

Promoting Oral Health in Young Children

A Resource Guide

Third Edition



National Maternal and Child
Oral Health Resource Center

Cite as

Barzel R, Holt K. 2022. *Promoting Oral Health in Young Children: A Resource Guide* (3rd ed.). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center.

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This publication was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an annual award totaling \$1,321,950 with no funding from nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, or endorsement by, HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. government. For more information, please visit www.HRSA.gov.

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25 years serving the MCH community

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Introduction



Oral Health Practices During Infancy and Early Childhood

Establishing and maintaining good oral health practices during infancy and early childhood creates a foundation for good oral health later in life.¹ What happens during a child's first 5 years of life is critical to a child's health, development, and ability to succeed in school and later in life. Oral health is an important part of a child's overall health and well-being.

Children with good oral health tend to eat well, sleep well, and develop as they should. Good oral health is much more than a pretty smile. The health of a child's mouth can affect their growth and development, behavior, and social interactions. Good oral health during these developmental periods also plays an important role in school-readiness, which depends on positive physical, social and emotional, learning, language, and cognitive development. A child's oral health makes a big difference in their ability to learn.

Children with poor oral health may:

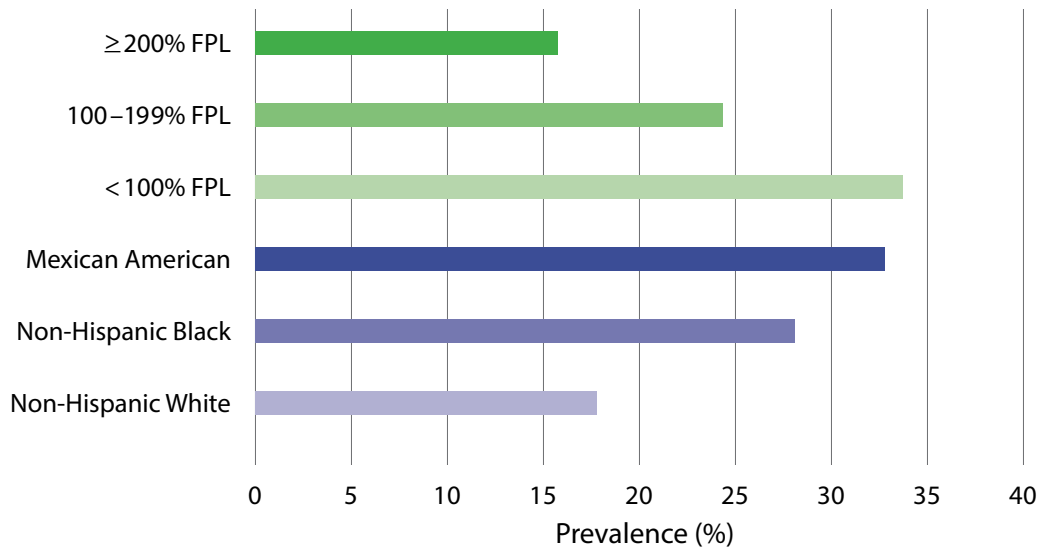
- Develop other serious health conditions, such as infections.
- Withdraw from family, friends, and teachers and not smile because they are self-conscious about the appearance of their teeth.

- Have a hard time concentrating and learning because they are in pain.
- Miss more school days.

Prevalence of Tooth Decay

The good news is that tooth decay can be prevented. The prevalence of tooth decay among children ages 2–5 decreased from 28 percent during 1999–2004 to 23 percent during 2011–2016, with the largest decrease among Mexican-American children and children from families with low incomes.² Although disparities in oral health by race or ethnicity or family income remain, children's oral health has improved since 1999–2004.² Despite these promising trends, however, children from families with low incomes are still more likely to experience tooth decay than children from families with higher incomes. Table 1 shows that more than half as many children from families with incomes of less than 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) experienced tooth decay in 2011–2016 compared to children from families with incomes greater than or equal to 200 percent of FPL. Mexican-American and non-Hispanic black children also continued to experience more tooth decay than non-Hispanic white children during this period.²

Table 1: Percentage of Children Ages 2–5 with Tooth Decay Experience in Primary Teeth by Poverty Status and Race/Ethnicity, United States 2011–2016



Strategies for Preventing and Treating Tooth Decay

Strategies for preventing and treating tooth decay in young children continue to emerge. Fluorides and noninvasive restorative care techniques, such as the application of silver diamine fluoride, have significantly improved dental visit experiences for young children and their parents. Fluoride supplementation and fluoride varnish application appear to be effective at preventing caries outcomes in children under age 5 who are at high risk for developing tooth decay.³

Promoting oral health as an important aspect of overall health and demonstrating good oral health practices is a high priority, so that parents and others can understand and value the importance of oral health and oral disease prevention. Promoting the importance of good oral health in young children is best accomplished via a collaborative approach that includes parents; dentists, dental hygienists, and other health professionals; child care and early education providers; and others in the community who value children’s health. They can introduce, reinforce, and model healthy behaviors, such as brushing twice a day with fluoridated toothpaste, eating healthy foods, and limiting foods and drinks with added sugars. Experience shows that if a young child’s teeth

are brushed with fluoridated toothpaste twice a day, the child is more likely to continue brushing into adulthood. The same is true for eating healthy foods and drinking healthy beverages, such as water or milk, instead of beverages with added sugar. Taking children for regular dental visits and, if needed, for treatment, is another important way to help ensure good oral health.

Everyone can support establishing a dental home for infants by age 1 and can encourage parents of young children to get their child regular oral health care, including preventive



care. A collaborative approach is needed to address risk factors for oral diseases and other chronic diseases. For example, health professionals, including pediatricians, family practitioners, nurse practitioners, and nurses, can integrate oral disease prevention and oral health promotion into primary care. They can conduct oral health risk assessments, provide anticipatory guidance and preventive care (e.g., fluoride varnish application), and make referrals to help establish a dental home. Child care and early education providers can also help by offering children healthy foods and beverages for meals and snacks, teaching them about the importance of oral health, helping them establish good oral hygiene practices, and ensuring that they receive treatment for oral injuries.

References

1. National Institutes of Health. 2021. *Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges*. Bethesda, MD: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2019. *Oral Health Surveillance Report: Trends in Dental Caries and Sealants, Tooth Retention, and Edentulism, United States, 1999–2004 to 2011–2016*. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
3. Chou R, Pappas M, Dana T, Selph S, Hart E, Schwarz E. 2021. *Screening and Prevention of Dental Caries in Children Younger Than Age Five Years: A Systematic Review for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force*. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.









About This Guide

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) developed this publication, *Promoting Oral Health in Young Children: A Resource Guide* (3rd ed.), to provide information for health professionals, program administrators, educators, and others about oral health in young children.

The resource guide is divided into two sections. The first section describes materials, such as briefs, fact sheets, guidelines, manuals, papers, reports, and videos published from 2018 through 2021 that reflect current science and practice as well as key resources published before 2018. The second section lists federal agencies, national professional associations, resource centers, and national coalitions that may serve as resources.

In the materials section, each resource includes an icon to help readers quickly identify materials. The key to the categories appears on the right.

For further information, we encourage you to contact the organizations listed in the second section of the resource guide. Your state and local departments of health, state and local oral-health-related associations and societies, state or local oral health coalitions, and university-based libraries are additional sources of information. OHRC will update the resource guide periodically, and we would appreciate hearing from you if you know of any relevant resources that are not included in this edition.

	Assessment (e.g., questionnaire, readiness assessment, survey)
	Book
	Brief, paper, or report
	Curriculum (e.g., course, training)
	Guide or guidelines (e.g., manual, pocket guide, practice guidance, resource guide, user guide)
	Infographic or poster
	Tool (e.g., brochure, checklist, flipbook, flipchart, form, handout, tip sheet, toolkit)
	Video

Acknowledgments



The following National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center staff members assisted in the development of this resource guide: Katy Battani, Sarah Kolo, Beth Lowe, and Susan Lorenzo. We are grateful to the following individuals for their review and contributions to the guide: Bev Isman, Norman Tinanoff, Pamela Vodicka, and John Welby. We would like to thank those who submitted items for inclusion in the guide.



Materials

Materials

Data and Surveillance



Delayed Start to Dental Visits: Parents Need Provider Prompt

This report provides information from the C. S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health, which asked parents of children from birth to age 5 about their beliefs and experiences related to when to start dental visits. The report summarizes responses, provides report highlights, and presents information on (1) the responses of parents whose child's physician suggested an age to start dental visits or who received such a suggestion from a dentist and (2) the responses of parents who did not receive such a suggestion from the physician or a dentist.

C. S. Mott Children's Hospital. 2018. *Delayed Start to Dental Visits: Parents Need Provider Prompt*. Ann Arbor, MI: C. S. Mott Children's Hospital. 2 pp.



Early Dental Visits Increase: Alaska Cubs, 2009–2017

This bulletin presents trends pertaining to the age at which children in Alaska were first seen by a dentist during the period 2009–2017 and describes early childhood oral health care during the period 2015–2017. The information is based on the Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey, a population-based survey that collects self-reported health information from mothers of 3-year-old children in Alaska. Methods are described, and a discussion and results are provided. Data on level of oral health care received by 3-year-old children by region and on timing of first dental visit in the state are included.

Stephens K, Young M, Parrish J. 2019. Early dental visits increase: Alaska CUBS, 2009–2017. *State of Alaska Epidemiology Bulletin*. 1 p.



MI Head Start Smiles 2017–2018: The Oral Health of Michigan's Head Start Children

This report discusses the oral health status of a sample of children enrolled in Head Start in Michigan. It provides an overview of the importance of oral health for children and of dental benefits for children in the state who are Medicaid recipients. Key findings about children enrolled in Head Start in Michigan are presented.

Phipps K. 2018. *MI Head Start Smiles 2017–2018: The Oral Health of Michigan's Head Start Children*. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. 25 pp.



Nevada Head Start Oral Health Survey 2017

This report provides oral health survey data about children enrolled in Head Start living in rural areas in Nevada. The report includes key survey findings, a description of the methodology, a summary of Basic Screening Survey protocol changes that occurred between 2003 and 2017, a description of Head Start demographics and response rates, and a discussion of three Healthy People 2020 oral health indicators and their relevance to the survey. Also included is a comparison of 2003, 2007, and 2017 survey results; parent questionnaire results; and 2017 summaries of caries experience, untreated tooth decay, treatment urgency, and decayed, missing, or filled primary teeth.

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Oral Health Program. 2018. *Nevada Head Start Oral Health Survey 2017*. Carson City, NV: Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Oral Health Program. 50 pp.



The Oral Health of Michigan’s 3–5 Year Old Head Start Children Compared to 3–5 Year Old Children in the General U. S. Population

This brief provides information from the 2017 Michigan Head Start Smiles, a statewide survey of preschool children enrolled in Head Start in Michigan. It provides information about prevalence of tooth decay and of untreated decay, need for treatment, and oral health disparities. Tables presenting data are included.

Phipps K. 2018. *The Oral Health of Michigan’s 3–5 Year Old Head Start Children Compared to 3–5 Year Old Children in the General U. S. Population*. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. 5 pp.



Oral Health Screening Survey of Preschool-Age Children, 2016–17

This brief presents results of an oral health screening survey of preschool-age children conducted by the Ohio Department of Health during the 2016–2017 school year. The brief provides overall findings and discusses results of

the survey compared to findings for the nation as a whole, access to oral health care, and significance of the findings. Data are provided, and a description of study methods is included.

Ohio Department of Health, Oral Health Program. 2018. *Oral Health Screening Survey of Preschool-Age Children, 2016–17*. Columbus, OH: Ohio Department of Health, Oral Health Program. 5 pp.



Pandemic-Posed Challenges to Children’s Oral Health

This report provides information from the results of a questionnaire that asked a national sample of parents about oral health for their children ages 3–18 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics include whether parents have tried to get oral health care for their child, parents’ perceptions of the safety of oral health care, changes to children’s oral health habits, and implications for children’s oral health.

C. S. Mott Children’s Hospital. 2021. *Pandemic-Posed Challenges to Children’s Oral Health*. Ann Arbor, MI: C. S. Mott Children’s Hospital. 2 pp.

Policy



Are Your Kids Covered? Medicaid Coverage for the Essential Oral Health Benefits

This brief evaluates Medicaid coverage for a select group of dental insurance codes that address barriers to optimal oral health care for children. The goal of the brief, which explains how these codes are created and why they are important, is to raise awareness of the codes and of the benefits of advocating for their inclusion in state fee schedules. For each code, the brief offers a rationale, a recommendation, and a list of states that reimburse for the code.

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. 2021. *Are Your Kids Covered? Medicaid Coverage for the Essential Oral Health Benefits*. Chicago, IL: American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. 16 pp.



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.

Baker SD, Lee JY, Wright R. 2019. *The Importance of the Age One Dental Visit*. Chicago, IL: American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Pediatric Oral Health Research and Policy Center. 16 pp.

Professional Education, Tools, and Training



Applying Consultation Skills to Oral Health Promotion

This video provides information about how successful consultation strategies can help child care health consultants address children's oral health in Head Start and other early childhood education and care programs. The video discusses why good oral health in early childhood is important and includes a scenario in which a child care health consultant advises teachers in a Head Start program on how to determine whether a child with behavior issues may have an underlying health problem—specifically, an oral health problem—and how they can address it.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2018. *Applying Consultation Skills to Oral Health Promotion*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 1 video (1:40 minutes).



Bright Futures: Oral Health Pocket Guide (3rd ed.)

This pocket guide offers health professionals an overview of preventive oral health supervision during five developmental periods: prenatal, infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence. It is designed to help health professionals implement specific oral health guidelines during these periods. For each period, information about family preparation, risk assessment, interview questions, screening, examination, preventive procedures, anticipatory guidance, measurable outcomes, and referrals is discussed. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2016. *Bright Futures: Oral Health Pocket Guide* (3rd ed.). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 90 pp.



Brush Up on Oral Health

This series of tip sheets provides Head Start staff with information on best and promising practices in oral health, current research, practical tips, frequently asked questions, and recipes for healthy snacks. Health and social service professionals interested in improving the oral health of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start and their families may also find *Brush Up on Oral Health* helpful.

National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 2012–. *Brush Up on Oral Health*. Waltham, MA: National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 1 series.



CAMBRA: Caries Management by Risk Assessment—A Comprehensive Caries Management Guide for Dental Professionals

This guide for oral health professionals presents a series of three papers reporting Caries Management by Risk Assessment (CAMBRA)-related research results and updates on clinical-practice CAMBRA implementation. The first paper discusses how the principles and philosophy of CAMBRA can be integrated into oral health practice. The second paper provides information for oral health professionals to use in treating children ages 6 and up. The third paper offers a caries-risk-assessment tool for use in managing dental caries and assessing risk in infants and children from birth through age 5.

Rechmann P, Chaffe BW, Rechmann BMT, Featherstone JDB. 2019. *CAMBRA: Caries Management by Risk Assessment—A Comprehensive Caries Management Guide for Dental Professionals*. Sacramento, CA: California Dental Association. 42 pp.



Checklist for Child Care Staff: Best Practices for Good Oral Health

This checklist provides items that child care program staff can check to reflect what they are doing to promote good oral health for infants, toddlers, and young children. Items not checked can serve as goals to help staff work toward improving their practices related to foods and drinks and to oral hygiene. The checklist is divided into three main categories: infants from birth to age 1, toddlers ages 1–3, and young children ages 3–5. Within each category, items to check are listed in two subcategories: foods and drinks and oral hygiene. The checklist is written in simple language and is available in English and in Spanish.

Holt K, Lowe B. 2019. *Checklist for Child Care Staff: Best Practices for Good Oral Health*. Itasca, IL: National Center for Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 4 pp.



Children’s Oral Health: Demonstration of the Five Oral Health Clinical Core Competencies

This video shows a health professional performing the five oral health clinical competencies, as recommended by the Health Resources and Services Administration, during a well-child visit. The competencies include risk assessment; oral health evaluation; preventive intervention, including fluoride varnish application; communication and education, including patient engagement and self-management goal-setting; and interprofessional collaboration and practice, including dental referral and care coordination. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

University of Colorado, Public Health and Dental Medicine. 2020. *Children’s Oral Health: Demonstration of the Five Oral Health Clinical Core Competencies*. Denver, CO: CU Productions. 1 video (6:14 minutes).



Cook’s Corner: Recipes for Healthy Snacks—Compiled from Brush Up on Oral Health (3rd ed.)

This cookbook includes recipes to support children’s healthy growth and development with ingredients that are fresh, low in fat, and high in fiber. The recipes can help early care and education programs meet nutrition standards from the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program. The cookbook is divided into recipes for dairy, fruit, and vegetables. Each recipe includes a list of ingredients, directions, a picture of the prepared recipe, and, where needed, safety tips. Recipes are also available individually. The cookbook and individual recipes are available in English and in Spanish.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2020. *Cook’s Corner: Recipes for Healthy Snacks—Compiled from Brush Up on Oral Health (3rd ed.)*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 50 pp.



Dental Hygienist Liaison Project

This handout provides information about the dental hygienist liaison (DHL) project coordinated by the National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Wellness, working in partnership with the American Dental Hygienists’ Association. Under the DHL project, volunteer dental hygienists help promote oral health for pregnant women and children enrolled in Head Start and children enrolled in child care. The handout explains the rationale for and purpose of the project and discusses the role of the DHL. Information on how to contact the DHL in each state is included.

National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 2022. *Dental Hygienist Liaison Project*. Waltham, MA: National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 2 pp.



Effective Partnerships Guide: Improving Oral Health for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Children and Their Families

This report is designed to help Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) grantees and federally qualified health centers establish partnerships that increase access to oral health services for children in MSHS and their families. The report provides information about MSHS programs, oral health in the programs, and the Health Resources and Services Administration's Health Center Program. Topics include Head Start, oral health, oral health care, financing oral health care, and planning.

National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office. 2018. *Effective Partnerships Guide: Improving Oral Health for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Children and Their Families*. Washington, DC: Office of Head Start, National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office. 19 pp.



Fluoride

This paper for Head Start staff provides information about how fluoride can prevent tooth decay in children and pregnant women and how people receive fluoride. The paper discusses Head Start program policies and procedures related to fluoride and provides tips for working with families to help them understand the importance of fluoride in preventing tooth decay and how to use fluoride correctly. Fluoride facts, a graphic showing appropriate amounts of toothpaste to use for infants and children, and information that can be included in a Head Start program's family newsletter are included.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2018. *Fluoride*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 7 pp.



Fluoride Varnish and Silver Diamine Fluoride: A Resource Guide

This resource guide is designed to help health professionals, program administrators, educators, and others understand the benefits and drawbacks of fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride. The guide provides an annotated list of resources on the use and application of fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride, including materials on data and surveillance, professional education and training, and public education. Descriptions of and contact information for relevant organizations are also included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Barzel R, Holt K, eds. 2020. *Fluoride Varnish and Silver Diamine Fluoride: A Resource Guide*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 19 pp.



Ending Childhood Dental Caries

This manual focuses on reducing the incidence of early childhood caries (ECC) throughout the world. It is intended to inform and support stakeholders who work to improve children's oral health, including community agencies, ministries of health, academics, and nongovernmental and professional organizations. The manual provides background on ECC, explains what ECC is, and outlines known risk factors and approaches to prevention and treatment.

World Health Organization. 2019. *Ending Childhood Dental Caries*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization. 72 pp.



Identifying and Implementing Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health Population: 2018–2019 Report

This report provides a set of maternal and child oral health quality indicators to monitor oral health services delivered in public health programs and systems of care. The report provides indicators for women of child-bearing age and pregnant women and for children, as well as a user guide, and discusses implementation strategies, indicator limitations, and challenges in obtaining data. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement Quality Indicator Advisory Team, Dental Quality Alliance, National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2019. *Identifying and Implementing Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health Population: 2018–2019 Report*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center; Chicago, IL: Dental Quality Alliance. 28 pp.



Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care: A Resource Guide

This resource guide is designed to help health professionals, program administrators, educators, and others understand the benefits of integrating oral health care into primary care and to provide information about how to implement oral health care integration in materials, programs, and systems of care. The guide describes materials, such as briefs, curricula, fact sheets, guidelines, manuals, papers, reports, and videos, published from 2015 through 2020 that reflect current science and practice as well as seminal resources published before 2015. Descriptions of and contact information for relevant organizations are also included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Barzel R, Holt K, eds. 2020. *Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care: A Resource Guide*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 37 pp.



The Maternal and Child Health Bureau–Funded Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement (PIOHQI) Initiative 2013–2019: Final Report

This report describes the achievements of 16 projects funded through the PIOHQI initiative to improve oral health for pregnant women and infants, lessons the projects learned, and resources they produced. It provides examples of project achievements and successes in seven strategy areas: network development; workforce enhancement; community outreach; process and procedure development; program development; state practice guidance development; and data collection, evaluation, and reporting. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Lorenzo S, Goodman H, Stemmler P, Holt K, Barzel R, eds. 2019. *The Maternal and Child Health Bureau–Funded Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement (PIOHQI) Initiative 2013–2019: Final Report*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 26 pp.



Improving the Oral Health of Pregnant Women, Children and Families

This course for community health workers includes six modules about improving the oral health of pregnant women, children, and families: (1) oral health essentials, (2) oral health screening, (3) oral health during pregnancy, (4) oral health knowledge and skills for infants and young children, (5) planning and making changes for good family oral health, and (6) advocacy for oral health for mothers and infants. The course has been approved for continuing education units and medical education units for community health workers and representatives by the New Mexico Department of Health. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability. 2019. *Improving the Oral Health of Pregnant Women, Children and Families*. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability. 6 modules.



Maternal and Child Health Update: 2020

This report presents results from a 2020 survey of senior state and territory health officials on maternal and child health (MCH) policy topics, including oral health. Selected topics include policy initiatives to address socioeconomic disparities among mothers and children, birth outcomes and early childhood, and strategies states are pursuing to advance early childhood health, including oral health, and development. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Governors Association. 2020. *Maternal and Child Health Update: 2020*. Washington, DC: National Governors Association. 27 pp.

Virginia Health Catalyst. 2018. *Oral Disease Prevention in Primary Care: Services and Reimbursement for Children 0–3*. Glen Allen, VA: Virginia Health Catalyst. 1 p.



Oral Health Assessment Form

This form, to be completed by parents and oral health professionals, provides space to write information about children over age 3 to give the child's child care facility or school. Part I, for parents to fill out, is for the child's name, age, birthdate, grade, and child care facility or school name. Part II, for an oral health professional to fill out, is for the child's oral health status and insurance status. Space for the oral health professional's name, signature, and stamp, as well as the date of the oral examination, is included.

DC Health. 2019. *Oral Health Assessment Form*. Washington, DC: District of Columbia Department of Health. 1 p.



Open Wide: Oral Health Training for Health Professionals

This curriculum is designed to help health and early childhood professionals working in community settings (e.g., Head Start, home visiting, WIC staff) promote oral health in the course of promoting general health for infants, children, and their families. Topics include tooth decay, risk factors, and prevention; oral health risk assessment and oral health screening; and anticipatory guidance for parents. Each of the four modules includes an overview, learning objectives, key points, a post-test, and resources. A glossary and a list of presentations, print materials, and videotapes are also presented. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2010–. *Open Wide: Oral Health Training for Health Professionals*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 4 modules.



Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the state of oral health and the progress made in the past 20 years to improve the oral health of Americans. Topics include effects of oral health on the community, well-being, and the economy; oral health among children, adolescents, adults, and older adults; oral health workforce, education, and practice integration; pain, mental illness, and substance abuse; and emerging science and promising technologies to transform oral health.

National Institutes of Health. 2021. *Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges*. Bethesda, MD: Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. 790 pp.



Oral Disease Prevention in Primary Care: Services and Reimbursement for Children 0–3

This fact sheet for health professionals provides information about billing Medicaid for applying fluoride varnish to the teeth of infants and children from birth through age 3 in Virginia. Information includes which types of health professionals can bill for this service, what Medicaid covers, and to whom to apply for reimbursement.



Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health Population

This handout outlines a set of maternal and child health quality indicators identified by the Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement Quality Indicator Advisory Team to monitor oral health services delivered in public health programs and systems of care. Indicators for women of childbearing age and pregnant women are broken into three categories: access, utilization, and outcomes. Indicators for children are broken into four categories: access, utilization, process, and outcomes.

Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement Quality Indicator Advisory Team, Dental Quality Alliance, National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2019. *Oral Health Quality Indicators for the Maternal and Child Health Population*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center; Chicago, IL: Dental Quality Alliance. 2 pp.



The Partnership for Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care Project 2019–2021: Final Report

This report discusses the importance of integrating oral health care into primary care and provides information about the implementation of the Partnership for Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care project. It discusses project measures, detailed project findings, and strategies to integrate oral health care into primary care. The report also highlights technical activities provided to and feedback received from project teams. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Battani K, Holt K. 2021. *The Partnership for Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care Project 2019–2021: Final Report*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 34 pp.



Periodicity Schedule & Alternatives for Pediatric Preventive Oral Health in Primary Care

This periodicity schedule and alternatives for pediatric preventive oral health care provides guidance for care in primary care settings based on MaineCare reimbursement limitations. Services are organized by age of the child (ages 6 months to 5 years) and include parent education, oral evaluation, fluoride application, and referral to a dentist. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

From the First Tooth. 2019. *Periodicity Schedule & Alternatives for Pediatric Preventive Oral Health in Primary Care*. Portland, ME: From the First Tooth. 2 pp.



Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents with Special Health Care Needs: A Resource Guide (4th ed.)

This resource guide provides information for health professionals to assist them in planning, developing, and implementing efforts to ensure that children and adolescents with special health care needs receive optimal oral health care. The guide describes materials, including brochures, fact sheets, guides, manuals, and reports. It also lists federal agencies, resource centers, and national professional associations that may serve as resources. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Holt K, Barzel R, eds. 2020. *Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents with Special Health Care Needs: A Resource Guide* (4th ed.). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center.



Prevention of Dental Caries in Children Younger Than 5 Years: Screening and Interventions—US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendations Statement

This statement provides recommendations for primary care clinicians about how to prevent tooth decay in infants and children under age 5. Recommendations include prescribing oral fluoride supplements starting at age 6 months for infants and children whose water supply is deficient in fluoride, applying fluoride varnish to the teeth of all infants and children starting at the age of primary tooth eruption, and routinely screening infants and children under age 5 for caries lesions.

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. 2021. *Prevention of Dental Caries in Children Younger Than 5 Years: Screening and Interventions—US Preventive Services Task Force Recommendations Statement*. Rockville, MD: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. 8 pp.



Providing Comprehensive Care for Your Patients: An Oral Health Integration Toolkit for Health Care Providers

This toolkit provides information for health professionals about how to create an integrated health system that incorporates oral health. It discusses how to create an integration plan and factors to consider when integrating care. The toolkit offers an integration care model for early childhood that discusses considerations, including community support, modeling behavior, and measuring improvement. Practical examples related to fluoride varnish application are also included.

Virginia Health Catalyst. 2019. *Providing Comprehensive Care for Your Patients: An Oral Health Integration Toolkit for Health Care Providers*. Glen Allen, VA: Virginia Health Catalyst. 18 pp.



Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care (upd. ed.)

This guide provides the American Academy of Pediatrics and Bright Futures recommendations for the periodicity of preventive health care for well-child visits for infants, children, and adolescents. The recommendations emphasize the importance of continuity of care in comprehensive health supervision, including oral health supervision, and the need to avoid fragmentation of care.

American Academy of Pediatrics, Bright Futures. 2020. *Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care* (upd. ed.). Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 2 pp.



Resources to Make You Smile!

This newsletter features information and materials for Head Start staff to help families promote good oral health. It also includes a recipe for a healthy snack that children can make in a Head Start classroom or at home with their families.

National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 2021–. *Resources to Make You Smile!* Waltham, MA: National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 1 series.



Share the Love in February; It's National Children's Dental Health Month

This video provides information about the importance of good oral health for young children and on how to promote oral health for this population. Topics include providing oral health education, using fluoridated toothpaste and helping children brush their teeth in the classroom, advising parents to brush a child's teeth with fluoridated toothpaste in the morning and before bed, talking to parents about food choices that promote oral health, and advising parents to seek care for their child from a dentist or dental hygienist.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2020. *Share the Love in February; It's National Children's Dental Health Month*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 1 video (58 seconds).



Silver Diamine Fluoride: Policy and Fact Summary

This summary explains what silver diamine fluoride (SDF) is and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of SDF application, its safety and efficacy, and whether applying SDF can make oral health care more affordable. It also discusses potential cost savings resulting from SDF application, how SDF can be used, candidates for SDF, reimbursement and health insurance coverage, and the rationale for the SDF insurance code. A chart showing the pros and cons of SDF application is included.

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. 2021. *Silver Diamine Fluoride: Policy and Fact Summary*. Chicago, IL: American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. 6 pp.

of children with special health care needs. The curriculum can be taken for continuing education credit at no charge or for no credit (self-assessment). [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2018. *Special Care: An Oral Health Professional's Guide to Serving Children with Special Health Care Needs* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 1 v.



Steps for Toothbrushing at the Table: Growing Healthy Smiles in Early Care and Education Programs

This video provides Head Start and child care staff with information about how children can brush their teeth as a group at the table. It shows a Head Start teacher modeling brushing at the table, while the children also brush with her guidance. Instructions for how to prepare the area, clean up after brushing, and safely store toothbrushes are included. The video also shows a dentist explaining how toothbrushing with fluoride toothpaste can help prevent tooth decay. Captions written in Spanish are included.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2018. *Steps for Toothbrushing at the Table: Growing Healthy Smiles in Early Care and Education Programs*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 1 video (5:50 minutes).



Smiles for Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum (4th ed.)

This curriculum for health professionals and educators comprises eight courses addressing oral health. Courses focus on the relationship between oral health and systemic health; child oral health; adult oral health; acute oral health problems; pregnancy and women's oral health; caries risk assessment, fluoride varnish, and counseling; the oral exam; and oral health for older adults. The courses can be taken for continuing education credit or simply to learn about the topics.

Clark M, ed. 2017–2019. *Smiles for Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum* (4th ed.). Leawood, KS: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. Multiple items.



Tips for Successfully Incorporating Medicaid Patients into a Dental Office

This tip sheet provides tips for accepting Medicaid reimbursement for oral health care. It offers suggestions for how to make adjustments to offset Medicaid's reimbursement rates, which are lower than other insurance providers' rates. The tip sheet is divided into four sections: benefits of accepting Medicaid, scheduling, staffing, and providing care for young children. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Cavity Free at Three. 2018. *Tips for Successfully Incorporating Medicaid Patients into a Dental Office*. Denver, CO: Cavity Free at Three. 2 pp.



Special Care: An Oral Health Professional's Guide to Serving Children with Special Health Care Needs (2nd ed.)

This curriculum provides oral health professionals with information about the oral health of children with special health care needs, oral health supervision, prevention of oral disease, and behavior guidance. It can help fulfill dental education and dental hygiene education program requirements on the management and treatment



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]

Holt K, Kolo S, Louie R. 2020. *Title V National Performance Measure 13 (Oral Health): Strategies for Success* (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 27 pp.



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. It 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]

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2020. *Understanding the Dental Periodicity Schedule and Oral Exam: A Guide for Head Start Staff*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 7 pp.



The Virtual Dental Home in the Inland Empire: Building Best Practices into the Oral Health Care Delivery System for Children

This brief provides information about the virtual dental home (VDH) implemented by four communities in five California counties as part of their local dental pilot projects (LDPPs). The aim of the LDPPs is to increase use of oral health care among children enrolled in Medi-Cal through innovative pilot projects. The brief outlines implementation of the VDH, identifies lessons learned and best practices, and provides recommendations for sustaining the VDH and integrating best practices into the oral health care delivery system. It also considers the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on VDH implementation.

California Northstate University, The Children's Partnership. 2020. *The Virtual Dental Home in the Inland Empire: Building Best Practices into the Oral Health Care Delivery System for Children*. Elk Grove, CA: California Northstate University; Los Angeles, CA: The Children's Partnership. 17 pp.

Public Education



Brushing Toddlers' Teeth

This video focuses on the importance of brushing toddlers' teeth. It shows a health professional demonstrating to a mother techniques for brushing toddlers' teeth. Different positions for brushing are demonstrated, and guidance for how often to brush and how much fluoridated toothpaste to use are discussed. What to do if a child cries during brushing is also addressed.

University of Maryland School of Public Health, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. 2019. *Brushing Toddlers' Teeth*. College Park, MD: University of Maryland School of Public Health Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. 1 video (2:18 minutes).



Getting to Know Me: Information for Your Child's Dental Office

This form for parents of young children to fill out and bring to their child's dental appointment includes space to provide information about the child that will help dental office staff understand and meet the child's needs. It asks what makes the child feel good, what the child likes to get when he or she behaves well, and what is the best way to help a child who is feeling shy, scared, or unsure. The form is available in English and in Spanish.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2018. *Getting to Know Me: Information for Your Child's Dental Office*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2 pp.



Give Your Child a Healthy Mouth for Life

This brochure provides information for parents about how to keep infants' and young children's teeth healthy. It explains why having a healthy mouth in infancy and early childhood is important and how to help prevent tooth decay in infants and young children. Information about Maryland's Medicaid Dental Program is included. The brochure is available in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).

Maryland Dental Action Coalition. 2019. *Give Your Child a Healthy Mouth for Life*. Columbia, MD: Maryland Dental Action Coalition. 2 pp.



Give Your Child a Healthy Mouth with Fluoride [brochure and poster]

This brochure and poster provide information for parents and pregnant women about the importance of fluoride for keeping teeth healthy. The brochure includes links to resources that can help parents and pregnant women learn more about fluoride, how to get dental coverage in Maryland, and how to find a dentist for a child. Information about Maryland's Medicaid Dental Program is included. The poster emphasizes that drinking fluoridated water helps prevent tooth decay in children. The brochure is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), and the poster is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Maryland Dental Action Coalition. 2019. *Give Your Child a Healthy Mouth with Fluoride* [brochure and poster]. Columbia, MD: Maryland Dental Action Coalition. 2 pp.



Healthy Habits for Happy Smiles

This series of handouts for pregnant women and parents of infants and young children provides simple tips on nutrition and oral health. Selected topics include brushing a young child's teeth, choosing healthy drinks for young children, encouraging young children to drink water, giving young children healthy snacks, taking care of oral health for pregnant women, and taking care of an infant's oral health. The series is available in English and in Spanish.

National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 2014–. *Healthy Habits for Happy Smiles*. Waltham, MA: National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety. 1 series.



Healthy Teeth for Young Children

This series of videos for parents discusses the importance of primary teeth, passing the bacteria that cause tooth decay from parent to infant, and how to brush a child's teeth. Each video presents information in plain language along with visual depictions of the concepts being discussed.

First Things First. 2021. *Healthy Teeth for Young Children*. Phoenix, AZ: First Things First. 3 videos (2:34 minutes, 1:07 minutes, 1:39 minutes).



Infant Nutrition and Oral Health

This handout for parents provides information about nutrition to promote children's oral health. Topics include what sugar does to teeth, feeding with a bottle and a cup, healthy foods for young children, and the best times to give children foods containing sugar. The document is available in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Virginia Department of Health. 2018. *Infant Nutrition and Oral Health*. Richmond, VA: Virginia Department of Health. 1 p.



Lift the Lip to Prevent Dental Decay

This video demonstrates the lift-the-lip technique for detecting tooth decay. It shows a health professional demonstrating to a mother of a young child how to use this technique to routinely check a child's mouth for signs of tooth decay and the mother indicating that she understands how to use the technique and understands its importance.

University of Maryland School of Public Health, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. 2019. *Lift the Lip to Prevent Dental Decay*. College Park, MD: University of Maryland School of Public Health, Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy. 1 video (2:24 minutes).



Oral Health Before During and After Pregnancy

This video for women focuses on maintaining good oral health before, during, and after pregnancy. Topics include changes during pregnancy that can affect oral health, how a woman's oral health can affect the oral health of her unborn

child, and the importance and safety of getting oral health care during pregnancy. Tips on how to prepare for dental visits, maintain good nutrition during pregnancy, and address pregnancy-related nausea are also provided. The video is available in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Hebert C. 2018. *Oral Health Before During and After Pregnancy*. Columbia, SC: South Carolina Oral Health Coalition. 1 video (2:17 minutes).



Patient Education Videos for Students

This series of videos provides information about oral health for children and adolescents in pre-kindergarten to grade 2, grades 3–5, grades 6–8, and grades 9–12. The videos discuss the importance of oral health, how to keep the teeth and mouth healthy, the importance of toothbrushing and flossing, and the importance of eating healthy foods and drinking water and avoiding foods and drinks high in sugar. They also explain what tooth decay and gum disease are and discuss the importance of visiting the dentist and what happens during dental visits.

Colorado Department of Public Health. 2021. *Patient Education Videos for Students*. Denver, CO: Colorado Department of Public Health. 4 videos (8:38 minutes, 9:35 minutes, 12:17 minutes, 4:18 minutes).



Preventive Dental Visits for Children and Adolescents Are Important!

This infographic provides information about benefits of and barriers to receiving 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. The infographic is available in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2020. *Preventive Dental Visits for Children and Adolescents Are Important!* Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2 pp.



Protect Your Child's Smile ... From Birth to Age 3

This brochure for parents provides information about how to keep the mouths of infants and toddlers healthy. The information is divided by age: birth to 3 months, 6–9 months, 12–18 months, 24 months, and 36 months. The brochure is written in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. 2018. *Protect Your Child's Smile ... from Birth to Age 3*. Charleston, SC: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. 2 pp.



Questions to Ask When Looking for a Dental Office

This form for parents of young children provides questions that parents can ask when they are looking for a dental office for their child. Questions focus on languages spoken, availability of translation services, insurance accepted by the office, office hours, office accessibility to public transportation, availability of appointments, the dentist's and staff's experience with treating young children, and what happens at the first appointment. The form is available in English and in Spanish.

National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 2018. *Questions to Ask When Looking for a Dental Office*. Itasca, IL: National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness. 1 p.



SDF: Giving Very Young Children Something to Smile About

This video provides information about using silver diamine fluoride (SDF) to arrest dental caries in young children. It includes background on SDF and discusses the safety, efficacy, and cost of SDF treatment and the advantages and disadvantages of SDF over alternative approaches to treating dental caries in young children. The video also shows how SDF is applied and presents information about insurance coverage for SDF treatment in North Carolina.

Raskin M. 2019. *SDF: Giving Very Young Children Something to Smile About*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section. 1 video (7:53 minutes).



Teeth 101: From Teething to Wisdom

This video for parents provides information about teething. Topics include eruption of primary and permanent teeth, the importance of primary teeth, and the importance of the age 1 dental visit and of visiting the dentist regularly. Symptoms of teething and ways to ease teething pain are discussed. Proper brushing and flossing and the amount of toothpaste to use are emphasized.

Parentalogue. 2021. *Teeth 101: From Teething to Wisdom*. Boston, MA: Parentalogue. 1 video (9:27 minutes).



Thanks for Protecting Us 2

This video discusses the importance of healthy primary teeth to children's overall health and how health professionals can play a role in preventing oral disease in infants and young children by applying fluoride varnish. The video also discusses other ways that health professionals can encourage good oral health at well-child visits, including providing information about toothbrushing, proper use of bottles, good nutrition, and establishing a dental home.

Maine Health Educational Services. 2018. *Thanks for Protecting Us 2*. Portland, ME: Maine Health Educational Services. 1 video (3:24 minutes).



Tips for Good Oral Health During Pregnancy/Tips for Good Oral Health During Infancy

This tip sheet for pregnant women and parents of infants provides information about how to keep the mouth healthy during pregnancy and infancy. It presents information about pregnancy on one side and information about infants on the other. The pregnancy side discusses oral health coverage through Maryland Medicaid, the safety of getting oral health care during pregnancy, practicing good oral hygiene, eating healthy foods, and other healthy behaviors. The infancy side discusses providing good oral hygiene for infants. The tip sheet is available in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Maryland Department of Health. 2018. *Tips for Good Oral Health During Pregnancy/Tips for Good Oral Health During Infancy*. Baltimore, MD: Maryland Department of Health. 2 pp.



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. Information about the benefits of drinking fluoridated water, avoiding drinks that contain sugar, and eating healthy foods is included.

American Academy of Pediatrics. 2019. *Ways to Prevent Tooth Decay in Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers*. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 2 pp.

State and Local Programs



Brushing Is Fun! Guidelines for Toothbrushing in North Carolina Child Care Programs: Infant and Toddler Classrooms (Tooth Eruption to 3rd Birthday)—Steps for Individual Toothbrushing in Infant and Toddler Classrooms

These guidelines for staff in North Carolina child care programs provide information about toothbrushing in the classroom for infants and children beginning at tooth eruption until age 3. Topics include steps for toothbrushing, including preparing to brush, individual brushing, and cleaning up. Toothbrush and storage rack care are also discussed. Helpful hints and general toothbrushing information are included, along with information about fluoridated toothpaste. The guidelines are available in English and in Spanish.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health. 2019. *Brushing Is Fun! Guidelines for Toothbrushing in North Carolina Child Care Programs: Infant and Toddler Classrooms (Tooth Eruption to 3rd*

Birthday)—Steps for Individual Toothbrushing in Infant and Toddler Classrooms. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health; Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Division of Public Health, Oral Health Section. 4 pp.



Check Up on Oral Health: Age One Dental Services—Michigan County Profile 2019

This report provides information about age 1 oral health services in Michigan. It includes background about the importance of good oral health in early childhood and offers statistics, by county, on infants and children under age 2 who participate in Medicaid who had at least one dental visit in 2017. Factors contributing to lack of access to oral health care are presented. Information about *Michigan Perinatal Oral Health Guidelines* and a dental periodicity chart are included.

Michigan Oral Health Coalition. 2019. *Check Up on Oral Health: Age One Dental Services—Michigan County Profile 2019*. Lansing, MI: Michigan Oral Health Coalition. 4 pp.



Community Water Fluoridation

This fact sheet provides information about oral health in Wisconsin, with a focus on how community water fluoridation (CWF) can improve oral health status. It includes an overview of the effects of tooth decay and information on how it affects children enrolled in Head Start, children in third grade, and older adults in the state. The impact of CWF on tooth decay is discussed. Strategies to promote oral health and CWF in Wisconsin are included.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services. 2019. *Community Water Fluoridation*. Madison, WI: Wisconsin Department of Health Services. 2 pp.



Improving the Oral Health of Iowans: I-Smile Dental Home Initiative

This report provides information about the I-Smile Dental Home Initiative, the goal of which is to help children in Iowa have good oral health beginning at an early age. It describes what I-Smile coordinators do and discusses the availability of preventive oral health services for children enrolled in Medicaid in Iowa and the increase in the percentage of this population that has received preventive services since the establishment of I-Smile. The state of children's oral health in Iowa is also discussed.

Iowa Department of Public Health. 2020. *Improving the Oral Health of Iowans: I-Smile Dental Home Initiative*. Des Moines, IA: Iowa Department of Public Health. 2 pp.



Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the MCH Safety Net: Overview and Project Profiles Update 2021

This report provides an overview of the Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the MCH Safety Net project and descriptions of the three networks. The report includes a profile of each network: (1) Midwest Network for Oral Health, (2) Rocky Mountain Network for Oral Health (RoMoNOH), and (3) Transforming Oral Health for Families. Each profile provides information about the network's partners, approach, settings, models of care, and core function activities, as well as a discussion of the impact

of the COVID-19 pandemic on network activities. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2022. *Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the MCH Safety Net—Overview and Project Profiles: Update 2021*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center.



Varnish! Michigan 2020 Annual Report

This report presents findings and recommendations from the evaluation of a program to increase awareness of the importance of oral health among health professionals, facilitate the integration of oral health into well-child visits, and increase access to preventive care for young children at high risk for dental caries. Topics include a project overview, purpose, key questions, and evaluation methods. The report also discusses findings on health professionals reached, training, confidence in program delivery, program fidelity, health professional satisfaction, supply of fluoride varnish, children reached, and benefits and barriers.

Michigan Public Health Institute, Center for Child and Family Health. 2019. *Varnish! Michigan 2020 Annual Report*. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Oral Health. 12 pp.



Organizations

Organizations

Academy of General Dentistry

560 West Lake Street, Sixth Floor
Chicago, IL 60661-6600
Phone: (888) 243-3368
Website: www.agd.org

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) serves the needs of general dentists, represents their interests, and provides continuing education. AGD's goal is to advance general dentistry and improve oral health through high-quality continuing education and advocacy.

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60611-2637
Phone: (312) 337-2169
Website: www.aapd.org

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) works to achieve optimal oral health for all children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs. AAPD serves primary care and specialty pediatric dentists, as well as general dentists who treat children and adolescents in their practices.

American Academy of Pediatrics

Section on Oral Health
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098
Phone: (800) 433-9016
E-mail: oralhealthinfo@aap.org
Website: www.aap.org/oralhealth

The American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Oral Health focuses on improving communication between pediatricians and pediatric dentists and improving advocacy for oral health, nutrition, and early diagnosis and prevention of oral disease in children, including those with special health care needs.

American Association of Public Health Dentistry

P.O. Box 7317
Springfield, IL 62791-7317
Phone: (217) 529-6941
Website: www.aaphd.org

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) works toward ensuring optimal oral health for individuals and communities. Its goals are to foster partnerships between AAPHD members and stakeholders with an interest in public health dentistry, translate evidence into policies and programs, and develop talent and leadership in the field of public health dentistry.

American Dental Association

211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611-2678
Phone: (312) 440-2500
E-mail: info@ada.org
Website: www.mouthhealthy.org/en

The American Dental Association (ADA) provides oral health information to dentists and consumers and works to advance the dental profession at the national, state, and local levels. ADA initiatives include those related to advocacy, education, research, and the development of standards.

American Dental Hygienists' Association

444 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3400
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: (312) 440-8900
Website: www.adha.org

The American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) works to ensure access to high-quality oral health care; promote dental hygiene education, licensure, practice, and research; and represent the legislative interests of dental hygienists at the local, state, and federal levels. ADHA serves dental hygienists with the goal of helping them achieve their full potential as they seek to improve the public's oral health.

Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors

3858 Cashill Boulevard
Reno, NV 89509
Phone: (775) 626-5008
Website: www.astdd.org

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors promotes the establishment of national dental public health policy and assists state oral health programs in the development and implementation of programs and policies for preventing oral disease. It also builds awareness and strengthens public health professionals' knowledge and skills by developing position papers and policy statements, provides information on oral health to health officials and policymakers, and conducts conferences for the dental public health community.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Oral Health

1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329-4027
Phone: (800) 232-4636
E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov
Website: www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/index.html

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) works to combat disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same. CDC's Division of Oral Health strives to improve oral health and reduce oral health disparities by helping states better their oral health programs, extending the use of proven strategies to prevent oral disease, enhancing efforts to monitor oral disease, contributing to the scientific knowledge base related to oral health and oral disease, and guiding infection control in dentistry.

Hispanic Dental Association

2 Talon Court
Sewell, NJ 08080
Phone: (856) 343-9459
Website: www.hdassoc.org

The Hispanic Dental Association works to promote overall health, including oral health, for the Hispanic community as well as other underrepresented communities. Its goal is to empower health professionals to improve oral health equity and health care quality for these populations. It also strives

to provide a unified voice for Hispanic oral health professionals, foster relevant research, disseminate information, serve as a source of continuing education, and stimulate interest in oral-health-related careers within the Hispanic community.

Indian Health Service

5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
Website: www.ihs.gov/index.cfm
Dental portal: www.ihs.gov/DOH

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is responsible for providing federal health services, including oral health services, to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The IHS dental portal serves as a centralized location where staff who work in Indian health care can locate resources to support the operation of effective clinical and community oral health programs.

Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Parklawn Building
Rockville, MD 20857
Phone: (301) 443-2753
E-mail: pvodicka@hrsa.gov
Website: www.mchb.hrsa.gov

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau provides leadership, in partnership with stakeholders, to improve the physical, mental, and oral health; safety; and well-being of the maternal and child health population, which includes all women, infants, children, and adolescents and their families.

National Dental Association

6411 Ivy Lane, Suite 703
Greenbelt, MD 20770
Phone: (240) 241-4448
E-mail: info@ndaonline.org
Website: www.ndaonline.org

The National Dental Association (NDA) works to improve the delivery of oral health care in underserved communities and to improve the educational opportunities of minorities underrepresented in the oral health field. NDA's website features information on events, dental education, dental schools, programs, and initiatives.

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive, MSC2290 Building 31, Room 2C39
Bethesda, MD 20892
Phone: (866) 232-4528
E-mail: nidcrinfo@mail.nih.gov
Website: www.nidcr.nih.gov

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research seeks to improve dental, oral, and craniofacial health through research and training and by promoting the timely transfer of knowledge gained from research to the public. It strives to translate findings into prevention, early detection, and treatment strategies that improve overall health for all individuals and communities across the lifespan.

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center

Georgetown University
Washington, DC 20057-1272
E-mail: OHRInfo@georgetown.edu
Website: www.mchoralhealth.org

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center responds to the needs of professionals working in states and communities with the goal of improving oral health services for pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents, including those with special health care needs, and their families (MCH population). The resource center collaborates with government agencies, professional associations, foundations, policy and research centers, and voluntary organizations to gather, develop, and share information and materials to promote sustainable oral health services for the MCH population.

National Network for Oral Health Access

181 East 56th Avenue, Suite 501
Denver, CO 80216
Phone: (866) 316-4995
E-mail: info@nnoha.org
Website: www.nnoha.org

The National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) works to improve the oral health of underserved populations and contributes to

overall health through leadership, advocacy, and support of oral health professionals in safety-net systems. NNOHA's priorities include ensuring that oral health care is integrated into primary care; promoting evidence-based oral-disease-management models; advocating for every health center to have an oral health program; and ensuring that oral health professionals have the information, resources, and support needed to deliver high-quality services.

Society of American Indian Dentists

5320 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 4
Las Vegas, NV 89146
Phone: (702) 744-7243
E-mail: saidentistry@gmail.com
Website: www.thesaidonline.org

The Society of American Indian Dentists promotes oral health in the American Indian community, serves as a resource for American Indian students interested in the dentistry profession, promotes American Indian heritage and traditional values, and promotes and supports the concerns of American Indian dentists.

Special Care Dentistry Association

2800 West Higgins Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
Phone: (312) 527-6764
E-mail: scda@scdaonline.org
Website: www.scdaonline.org

The Special Care Dentistry Association is dedicated to promoting good oral health and well-being for individuals with special health care needs. It offers educational opportunities and information for oral health professionals who treat individuals with special health care needs, provides resources and industry news, and hosts networking and educational events.

