NPM Webinar Series: Evidence-Based/Informed Strategies for Title V Programs

National Performance Measures 13
April 29, 2020

NPM 13: Preventive Dental Visit

NPM 13.1: Percent of women who had a preventive dental visit during pregnancy
NPM 13.2: Percent of children and adolescents ages 1-17 who had a preventive dental visit in the past year

Importance and Background of NPM 13

- People with limited access to preventive oral health care are at highest risk for oral diseases.
- Educating pregnant women about preventing and treating oral diseases is critical.
- Good oral health is linked to good overall health.
- Providing pregnant women with counseling to promote healthy oral health behaviors may reduce the caries-causing transmission from mothers to infants and young children.
- Insufficient access to oral health care affects children’s health, educational success, and ability to prosper.
NPM 13: Preventive Dental Visits

Strategy #1: Teledentistry

Approach: Increase access to preventive oral health care for pregnant women, children, and adolescents by using teledentistry, a community-based delivery system.

Evidence: AMCHP Innovation Station Promising Practice and Expert Opinion

Teledentistry is highly recommended by experts as an effective strategy for addressing NPM 13.1 and NPM 13.2.

• Shift delivery of preventive and early intervention services from the dental office to the community.¹
• Improve the oral health of the population, lower the cost of providing care, and lower the cost and consequences of neglect.²

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Role of Title V: Title V agencies can support teledentistry in a number of ways:

• Become familiar with state teledentistry laws, procedures, and reimbursement policies to be aware of opportunities and challenges.¹
• Educate oral health professionals on the use of teledentistry.
• Encourage oral health professionals to work with key stakeholders to modify state practice acts and develop or refine teledentistry procedures and reimbursement policies.

¹ For a list of resources on teledentistry, see www.mchoralhealth.org/highlights/teledentistry.php

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Example from the Field: Virtual Dental Home (Teledentistry) Project¹

• Provides oral health diagnostic, preventive, and early intervention services in non-clinical community settings.
• Uses portable dental equipment and telehealth technology to link dental hygienists and dental assistants in the community with dentists in dental offices and clinics.
• Dental hygienists and dental assistants take X-rays and provide preventive oral health care.
• Patients who need treatment receive a referral to a dentist and assistance scheduling an appointment.

¹ For more information, see www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/BestPractices/InnovationStation/ISDocs/IS%20Template_VDH.pdf
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Strategy #2: Collaborate with Community Partners to Provide Care

**Approach:** Collaborate with community partners to train staff to provide preventive oral health care to pregnant women, children, and adolescents and referrals to oral health professionals for dental visits.

- Early Head Start and Head Start programs
- Home visiting programs
- Prenatal care associations
- School-based health centers
- WIC clinics

**Evidence:** *Expert opinion.* Collaborating with community partners to provide oral health care is recommended by experts as an effective strategy for addressing NPM 13.\(^1\)\(^2\)


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**Role of Title V:** Title V agencies can support collaboration with community partners to train staff to provide preventive oral health care in a number of ways:

- Develop and provide materials for training staff
- Conduct in-person and online trainings

**Examples from the Field:**

- Alaska provides training to school nurses to conduct oral health screenings.
- Maryland developed practice guidance on oral health care during pregnancy and infancy for prenatal care and oral health professionals.
- Mississippi and Washington, DC, provide training to health professionals on use of fluoride varnish (Washington, DC, through an online module: [www.dchealthcheck.net](http://www.dchealthcheck.net)).
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Resource

Title V National Performance Measure 13 (Oral Health): Strategies for Success

- Sample strategies for NPM 13.1 and 13.2
- Sample evidence-based or evidenced-informed strategy measures (ESMs)
- Possible data sources for ESMs
- Selection of resources

Available at www.mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/NPM13_StrategiesForSuccess.pdf

NPM 13: Preventive Dental Visits

Materials

- Best Practice Approach reports
- Bright Futures: Oral Health-Pocket Guide
- Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: A National Consensus Statement

AMCHP Innovation Station

- Children’s Dental Services
- Home by One Program
- Improving Oral Health Outcomes for Pregnant Women and Infants by Educating Home Visitors
- Virtual Dental Home (Teledentistry) Project
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Resource

AMCHP’s Implementation Toolkit for National Performance Measure 13

- Help Title V agency program staff and partners address NPM 13
- Infographic presents six strategic approaches
- Each approach provides descriptions of and links to materials, AMCHP Innovation Station practices, and contact information

Available at www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/BestPractices/InnovationStation/Pages/Implementation-Toolkits.aspx

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