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The Oral Health Resource Bulletin is a periodic publication designed to stimulate thinking and creativity within the maternal and child health community by providing information about selected materials of interest. Each successive volume is intended to supplement rather than replace previous volumes. The materials listed in the bulletin have been incorporated into the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) library.

The resource bulletin describes materials, such as briefs, curricula, fact sheets, guidelines, manuals, papers, reports, and videos, published between 2019 and 2020. Each resource includes an icon to help readers quickly identify materials. The key to the categories appears on the right.

OHRC is committed to continuing to provide effective mechanisms for sharing information about materials that enhance oral health programs and services. If you have materials that you feel would be useful for program development, implementation, or evaluation, please become part of this process. Materials such as curricula, guidelines, policies, standards, and reports are especially welcome. If you have any materials that you think might be of interest, please send a copy to

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Considerations for School Nurses in Return to School: Dental Screening

This report provides a summary of resources that school nurses can consult as they consider when and whether to go back to school and, once back, whether to conduct oral health screenings. It provides background about tooth decay during childhood and about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the provision of oral health care. Also discussed are identification of children who need oral health care, communication, and infection-control measures.


Coronavirus Disease and Oral Health: Information for Parents About Promoting Good Oral Health at Home

This handout provides information for parents about promoting good oral health at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. It discusses the importance of serving healthy foods and drinks and promoting good oral hygiene habits to keep children’s mouths healthy during the pandemic and always. It also includes tips for eating healthy foods and drinks and practicing healthy oral hygiene habits. The handout is available in English and in Spanish.

Dentistry Workers and Employers

This guidance for dental office staff is intended to help prevent COVID-19 transmission. It addresses the following topics: elimination, engineering controls, administrative controls, safe work practices, and personal protective equipment (PPE). Flexibility related to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) PPE requirements and prioritization of PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic are discussed, along with differences between OSHA prevention guidance and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations.


Framework for Healthcare Systems Providing Non-COVID-19 Clinical Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic

This framework provides health care systems with information about delivering health care during the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides key considerations for health care delivery, including care for dental emergencies, with links to additional information. A table that lays out a system for delivering health care by potential for patient harm and degree of community transmission, including examples, is provided.


COVID-19 Coding and Billing Interim Guidance: Virtual Visits

This guide is intended to help dental offices navigate issues related to coding and billing for virtual appointments during the COVID-19 pandemic. It discusses coding for a variety of services, provides sample coding scenarios, and offers answers to frequently asked questions. HIPAA and telecommunication technology are also addressed. A checklist of considerations for practices in providing virtual services during the COVID-19 pandemic is included, along with sample language for informed consent forms for virtual services, tips for performing virtual evaluations, and billing policies by payer.


Coronavirus Disease and Oral Health: Information for Parents About Visiting the Dental Office

This handout provides information for parents about taking their child to the dentist during the COVID-19 pandemic. It discusses the importance of getting oral health care for children. It also lists changes that dental offices may have made to lower the risk of spreading COVID-19 to patients and parents. The handout is available in English and in Spanish.

Guidance for Dental Settings: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Dental Settings During the COVID-19 Response

This guidance discusses infection prevention and control for oral health settings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics include patient management, facility considerations, equipment considerations, administrative control and work practices, and engineering controls. Additional topics include hygiene, universal source controls, using personal protective equipment, sterilizing and disinfection, considerations for additional precautions or strategies for treating patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, considerations for use of test-based strategies to inform patient care, monitoring and managing staff, and education and training.


Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings

This guidance provides infection prevention and control (IPC) recommendations for health care workers, including oral health care workers, during the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides background and discusses routine IPC during the pandemic and IPC practices when caring for a patient with confirmed COVID-19 infection. Information about airborne infection, isolation rooms, respirators, and face masks is included, along with a list of definitions.

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Division of Viral Diseases. 2020. Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 1 item.

Interim Mask and Face Shield Guidelines

These guidelines for oral health professionals provide information about using masks and face shields while treating patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Information about risk of infection is provided, and the guidelines discuss three mask types—N95, N95 equivalent, and surgical.


Non-Emergent, Elective Medical Services, and Treatment Recommendations

These recommendations discuss health services that can be deferred, such as non-emergent, elective, and preventive health services for patients, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following considerations for providing care are offered: ability to implement telehealth, virtual check-ins, and/or remote monitoring; personal protective equipment availability; staffing availability; medical office/ambulatory service location capacity; community testing capability; health and age of each individual and their risk for severe disease resulting from COVID-19 infection; and urgency of treatment or service.

**Oral Health Value-Based Care: The Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Story**

This paper provides information about a series of analyses conducted to explore oral health outcomes in federally qualified health center (FQHC) populations vs. non-FQHC populations. Topics include FQHCs and the safety net system, care innovations in FQHCs, FQHCs as a conduit for value-based payment transformation, methods, analyses results, and the impact of COVID-19 on FQHCs. Questions about how FQHCs can adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic are addressed, and key findings are included.


**School Nurses: The Key to Good Oral Health During COVID-19**

This infographic provides information to help school nurses ensure that children get the oral health care they need during the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides information about the problems that tooth decay in childhood cause and includes instructions on how to conduct verbal assessments and oral health screenings. Information about the personal protective equipment required to safely conduct oral health screenings is included.


**Teledentistry in Maryland During COVID-19**

This fact sheet provides information about what teledentistry is and how it can improve the oral health of Marylanders. It provides information about Maryland’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Maryland and Medicaid billing updates, other telehealth dentistry regulatory issues, steps to implement teledentistry, recommendations for using teledentistry during the pandemic, and teledentistry dos and don’ts for oral health professionals.


**Toothbrushing and COVID-19**

This fact sheet for consumers provides information about caring for young children’s mouths and teeth at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, when they may not be brushing at school owing to safety concerns. The fact sheet includes information about the importance of brushing at home; the importance of baby teeth; and things parents can do to keep children healthy, such as giving milk and water between meals only and visiting the dentist twice a year. The fact sheet is written in English and in Spanish.

What About Flossing and Brushing? Are There Recommendations on How to Do That More Safely?

This video provides information on how to brush and floss teeth safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. Recommendations include not sharing toothbrushes or floss containers and routinely changing toothbrushes. Resources for additional information are provided.


Using Teledentistry to Maintain Services and Contact with Patients During the Time of COVID-19 Physical Distancing

This guide provides information about using teledentistry during the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics include the impact of physical distancing, system considerations, components of a care system, workflow, and optimizing in-person visits. The guide also discusses the advantages of an “all-in-one” teledentistry system containing multiple components that are linked and integrated (e.g., registration, consent, schedule, messaging, live video).

Data and Surveillance

Fluoridation 50-State Survey: State Laws and Regulations Addressing Fluoridation in Water

This survey provides a summary of the statutes and regulations related to water fluoridation in each U.S. state and select jurisdictions. For each state, the names of the statute and regulation (where available) are included.


The Oral Health of 13–15 Year Old American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Dental Clinic Patients: A Follow-Up Report to the 2013 Survey

This report provides information about the oral health of 13–15-year-old American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) dental clinic patients, comparing results of the 2019–2020 survey with the 2013 survey. It presents a summary of what’s new in the report since the 2013 survey, and key findings in three areas: (1) oral health of AI/AN adolescents over the past two decades, (2) oral health disparities in AI/AN adolescents compared with U.S. adolescents overall, and (3) percentage of AI/AN adolescents who had a dental visit in the past year compared with U.S. adolescents overall.


The Oral Health of Missouri’s Third Grade Children Compared to the General U.S. Population

This brief provides information from a statewide oral health survey of students in third grade attending Missouri’s public schools conducted to assess the oral health status of students in third grade in Missouri compared with their counterparts nationwide. Topics include prevalence of decay experience and untreated decay, prevalence of dental sealants, oral health disparities, and data sources and methods.


Policy

The Role of Law and Policy in Increasing the Use of the Oral Health Care System and Services

This report provides information to increase awareness about the role law and policy play in improving oral health and focuses on state, tribal, and local settings. Topics include financing oral health care, the government’s role in the oral health workforce, challenges in accessing available oral health care, recommendations for additional research, and emerging trends and issues.

Contributions of General and Specialty Dentists to Provision of Oral Health Services for People with Special Needs

This report describes a study conducted to evaluate the attitudes and willingness of general and specialty dentists to treat people with special health care needs and to identify barriers that dentists face in caring for them. The report presents findings from a literature review and results and conclusions from the study.


Dental Hygiene in Medical Settings and Health Clinics

This chart provides a list of states in which dental hygienists may provide services in medical settings such as hospitals and medical offices, as well as in public health clinics. For each state, a link to the relevant statute or rule is provided, and a description of the provision is presented.


The Importance of the Age One Dental Visit

This report focuses on the importance of taking a child to the dentist by age 1 to prevent oral disease. It discusses the prevalence of tooth decay in children, the effectiveness of prevention and early intervention, the consequences of delaying treatment, and barriers to accessing care early. It also discusses the benefits of integrating oral health care into primary care.


Nurse Practitioner and Midwifery Tool Kit

This series of seven toolkits are intended for oral health faculty to download and integrate into their course curricula: (1) Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, (2) Family Nurse Practitioner Program, (3) Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioners Program, (4) Nurse Midwifery Program, (5) Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner Program, (6) Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners Program, and (7) Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program. The toolkits offer classroom, simulation, and clinical teaching-learning strategies that address population health issues that are relevant to promoting the health of women, children, families, and communities.


The OHNEP Undergraduate Interprofessional Oral Health Faculty Tool Kit: Resources & Strategies for Oral Health Integration

This toolkit for undergraduate faculty provides curricula templates and resources that can be used when integrating oral health into an undergraduate nursing program. Topics include microbiology, anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology, research methods, pharmacology, health assessment and promotion, fundamentals, nursing care of adults and older adults, nursing care of children, maternity and women’s health, community, psychiatric-mental health, leadership in nursing, and professional nursing. Smiles for Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum is integrated throughout the toolkit.

Oral Health Coding Fact Sheet for Primary Care Physicians

This fact sheet explains what Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes and Codes on Dental Procedures and Nomenclature (CDT) codes are. It also lists various CPT and CDT codes for oral health services provided in primary care settings. Answers to frequently asked questions are included.


Preventive Dental Visits for Pregnant Women Are Important!

This infographic provides information about benefits of and barriers to preventive dental visits for pregnant women. It discusses the safety of visiting the dentist during pregnancy, Medicaid dental coverage available during pregnancy, physiological changes that occur during pregnancy that may affect oral health, and how receiving oral health services can improve overall health and reduce the likelihood of transmission of cavity-causing bacteria from mothers to young children. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


Promoting Oral Health

This tip sheet provides information about promoting oral health among children and adolescents. It offers background on the importance of oral health for child and adolescent development and discusses oral health services that children and adolescents should receive. Also discussed are making the most of oral health supervision visits by using the Bright Futures Tool & Resource Kit and age-specific guidance from health supervision visits. A table summarizing anticipatory guidance by developmental stage is included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


Treating Tooth Decay: How to Make the Best Restorative Choices for Children’s Health

This brief focuses on restorative choices for decayed teeth in children. It discusses the importance of treating tooth decay in children, what to consider when choosing the type of restoration, and how cavities are formed. Detailed information, including treatment name, description, best uses, success rates, and average costs, for specific types of restorations is presented. Action steps for policymakers, insurers, pediatric dentists, and parents and other caregivers are included. The brief also offers tips for tooth decay prevention.

Program Development


This toolkit for Title V program staff and other stakeholders provides information to help address national performance measure 13.1 (preventive dental visits for pregnant women) and 13.2 (preventive dental visits for children and adolescents ages 1–17). The strategic approaches described in the toolkit are informed by evidence and include resources from national and state organizations. The approaches are divided into categories, with relevant resources listed for each. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


Dental Quality Alliance: Medicaid Quality Improvement Learning Academy—Report from the DQA Implementation and Evaluation Committee

This report summarizes the Medical Quality Improvement Learning Academy pilot project, created to address challenges in oral health care systems, identify opportunities for improvement, and develop and test interventions in states. The report describes the process of developing the project and discusses goals and outcomes for each selected state (Kansas, Missouri, and Ohio). It also presents lessons learned in the following areas: quality improvement infrastructure, stakeholder relationships, team commitment and collaboration, state selection, testing-improvement strategies, and state-federal partnerships.


A Guide to Smart Snacks in School for School Year 2019–2020

This report provides information for schools about U.S. Department of Agriculture Smart Snacks in School standards and how to comply with them. The report explains why Smart Snacks are important, which foods and beverage need to meet the standards, and how schools can tell if they are complying with the standards. The report also provides information about how to check whether specific foods and beverages meet the standards and how the standards affect school fundraisers.


Compendium of Rural Oral Health Best Practices

This compendium presents programs designed to improve access to high-quality oral health care in rural communities and shares best practices related to providing oral health services in these communities. It is divided into topic areas: workforce development and training, care integration, telehealth, clinical practice, and policy and national models. Each topic area highlights specific programs and provides information on the program purpose, a program summary, and information on the program’s efficacy and impact.

O R A L  H E A L T H  R E S O U R C E  B U L L E T I N :  V O L U M E  4 5  ·  F E B R U A R Y  2 0 2 1

Iowa’s I-Smile Program Promotes Dental Care for Children, Pregnant Women, and Adults

This report provides information about Iowa’s I-Smile Program. Topics include background, oral health in Iowa, I-Smile in practice, I-Smile @ School, a division of I-Smile that helps children access oral health care by providing oral health screenings, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, and education in elementary and middle schools during the school day. It also describes I-Smile Silver, a pilot program implemented across 10 counties in Iowa to help adults access oral health care. The report also discusses key takeaways, challenges, and next steps.


Missouri Oral Health Plan 2020–2025

This report provides information about Missouri’s 2020–2025 oral health plan. It includes eight goals: (1) support access to preventive oral health services and emergency dental care; (2) provide oral health information to health professionals; (3) support oral health workforce development; (4) identify, investigate, monitor, and report on oral health problems, determinants, and disparities; (5) coordinate and participate in policy development to improve oral health in Missouri; (6) implement and collaborate with oral-disease-prevention programs; (7) reduce oral health disparities; and (8) implement, evaluate, and report on the 2020–2025 plan. Activities are described for each goal.


Nationwide Survey of Teledentistry Regulations

This guide provides information about teledentistry regulations throughout the United States. It discusses the importance of teledentistry and explains how to interpret the information presented. For each state, the guide includes a checklist that includes teledentistry regulations in several categories, allowed oral health procedures, and other requirements.


Nutrition and Oral Health: A Resource Guide

This guide provides resources for health professionals to promote good eating and oral health practices to help prevent oral disease in pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents. It provides descriptions of materials on data and surveillance, policy, professional education and training, and public education. Descriptions of and contact information for relevant organizations is also included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Oral Health Program Plans

This chart identifies states that have an oral health plan to assist other states with their plan-development process. For each state that has a plan, the latest plan is listed and can be downloaded. Other related resources for each state are also listed and can also be downloaded (e.g., fluoridation plan, oral health coalition plan, surveillance plan).


Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Population: An Overview

This report provides an overview of the oral health quality indicators for the maternal and child health (MCH) population created by the Centers for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement, Quality Advisory Team (QIAT). The overview explains what the indicators are and their purpose. It also describes the framework QIAT created to support quality measurement and improvement, an environmental scan of existing quality indicators, pilot implementation, and challenges and opportunities. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


This user guide provides guidance on implementing oral health quality indicators for the maternal and child health population. It offers background information on the indicators and presents indicator summaries. Also included are guidelines for data collection, preparation, and reporting and technical specifications. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


Painful Realities: General Anesthesia Access in Sacramento GMC Dental Managed Care

This report describes a study conducted to determine the availability of general anesthesia (GA) for oral health care in Sacramento County, CA, particularly for individuals with special health care needs (SHCN). The report discusses the importance of GA for those with SHCN who may be unable to tolerate oral health care without it. Topics include process and data sources, background, findings, and recommendations.

**Preventive Dental Visits for Children and Adolescents Are Important!**

This infographic provides information about benefits of and barriers to preventive dental visits for children and adolescents. It emphasizes the importance of these visits to reduce oral health problems and promote overall health throughout life. It discusses integration of oral health care into primary care, the cost savings that early intervention can confer, and disparities in oral health status and in access to oral health services. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**Readiness Assessment: Assessing Capacity to Implement Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health Population**

This readiness assessment is a tool for state oral health programs to explore capacity for collection of, access to, and analysis of the data used to calculate maternal and child health oral health quality indicators. The readiness assessment is organized by the data sources used to calculate the indicators: the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, the Basic Screening Survey, and Medicaid administrative claims and enrollment data.


**Title V National Performance Measure 13 (Oral Health): Strategies for Success (2nd ed.)**

This practice guide provides information to help state Title V maternal and child health programs in their implementation of the national performance measure on oral health (NPM 13) and oral-health-related state performance measures. It provides sample strategies for addressing NPM 13.1 (preventive dental visit for pregnant women) and 13.2 (preventive dental visit for children and adolescents). For all strategies, the report presents sample evidence-based or evidence-informed strategy measures (ESMs), possible data sources for ESMs, and a comprehensive list of resources. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**Understanding the Dental Periodicity Schedule and Oral Exam: A Guide for Head Start Staff**

This guide is designed to help Head Start staff understand what a dental periodicity schedule is. The guide provides background on the Head Start program performance standard that addresses an oral exam, describes elements of an oral exam, and offers information on the timing of oral exams and who can conduct them. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Public Awareness and Education

A Healthy Mouth for Your Baby

This booklet is designed to help parents keep their infant’s mouth healthy. It lists five steps that parents can take: feed the infant healthy food, check and clean the infant’s teeth, don’t put the infant to bed with a bottle, protect the infant’s teeth with fluoride, and take the infant to the dentist before age 1. A conversation between two women about how to keep an infant’s teeth healthy is included. The booklet is available in two versions, one for a general audience (available in English and in Spanish) and one for an American Indian/Alaska Native audience.


Oral Health Tips

This series of videos offer information about oral health during pregnancy and during infancy. Pregnancy-related topics include visiting the dentist, the importance of brushing with fluoridated toothpaste twice a day and flossing once a day, the relationship between a pregnant woman’s oral health and her future child’s oral health, and oral health problems that can occur during pregnancy. Infancy-related topics include the importance of caring for an infant’s mouth and how to take care of an infant’s teeth and gums.


Self-Care After Your Teledentistry Appointment

This tip sheet provides information on how to practice self-care after an in-office or teledentistry appointment. Topics include practicing healthy habits, decreasing risk for tooth decay, tooth sensitivity, tooth pain, bleeding gums, and jaw or muscle tightness and/or pain. For each topic, a list of tips is included.


Ways to Prevent Tooth Decay in Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

This tip sheet for parents provides information about preventing tooth decay in infants and young children. It offers information about the percentage of infants and children under age 5 who have had cavities, by race. Steps to take care of an infant’s or child’s teeth and mouth during pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood are presented. Information about the benefits of drinking fluoridated water, avoiding drinks that contain sugar, and eating healthy foods is included.


Ways to Protect Teeth and Prevent Decay in School-Age Kids and Teens

This tip sheet for parents provides information about preventing tooth decay in school-aged children and adolescents. It offers information about the percentage of children ages 6–8 who have had cavities, by race. Steps to take care of a child’s primary and permanent teeth are presented. Information about the benefits of drinking fluoridated water; eating healthy foods; avoiding smoking, vaping, and chewing tobacco; human papillomavirus (HPV); and wearing a mouthguard during sports is included.

**Systems Integration**

### Improving Oral Health Outcomes by Integrating Medical and Dental Care

This toolkit is intended for medical practices in Colorado, including community health centers, clinics, school-based health centers, and hospital systems, interested in integrating a dental hygienist into a medical team. The toolkit addresses startup and implementation, including hiring a dental hygienist, building a dental space, and integrating the hygienist into the team. Also addressed is the implementation phase. Examples of care-delivery models are included. Many parts of the toolkit are applicable in other states.


### Integration of Oral Health and Primary Care Technical Assistance Toolkit

This toolkit focuses on improving the oral health of people with HIV by integrating oral health care into primary care. It provides background information about the oral health status of those with HIV. It offers an overview of the components of integration and oral-health-care-delivery models. Each component, including best practices, is discussed, and links to relevant resources are included. The toolkit also addresses how to build and sustain oral-health-care delivery over time.


### Medical-Dental Integration in North Dakota

This fact sheet describes the reach, patients served, and outcomes of a medical-dental integration model employed in the University of North Dakota’s Center for Family Medicine in Bismarck. The model provides oral health screenings, fluoride varnish application, dental referrals, and care coordination for patients in the primary care setting while also educating medical residents and direct care staff quarterly on the association between oral health and overall health.


### Minnesota’s 21st Century Dental Team Toolkit

This toolkit provides information about collaborative dental hygiene practice, dental therapy, and medical-dental integration. Each topic includes links to relevant subtopics. A resource library is included, with links to educational resources. A video with information about the toolkit is also available.


### Networks for Oral Health Integration: Overview and Project Profiles

This report provides information about the Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Net projects. The goal of the initiative is to improve access to and utilization of comprehensive, high-quality oral health care in community health centers for pregnant women, infants and children from birth to age 40 months, and children ages 6–11 at high risk for oral disease. The report includes a profile of each of the three projects: Midwest Network for Oral Health Integration; Rocky Mountain Network; and Transforming Oral Health for Families. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

**OHI Toolkit**

This toolkit is a guide for community health centers (CHCs) to use in their efforts toward infrastructure improvements to integrate new oral health services or enhance existing services. It helps CHCs assess their readiness to integrate new oral health services or enhance existing services; provides links to Health Resources and Services Administration requirements, regulations, and resources; and offers infrastructure enhancement strategies.


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**TOHF Integrative Collaborative Practice Assessment**

This assessment for dental offices or clinics provides space to answer questions about approaches to providing care, integration of oral health care and medical care, collaboration, and communication among health professionals and between health professionals and patients. Questions about referral practices are also included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]
