Overview

• Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby
• Two models
  • Closed Referral
  • Integrated Preventive Services
• Two educational resources
  • Oral health training
  • Perinatal and infant curriculum
What we know...

COMMITTEE OPINION

Number 541  August 2013
Revised Form 2003

Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women

A National Consensus Statement

Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: A National Consensus Statement

ABSTRACT: Oral health is an important component of general health and should be maintained during pregnancy and through a woman’s lifespan. Maintaining good oral health may have a positive effect on cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and other disorders. In 2007-2008, 25% of U.S. women reported that they did not have a dental visit within the past year and 55% of women did not visit a dentist during pregnancy. Access to dental care is directly related to income level; the poorest women are least likely to have received dental care. Optimal maternal oral hygiene during the prenatal period may decrease the amount of caries-producing oral bacteria transmitted to the infant during common parenting behavior, such as sharing spoons. Although some studies have shown a possible association between periodontal infection and prematurity, evidence has failed to show any improvement in outcomes after dental treatment during pregnancy. Nonetheless, these studies did not raise any concern about the safety of dental services during pregnancy. To promote general oral health and well-being, women should routinely be counseled about the maintenance of good oral health habits throughout their lives as well as the safety and importance of oral health care during pregnancy.

The 1983 Surgeon General’s report Oral Health in America stated that a “silent epidemic of oral disease is afflicting our most vulnerable citizens,” including the poor and many members of racial and ethnic minority groups (1). Oral health, which includes health of the gums, teeth, and jawbone, is a “factor for general health and well-being” (1). The World Health Organization considers oral health to be a human right and notes that oral health is a determining factor for quality of life (2). To prevent tooth decay, oral infections, and tooth loss, the American Dental Association recommends annual dental cleanings and checkups as well as daily brushing and flossing (3). The American Dental Association also affirms the importance of oral health care during pregnancy (4).

General Health

Oral health disorders, such as periodontitis, are associated with many disease processes, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, respiratory infections, as well as metastasis of the oral cavity. There are significant diseases that affect women across the lifespan (5-11). The prevention and treatment of these disorders are essential for general well-being. The ability of endogenous prophylaxis among patients who undergo dental procedures has been controversial based on published studies. However, the World Health Organization’s criteria for dental prophylaxis are reasonable only for patients with hard conditions that place them at the highest risk of adverse outcomes from endocarditis (12). For patients with these conditions, prophylaxis is reasonable for all dental procedures that involve manipulations of gingival tissues or the periodontal region of teeth or perforation of the oral mucosa (12).

It is important for patients to discuss screening for oral cancer with their dentist. Although the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force concludes that there is insufficient evidence to recommend for or against routine screening for oral cancer, approximately 37,000...
Project Overview
One identified dental clinic (who accepts Medical Assistance) partners to be the prioritized referral source for pregnant patients. The referring agency sends referral to dental clinic who schedules appointments and sends information (with patient consent) back to referring agency. This closes the referral, allows for improved case management and increases completed appointments.
What worked

• Oral health training for WIC/Public health staff

• Key Messages
  – “You can transmit bacteria in your mouth to your baby”
  – “The healthier your mouth is, the healthier your baby will be”
  – “…the most important thing you can do right now is make sure your mouth is as clean as possible before your baby is born”
What worked

• WIC/Public health staff understanding dental clinic scheduling

• Two way sharing of information for increased case management

• Dental clinic prioritizing referrals
  – Calling patient to initiate appointment (within 1 week)
  – Top of wait-list (if wait-list exists)
Preventive oral health services are integrated into the patient workflow at Women Infant and Children clinics. Oral health services are provided either through a partnership with a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Outreach Dental Hygienists or Public Health Nurse.

A warm hand off is made from the WIC staff to the staff providing oral health services including fluoride varnish, oral health education and referral to dental providers. Space is created directly in the WIC clinic. Public health departments or FQHC bill Medicaid for fluoride varnish.
What worked

• Dedicated provider on-site during WIC clinic
  – Outreach dental hygienists from partnering Federally Qualified Health Center or public health nurse

• Integrated as part of WIC clinic team
  – Training for WIC staff on fluoride varnish
  – Fluoride Varnish paperwork is ready at registration
  – Physical space, warm hand-off from WIC staff
What worked

• Promotion of services
  – Use of large flag/signage in registration area to promote the dental hygienist on-site
  – Include fluoride varnish information in reminder flyer and in one-call appointment reminder
  – Education to parents that fluoride varnish can be applied 4x per year
What worked

• Target benefit issuance days for repeat fluoride varnish
  – Schedule appointments for fluoride varnish
Spread

• Partnerships with oral health providers strengthen the services provided to WIC participants

• Reliable system developed by each site

• Play-book of best practices for each model
HSMB Oral Health Training
Online Training Modules

HSMB Oral Health Training

Introduction

Course Objectives
At the conclusion of training you will be able to:

- Identify risk factors associated with dental diseases.
- Provide oral health education to pregnant women and parents/caregivers of infants.
- Guide families with setting oral health goals and developing strategies to prevent dental disease.
- Provide appropriate referral and case management.

Training Modules

Module 1: Oral Health Conversations
Module 2: Oral Health for Infants and Toddlers
Module 3: Oral Health for Pregnant Women
Module 4: Oral Health Goal Setting with Families

Training Certificate & Evaluation
A training certificate is available for printing upon completion of the course evaluation.

Oral Health Education Materials
Follow the instructions in the course evaluation on how to obtain oral health goal setting magnets and flip chart.
Materials Package/ Toolkit
Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby: Oral Health Training for Professionals

Healthy Smiles for Mom and Baby (HSMB) is a statewide program to integrate oral health into prenatal and pediatric health care systems. We developed the HSMB Oral Health Training for professionals working with pregnant women, infants and toddlers. The online training combines oral health information with conversation techniques for effective family-centered oral health discussions.

LEARN MORE

https://www.chawisconsin.org/initiatives/oral-health/healthy-smiles-for-mom-and-baby/
Educational Curriculum on Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Care: Current Standards of Care for Dental and Dental Hygiene Students

Equip students with the most up-to-date information on perinatal and infant oral health care. Instructors can integrate these learning modules into any existing dental hygiene curriculum.

- Module 1: Oral Health During Pregnancy
- Module 2: Infant Oral Health
- Module 3: Age One Dental Visit
- Module 4: Lifelong Learner

To download the PowerPoint presentations and supplemental materials, please click the registration button below. After completing the form, you will receive a password for the gated page.
Thank you to our HSMB Implementation Sites
Brown County Project

• Brown County Oral Health Partnership
• Brown County Public Health
• N.E.W. East Dental Clinic
• N.E.W. Dental Clinic at NWTC
• N.E.W. Community Clinic WIC East
• N.E.W. Community Clinic WIC West
St. Croix County Project

- St. Croix County WIC
- St. Croix County Public Health
- NorthLakes Community Clinic-Dental Outreach
Eau Claire County Project

- Eau Claire County WIC
- Eau Claire County Public Health
- Northlakes Community Clinic-Dental Outreach
Oconto County Project

- Oconto County Public
- Oconto County WIC
Jefferson County Project

- Fort Atkinson Community Dental Clinic
- Jefferson County Public Health
Door County Project

- Door County Public Health
- Door County WIC
- Door County Medical Center Dental Clinic
Questions and thank you

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