

Member Newsletter



Coalition News

Medicaid Adult Dental Reinstatement Continued Advocacy Efforts Needed

The House and Senate returned to Lansing this week from their spring recess. With a projected budget shortfall of \$1.6 billion, the Legislature's top priority is the FY 2011 budget. Last month, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its version of the Department of Community Health budget, which includes adult dental. As the budget process moves ahead, the Coalition will continue its advocacy efforts. On April 19, members Cheryl Gildner, Ingham County Health Department and Dr. Jane Grover, Center for Family Health will testify at the final House Appropriations Subcommittee hearing on the DCH budget. If you have any questions or would like to attend the hearing, please contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at 517.381.8000, Ext. 218.

Call for Nominations

Coalition Accepts Nominations for Board of Directors

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition is calling for nominations for openings on the Board of Directors for 2010-2011. Terms last for two (2) years beginning in July 2010. Nominees must be current members in good-standing. If you are interested in running or would like to nominate someone, please call the Coalition office at 517.381.8000, Ext. 218.

Oral Health Provisions in Health Reform Michigan, Kansas and Virginia Event a Success!

April 15, 2010

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Upcoming Events

April 19, 2010
12 to 1 p.m.
Medicaid Billing and
CHAMPS Webinar

June 10-11, 2010
Annual Conference
Downtown Lansing

Quick Links

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Board of Directors

Patti Ulrich
Chair

On Monday, the Michigan Oral Health Coalition partnered with Oral Health Kansas and Virginia Oral Health Coalition for a webinar on the oral health provisions in health reform. Dr. Burton Edelstein, Columbia University professor and Children's Dental Health Project founder led discussion on the new programs and dollars which will be directed to Prevention, Workforce, Safety Net Providers, Infrastructure and Surveillance.

Dr. Edelstein also shared that with the crafting of the law, Congress sent a strong message to all Americans--"Oral health is integral to overall health in federal policymaking." The oral health provisions of the law are embedded throughout the text, in concert with similar physical health provisions. This is an important sign that oral health shouldn't be treated as a separate issue from overall health. Thank you to those oral health advocates who participated in the webinar. If you would like a copy of the webinar on CD, please contact Karlene Ketola, executive director at kketola@mohc.org.

Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS

Still Time to Register for April 19 Webinar

With Medicaid's switch to "CHAMPS" or the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System, many dental providers are still experiencing issues related to claims and reporting. The Michigan Oral Health Coalition invites you and your staff to participate in a CHAMPS webinar. Join us April 19 from 12 to 1 p.m. for "Medicaid Billing and CHAMPS." The program is a great opportunity for the entire dental office staff to learn firsthand about the CHAMPS system and get answer to those nagging billing questions. Fee: \$25. To register, click [here](#).

State News

Cultural Competency and Broad Client Populations

MPCA Hosts June 2 Training Session

MPCA is hosting an intensive skill-building session on June 2 in Lansing to spotlight the concepts of cultural competency and the art of incorporating guidelines into practice with a broad client population. For more information, contact Lynda Meade at meade@mpca.net.

Free Prescription to Help Smokers' Quit

Most Smokers Try to Quit 6 to 9 Times

The U.S. Surgeon General has stated that quitting smoking is one of the best things you can do for your health. So why is it so hard to quit? Most smokers try to quit 6 to 9 times in their lives. Pfizer is offering a free 28-day prescription of Chantix to first time users. This offer is good for insured and uninsured patients. For more information, visit [Stop Smoking](#).

National News

New Study Out on Tap Water and Varnish

Two Most Cost-effective Fluoride Sources

The controlled addition of a fluoride compound to public water supplies is considered to be the most cost-effective way to prevent cavities and fight tooth decay, according to a study published in the January/February 2010

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issue of General Dentistry, the Academy of General Dentistry's (AGD) peer-reviewed clinical journal.

The second-most effective source of fluoride is varnish. Varnish, applied quickly and easily by a dentist, is one of the most concentrated products available commercially. Varnishes that contain sodium fluoride adhere to tooth surfaces when saliva is present, providing an excellent fluoride treatment.

School-linked Oral Health Services

Resources from Maternal and Child Oral Health Center

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) is pleased to announce the availability of two new resources addressing school-based and school-linked oral health services for children and adolescents developed for health professionals, program administrators, and policymakers.

Pain and Suffering Shouldn't Be an Option: School-Based and School-Linked Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents ([fact sheet](#)) provides information about the importance of good oral health during childhood and adolescence. Topics discussed include school readiness, disparities, oral trauma, nutrition, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, and school-based and school-linked services.

The Michigan Oral Health Coalition's mission is to improve oral health in Michigan by focusing on prevention, health promotion, oral health data, access and the link between oral health and overall health.

Michigan Oral Health Coalition

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