

Project Title: ***California Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Project***

Applicant Organization Name: California Department of Public Health

Address: 1616 Capitol Avenue, MS 7210

P.O. Box 997377, MS 7210

Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

Project Director Name: Caroline A. Peck, M.D., M.P.H., FACOG

Contact Phone Numbers: (916) 552-9900

FAX: (916) 552-9910

E-Mail Address: Caroline.Peck@cdph.ca.gov

The goal of this project is to improve the oral health of high-risk pregnant women and infants. The project will work closely with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to identify pregnant women and infants enrolled in Medi-Cal (California's Medicaid program) who do not access dental services, and provide this information to the medical insurance plan that serves the individuals. In turn, the medical insurance plan will notify the assigned perinatal and/or pediatric provider and encourage oral health assessment and referral to a dental provider. Among other strategies, the project will leverage and expand the use of the existing DHCS system for data collection and analysis, and the Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal "warm transfer" service that links clients directly to the dental providers: the statewide toll-free Beneficiary Customer Service Line.

Specifically, this project will:

- Use DHCS data to connect clients to dental providers
 - Use Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal data to identify those clients within the target population who have not had a recent dental visit
 - Rely on Medi-Cal medical insurance plans to communicate this information to perinatal and pediatric providers and encourage use of the Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal Beneficiary Customer Service Line in their offices
 - Rely on community-based organizations to train and provide technical assistance to Medi-Cal perinatal and pediatric providers on "warm transfer" service, using the Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal Beneficiary Customer Service Line, to link clients with dental providers
 - Track progress using Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal data systems
- Leverage existing resources and collaborations to provide education and training to medical and dental providers, public education and other tools/innovative solutions to promote the value of oral health and dental services, and ultimately bi-directionally link the two systems of care in a seamless manner
- Identify a best practice model for statewide expansion in Year 1, and expand to other communities in Years 2-4