health-information resources. Through its toll-free call center and Web site, NWHIC helps individuals order, link to, and download materials related to women’s health that were developed by DHHS, other federal agencies, and private-sector sources.

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

MARCH OF DIMES
1275 Mamaroneck Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605
Telephone: (914) 428-7100
Fax: (914) 428-8203
E-mail: askus@marchofdimes.com
Web site: http://www.marchofdimes.com

The March of Dimes (MOD) works to prevent birth defects and infant mortality through research, education, and advocacy programs. MOD’s Pregnancy and Newborn Health Education Center provides information and referral services for the general public and professionals. MOD also produces educational materials, and some materials are available in Spanish. The Web site provides information about changes in oral health status during pregnancy, tips for keeping teeth and gums healthy during pregnancy, and advice about when women should consult an oral health professional.
NATIONAL NETWORK FOR ORAL HEALTH ACCESS
115 Second Street
Fort Lupton, CO 80621
Telephone: (720) 838-7739
Fax: (866) 316-4995
Web site: http://www.nnoha.org

The National Network for Oral Health Access is dedicated to improving the health status of the unserved and underserved through improved access to oral health services. The organization represents dentists and dental hygienists who practice in federally funded migrant, homeless, and community health centers. The Web site contains low-literacy and non-English-language fact sheets on women’s oral health, among other resources.
NOTES