Indicator Domain: OUTCOME

Indicator C.8. Percentage of Kindergarten Children with Dental Caries Experience (Treated or Untreated Tooth Decay)

Source: Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD), Basic Screening Survey (BSS)

1. Description
   Percentage of kindergarten children with dental caries experience (treated or untreated tooth decay)
   - **Numerator**: Number of kindergarten children screened with treated or untreated tooth decay
   - **Denominator**: Number of kindergarten children screened

2. Framework Domain
   **Outcome**
   - Health status: The health state of a person or change in health state resulting from health care

3. Level of Reporting
   This is a state-level, population-based surveillance measure of the burden of oral disease among kindergarten children.

4. Data Source
   Clinical screening examinations using the BSS tool developed by ASTDD.

5. Data Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Data Elements</th>
<th>Available Stratification Elements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten BSS</td>
<td>Option 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children screened</td>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental caries experience</td>
<td>Hispanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hispanic and Non-Hispanic other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unknown/missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Option 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hispanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Hispanic Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Hispanic other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unknown/missing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Measure Guidance
   - **Data-collection year.** Indicate the school year of the most recent kindergarten BSS. Also indicate when the next survey is planned.
   - **Adjustment for sampling methodology.** Data should be adjusted for the complex sampling scheme, following guidance provided by ASTDD.41

7. Measure Calculation: Detailed Specification
   A. **Denominator**
      **Step 1:** Identify the number of children screened in the state during the most recent kindergarten BSS.
      
      YOU NOW HAVE THE DENOMINATOR (DEN) COUNT: Children screened in the state during the most recent kindergarten BSS
   
   B. **Numerator**
      **Step 1:** Determine the subset of the denominator (number of children screened) who were identified as having any caries experience in the primary or permanent dentition (treated decay or untreated decay):
      a. If treated decay=YES, OR
      b. If untreated decay=YES, then include in numerator; STOP processing.
      c. If a OR b is not met (i.e., if treated decay=no AND untreated decay=no), then do not include the child in the numerator
      
      YOU NOW HAVE THE NUMERATOR (NUM) COUNT: Children screened in the state during the most recent kindergarten BSS who have caries experience

   C. **Denominator Exclusions/Exceptions**
      Exclude children from the denominator with:
      a. Missing variables for both treated decay and untreated decay
      b. Treated decay=NO and untreated decay=missing
      c. Treated decay=missing and untreated decay=NO

   D. **Reporting Stratifications**
      a. Race/ethnicity (Hispanic, Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic Black, Non-Hispanic other race, Non-Hispanic multiple race, unknown/missing)
      
      **Note:** If data limitations necessitate, race categories can be collapsed as: Non-Hispanic White, Hispanic and Non-Hispanic other race, and unknown/missing

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E. Measure Score

Report:

a. Number of individuals excluded from denominator, unweighted
b. Number in denominator (after exclusions), unweighted sample count
c. Number in numerator, unweighted sample count
d. Number in denominator, weighted
e. Number in numerator, weighted
f. Measure score (NUM/DEN), weighted, with 95% confidence interval
g. Measure score, weighted, stratified by [reporting stratification] with 95% confidence intervals and unweighted denominator count
h. Whether positive or passive consent is used and the response rate

8. Limitations

BSS tools were developed by ASTDD to help state and local public health agencies monitor the burden of oral disease at a level consistent with Healthy People objectives. BSS tools were not designed to measure small changes in disease levels and are probably not appropriate for use in oral health research.42

The BSS is typically conducted at a recommended interval of every 5 years within a state. Consequently, this outcome indicator will not be updated annually.

If a state uses positive consent, the information is representative only of children whose families returned a consent form. ASTDD encourages states to use passive (opt-out) consent.

9. Additional Notes

Additional information on the BSS is available online.

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