

May 2009

Maternal and Child Health Bureau Oral Health Webcasts

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau hosts a number of live, interactive internet webcasts for the MCH community. Webcast are archived within a month following the live event. Webcast of interest to the oral health community include:

- Engaging Providers to Improve Perinatal and Infant Oral Health: Innovative Strategies (Joint presentation between the AAP's Oral Health Initiative and Children's Dental Health Project Improving Perinatal and Infant Oral Health)
<http://webcast.hrsa.gov/Postevents/archivedWebcastDetailNewInterface.asp?aeid=494>.
- CMS National Medicaid Dental Town Hall Forum
<http://webcast.hrsa.gov/Postevents/archivedWebcastDetailNewInterface.asp?aeid=489>
- Medicaid Portability: Eliminating Gaps in Health Care, Optimizing Oral Health, for Migrant Children and Their Families
<http://webcast.hrsa.gov/Postevents/archivedWebcastDetailNewInterface.asp?aeid=483>.
- Accessing Oral Health Care Through WIC
<http://webcast.hrsa.gov/Postevents/archivedWebcastDetailNewInterface.asp?aeid=480>

Archived Web casts can be found online at: <http://webcast.hrsa.gov/Postevents/recentEvents.asp>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

American Academy of Pediatrics Priorities on Children's Oral Health

The Academy addresses a wide variety of issues critical to children's health. One-page fact sheets on various topics are available online at: <http://aap.org/advocacy/washing/chi97.htm>. The one pager on oral health is found at: <http://aap.org/advocacy/washing/Childrens%20Oral%20Health.pdf>.

Now Available: Early Childhood Oral Health

Early Childhood Oral Health edited by Joel Berg and Rebecca Slayton is must-read for practicing and studying pediatric dentists, cariologists, and public health dentists. *Early Childhood Oral Health* is also relevant for pediatricians and pediatric nursing specialists as it includes

- Detailed discussion of early childhood caries
- Full review of other factors affecting pediatric oral health
- Fuses impressive scholarship with clinical pragmatism

Information about the book is available online at: <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0813824168.html>.

Town Hall Forum

The US Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently convened a Town Hall Forum to explore access to dental care for Medicaid-eligible children. The session is archive at <http://www.mchcom.com/> (clip on the Recent Events section on the right). Liz Osius at the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) attended the meeting and took detailed notes, which she has graciously consented to make available to those of you with interest in the content but who were unable to attend or view the webcast. Those notes can be found on the Medicaid/SCHIP Dental Association (MSDA) website -- www.medicaidental.org.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Swine Flu Web Page

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Oral Health has prepared a document with information for dental healthcare personnel on infection control management of patients or staff with respiratory illness during the swine flu outbreak. Dental health care providers are urged to view the main CDC swine flu webpage for the latest updates but frequently asked questions by dental providers have been:

1. What to do if a patient presents for routine treatment and has acute respiratory symptoms with or without fever?
2. What to do if a patient with acute respiratory symptoms requires urgent dental care?
3. What to do if staff report to work with acute respiratory symptoms?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides important and up-to-date information to the public and health care providers on the recent outbreak of swine influenza in humans. Interim CDC Guidance for Clinicians & Public Health Professionals regarding case identification, Infection Control for Care of Patients with Confirmed or Suspected Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection in a Healthcare Setting, mask and respirator use, and other topics pertinent to dental health care providers can be found by going to the main CDC swine flu website at -- <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/> and going to *Guidance for Professionals*. This information will be updated regularly and may change on a daily basis; check frequently with the CDC Swine flu websites for the latest information.

2009 Annual Research Meeting of the Academy of Health

The Annual Research meeting of the Academy of Health will be held in Chicago June 28-30th. The 2009 meeting features peer-reviewed research sessions, policy roundtables, methods workshops, poster presentations, and networking opportunities. For 25 years Academy Health's Annual Research Meeting (ARM) has brought together health services researchers, providers, and key decision makers to address the critical challenges confronting the nation's health care delivery system. The full conference information and agenda can be found online at: <http://www.academyhealth.org/Events/content.cfm?ItemNumber=857>.

National Museum of Dentistry Opens the Smile Experience Exhibit.

The National Museum of Dentistry has announced the premiere June 6, 2009, of The Smile Experience exhibit. This multimedia presentation reveals the amazing power of a smile from a historical look at how people have sought to enhance their smiles since ancient times to the impact that modern cosmetic dentistry now has on creating healthy smiles that give people confidence and change lives.

~Take a snapshot of your smile and instantly upload it to the Wall of Smiles for all to see.

~ Journey around the world to see how people have sought to enhance their smiles through the ages. See how the ancient Mayans decorated their teeth with jade and the Elizabethans whitened their teeth with acid.

~ Discover the beginning of the modern age of cosmetic dentistry when Dr Irwin Smigel, the father of aesthetic dentistry, introduced tooth bonding to the American public on the popular TV show "That's Incredible."

~ See actual before-and-after cases that reveal the science and artistry of cosmetic dentistry through remarkable real-life smile transformations.

~ Test your celebrity savvy in the Guess the Smile game, matching the smiles of iconic stars of movies, sports and music with their owners. Information is available online at:

http://www.dentalmuseum.org/news/article/Smile_Experience_opens_June_6/.

IN THE NEWS

Defense Department Rolls Out Dental Electronic Health Record

(iHealth Beat—May 14)

The Department of Defense is in the process of rolling out the military's first integrated dental and medical electronic health record, *Government Health IT* reports. On March 17, the Defense Health Information Management System began deploying AHLTA Dental, a module included in the new AHLTA 3.3 release. The deployment is scheduled to continue through December 2010. Air Force Col. Page McNall, chief dental officer at the Defense Health Information Management System, said that the dental EHR software had been implemented in 22 of the 375 Air Force, Navy and Army dental clinics. McNall said the deployment of AHLTA Dental will allow medical providers and dental professionals to share information relevant to patient treatment. McNall said, "Standard medical practice for years has been to rely on the patient to provide important information about their own medical and dental history to either their primary care provider or their dental provider," adding, "With AHLTA, both the dental provider and the medical provider can see the complete record and decide for themselves what is relevant to know for appropriate care." In addition, McNall said the integration of medical and dental information "creates opportunities to reinforce health promotion, disease prevention and better manage the total care of our warriors". Access article online at:

<http://www.ihealthbeat.org/Articles/2009/5/14/Defense-Department-Rolls-Out-Dental-Electronic-Health-Record.aspx>.

New Dentists for Northern Ireland's Access 'Hotspots'

(Irish Dentist-UK—May 13)

Health Minister Michael McGimpsey has announced the appointment of 38 additional dentists to resolve access difficulties to Health Service dentistry across Northern Ireland. Broadly welcoming today's announcement, Dr Claudette Christie, director for BDA Northern Ireland, said: 'The problems facing some patients who wish to access Health Service dentistry have been well recognized since 2007 and the opening of new dental surgeries staffed by new practitioners is a welcome step towards addressing them. However, while this is welcome news, it is not the sole solution to the problems dentists and their patients face. Also important is that the dentists Northern Ireland does have are properly supported. Today's announcement recognizes both the importance of prevention and the significant cost of providing care. The BDA is currently negotiating a new contract which we hope will support a preventive approach.' The Minister has awarded a new £17 million contract to Oasis Dental Care Ltd, which will provide the additional dentists in access 'hotspots' across Northern Ireland. The contract will run for three years with the option of extension for a further two. Access article online at:

http://www.irishdentist.ie/news/news_detail.php?id=1900.

Minnesota Bans BPA in Children's Products

(Earth911—May 13)

A new Minnesota law is banning the presence of Bisphenol A (BPA) in food and beverage containers targeted for children under three-years-old, such as plastic baby bottles. The North Star State is the first to ban BPA, which has come under fire for possible health concerns, officially take effect on January 1, 2010, when manufacturers will be required to stop selling these products to Minnesota consumers. The ban will also apply to retailers in the state by 2011. BPA is typically used as an additive in plastics manufacturing, as it makes the plastic more shatter-proof. In addition to plastic bottles, BPA is used in dental fillings, household electronics and as a lining for many food cans. While the FDA has declared BPA safe for humans, other research has suggested that it mimics the effects of estrogen to pose health risks for children. Retailers Wal-Mart and Toys "R" Us, as well as water bottle manufacturer Nalgene have already committed to phasing out BPA use in consumer products. Another environmental issue surrounding BPA is that it's commonly used in the more difficult-to-recycle plastics, such as polyvinyl chloride (#3) and #7 "Other." While products that utilize BPA are recyclable, it can be a more expensive process with less of a market for the resulting resin. Currently, four other states are considering a similar ban, and Congress is reviewing national legislation on the topic. Access article online at:

<http://earth911.com/blog/2009/05/13/minnesota-bans-bpa-in-childrens-products/>.

University President Cedes Bonus for Scholarships

(Associated Press—May 12)

University of Florida president Bernie Machen didn't grow up poor, but he remembers juggling multiple jobs while working his way through college. The dental surgeon says he's inspired by students who have it even tougher than he did. So he donated his entire \$285,000 bonus last year to a scholarship program he founded for low-income students at risk of being shut out of a college education. "I had all the advantages of the American dream. I had great public schooling and I really attribute everything I've accomplished to my education," says Machen, who is the nation's eighth-highest paid public university president, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education. Machen's annual compensation for 2008 totaled \$731,811 -- \$414,556 in base salary plus bonuses and other compensation, making his gift equal to more than a third of his salary. Access article online at: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-us-generousbernie.0.7224085.story>.

Two Part Series: Dental Care in Short Supply for Low-Income Wisconsin Children

(Milwaukee Journal Sentinel—May 9)

The lack of access to dental care for children and adults on limited incomes is one of the most entrenched, widespread and overlooked problems of the U.S. health care system.

It also is one of the most marked examples of the differences in health care for the poor and everyone else. Dental care is the most common unmet medical need among children. And the children most at risk - those in families with limited incomes - have the least access to care. "Spend a day looking in the mouth of every pediatric patient who comes into our clinic, and I guarantee that at least once or twice, you will be horrified," said David Waters, a pediatrician at the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, which provides care primarily to people covered by BadgerCare Plus or who are uninsured. Fewer than one in four children ages 3 to 19 insured through what is now BadgerCare Plus saw a dentist in 2007, according to the state Department of Health Services. It means more than 300,000 children in the program that year did not see a dentist.

The state budgets relatively little money for dental care: roughly \$37.50 a year for each person covered by BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid outside of southeast Wisconsin in the 2008 fiscal year. Part I in the series can be accessed online at: <http://www.jsonline.com/business/44649342.html>, Part II at: <http://www.jsonline.com/business/44682137.html>.

Mother is Charged with Neglecting Her Daughter's Teeth

(Herald Tribune—May 8)

Police say a Palmetto mother neglected to provide her child with needed dental care, which led to severe tooth decay. Tamika S. White, 19, was arrested Wednesday on a felony neglect charge. Her daughter, whose age was not listed, has suffered from tooth pain for more than a year, according to a Palmetto Police Department report. The child's grandmother urged White to take the child to the dentist. White took the child to a dentist who told her the child had bottle mouth -- tooth decay common in infants and toddlers, the report said. But White's Medicaid coverage would not pay for the treatment, and she refused to seek money for treatment through child-support payments from the child's father, police said. She also did not seek another specialist who would accept Medicaid or any other treatments that would be covered, according to a report. White was in the Manatee County jail on Thursday without bail. Access article online at:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20090508/ARTICLE/905089994/-1/NEWSITEMAP>.

Dentists Alerted to the Perils of Pulling Teeth

(Dentistry.uk—May 7)

The Dental Defence Union (DDU) has warned that removal of teeth in general dental practice is becoming an increasingly challenging area and has issued advice to dentists to help them avoid the pitfalls. In the last six years, the DDU has opened an increasing number of complaints and claims files involving extractions. In the first half of the period, the average number of files opened each year where a tooth extraction featured was 159, compared to 194 in the second half, an increase of 22%. While not all the allegations against members were justified, it highlights tooth removal as a growing area of concern, with the most common problems including

allegations of inadequate consent, removing the wrong tooth and post-operative pain. In his article in the *DDU Journal*, Paul Robinson, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon and chairman of the DDU dental advisory committee, looks at the dento-legal issues surrounding removing teeth. He comments: 'The average extraction is taking place at an older age which makes it more likely that teeth will already be extensively restored and there may be more complicated medical histories. At the same time, the average dental graduate has less experience as there are fewer easy teeth suitable for students to treat. These two broad areas of change, combined with patients' increasing interest in their teeth and the specter of litigation, makes extractions an increasingly difficult area.'

Access article online at: http://www.dentistry.co.uk/news/news_detail.php?id=1885.

Children with Heart Problems Visit the Dentist Less Often

(InteliHealth News Service—May 6)

Children with heart disease are less likely to visit the dentist, a small study concludes. The children in the study had congenital heart disease. This means they were born with their heart problems. Researchers compared 43 children with heart disease to 43 healthy children. Their ages ranged from 1 to nearly 6 years old. Tooth decay was slightly more common in the children with heart disease. About 17% of the children with heart disease had tooth decay. About 13% of the healthy children had tooth decay. But nearly half of the heart disease group had never been to the dentist, compared with about one-third of the healthy group. Compared with parents of healthy kids, parents of children with heart disease were more likely to be upset and feel guilty about their children's oral health problems and think that dental problems, or dental visits, bothered their children. Parents of children with heart disease were less likely to know whether dental health affected heart health. About 1 in 5 of these parents was unsure about this health connection. About 1 in 10 parents of healthy children was unsure. The researchers are from The Ohio State University College of Dentistry and Nationwide Children's Hospital. The study appears in the April 14 issue of the journal *Cardiology in the Young*. Access article online at:

<http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.EMIHC252/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.1331115.html>.

Disabilities and Dental Health

(WDUQ Radio—May 5)

People with disabilities have a harder time seeing a dentist than any other demographic. In our latest look at Behavioral Health issues, WDUQ's Erika Beras reports. Listen to the broadcast at:

<http://wduq.org/news/BehavioralHealth/index.html>. Written comments can be found online at:

<http://wduqnews.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2009-05-05T14%3A34%3A00-04%3A00&max-results=7>.

Dr Kathleen O'Loughlin Named American Dental Association Executive Director

(PRNewswire-USNewswire—May 5)

Kathleen T O'Loughlin, DMD, MPH, of Medford, Mass., has been selected by the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association to serve as the next ADA Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer, effective June 1. Dr O'Loughlin becomes the first female executive director in the ADA's 150-year history. The announcement marked the end of an 11-month search for a new executive director. "Dr O'Loughlin's background represents the right mix of experiences we sought in an executive director," said ADA President John S. Findley, DDS. "She has 20 years in private dental practice and public health dentistry plus 10 years' experience in dental education and a decade of key leadership roles in management, strategic planning and business operations." Access article online at:

<http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/05-05-2009/0005019990&EDATE=>.

Dental Anesthesia Reversal Drug

(PRWeb—May 5)

A medication that reverses the numbing effects of local anesthetics is the first and only dental anesthetic reversal agent to receive FDA approval. The trials at Tufts University in Boston, UCLA in Los Angeles, and the University of Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh found a reduction of approximately 50% in the time it takes for the

numbing agents to wear off according to the studies. In tests, dentists using the product in their offices in pre-release trials saw great acceptance from their patients. Many dentists believe that even better results are possible as experience in its use grows. As measured in time, the studies found the reduction in numbness time to be up to 1½ hours less depending on the exact dosage in use and even more in some cases. About 40 percent of patients felt sensation return within as little as half an hour of receiving the injection. When your dentist knows how long it will take to finish a procedure, he can inject OraVerse painlessly before he has finished and you can leave the office without any numbness at all. The FDA approval was based on four clinical trials, including three trials that involved adolescents and one involved children as young as 6. The evidence was conclusive that this is a safe product. Access article online at: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2009/05/prweb2379094.htm>.

Children with Acid Reflux More Likely to Have Poor Dental Health

(InSciences—May 4)

Children who have symptoms of chronic acid reflux are significantly more likely to have dental erosions than those without reflux symptoms, according to a new study led by researchers at the University of California, San Francisco. The study, which is the first to examine the relationship between acid reflux and dental health in pediatric patients, was presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies annual meeting in Baltimore, Md. The research is also among the first to find a conclusive link between chronic acid reflux and dental erosions in any age group, as previous studies have produced inconsistent results, according to Melvin Heyman, MD, chief of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition at UCSF Children's Hospital and the study's senior author. "These findings demonstrate that we really need to start looking for dental erosions in pediatric patients with chronic acid reflux and integrate proper dental care into their treatment regimens," Heyman said. Researchers from UCSF Children's Hospital and the UCSF School of Dentistry compared the dental health of young patients 9 to 17 years old who had symptoms consistent with gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD, with a group of healthy controls who had no symptoms and were in the same age group. They found that children with GERD were almost six times more likely to have substantially eroded teeth than children without reflux. Access article online at: http://insciences.org/article.php?article_id=4739.

Closing of Tel Aviv University's School of Dentistry

(Jerusalem Post—May 3)

Over 200 students and staff at Tel Aviv University's School of Dentistry on Sunday protested plans to close down the institution, waving signs that read "with our teeth we will fight, the school will not close", among others. The dental school, which has been under the threat of closure for several years due to budgetary problems, was scheduled to remain open after an agreement was reached in January between the school and the government. That agreement has now fallen through, and protesters said plans to close the facility altogether were already underway. "What kind of message is the country sending its citizens, when it has to send its students abroad to study dentistry?" said Gil Goldberg, who heads Tel Aviv University's union of students. "The price of studying in many of those institutions can reach up to \$80,000, while the academic level they offer is significantly lower than what is offer here in Israel." The university has previously said that the high cost of running the dental school led to an annual budget deficit of NIS 10-15 million, and over the past three years, the enrollment for clinical dentistry studies had been discontinued. Access article online at: <http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1239710849212&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>.

Hawaii Dental Licensing Expanded

(Pacific Business News—May 1)

A new licensing in Hawaii will make dental care more accessible to special-needs patients by broadening the types of professionals who can qualify for dental licensure in the state. The old law allowed dentists, even those not licensed in Hawaii, to apply for a temporary license while employed by the state or county governments to provide dental services to dispensaries, infirmaries, private schools and welfare centers. The new law, called Act 36, broadens the scope by adding another category of temporary licenses for dentists employed by the state Department of Health to cover people with disabilities or mental illness as well as the aging population in

Hawaii's rural, underserved areas. It is intended to make it easier to recruit out-of-state dentists to practice in Hawaii's rural areas, particularly the Neighbor Islands, where state officials say there is a shortage of dentists. Hawaii has 1,471 licensed dentists, 22 community-service licensed dentists and just 14 temporarily licensed dentists, according to the latest statistics from the state Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Critics of the measure say the state will be flooded with unregulated dentists and cheat the poor and vulnerable from getting high-quality dental care. Access article online at:
<http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2009/04/27/daily81.html>.

Dental Costs Take Bite Out of Family Farmer and Rancher Budgets

(EurekAlert—Apr 29)

A new report issued by The Access Project and Brandeis University found that the costs of dental care represent more of a financial burden on families and individuals than has been previously recognized. In a survey of family farm and ranch operators in seven Great Plains states, three-quarters of households reported having dental out-of-pocket costs. The report, *The Cost of Dental Care and the Impact of Dental Insurance Coverage*, found that families on average spent \$873 out-of-pocket annually on dental care, exceeding their \$700 average out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs. The amount spent on dental care constituted more than a quarter (27%) of families' overall out-of-pocket health care costs. When factoring in the estimated cost of dental premiums, having dental insurance did not result in a major reduction in average costs. However it did have significant benefits – having dental insurance made dental expenses more predictable, made it less likely that people delayed care, and made it less likely that healthcare costs contributed to people's financial problems. Access article online at: http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2009-04/bu-dc042809.php.

Some Youngsters More Likely to Have Tooth Decay

(InteliHealth News Service—Apr 29)

An Italian study has found that certain 4-year-olds are more likely to have tooth decay. The study involved 5,538 children. About 78% of them had no tooth decay. Studies in the United States have found that about 75% of children this age have no decay. Children with tooth decay were more likely to have: parents who were not Italian, parents with a lower education level, been born prematurely, been breastfed for 13 months or longer, gotten their first tooth before 6 months of age. Children with no tooth decay were more likely to have fathers with a high education level. Many studies have shown that certain groups of young children are more likely than others to have tooth decay. The study appears in the April issue of the journal *Caries Research*. Access article online at:

<http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.EMIHC252/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.1330397.html>.

Families Advised to Watch for Meth Mouth

(Newson6.com—Apr 29)

The number of meth labs in the City of Tulsa is on record pace. Experts say one of the best ways to stop it is to recognize signs of abuse. There is one sign that doctors say is easy to spot. It's called meth mouth. The ingredients used to make meth are dangerous and toxic. Users often stay high for days on end; they don't eat and rarely brush their teeth. It is a bad combination that periodontist Dr David Wong has seen all too often. "One of the things that you'll see that is most common is that they'll have tooth decay on tooth surfaces that most people would normally brush," said Dr David Wong. Dr Wong says they may not be easy to look at, but it's important for parents to recognize the symptoms. He says meth causes the mouth to dry out, meaning there's no saliva to help clean the teeth. Also, meth users usually drink carbonated beverages with lots of sugar, and then, the hydrochloric acid in the meth takes over attacking tooth enamel. Access article online at:

<http://www.newson6.com/Global/story.asp?S=10266250>.

Academy of General Dentistry Access to Care White Paper

(PRNewswire-USNewswire—Apr 29)

The Academy of General Dentistry created a white paper on access to oral health care to provide real and

workable solutions for improving access to oral health care as part of any broader health care reform. The white paper, titled, "Increasing Access to and Utilization of Oral Health Care Services" offers more than 30 recommendations in eight broad subject areas:

- Attracting students to careers in dentistry
- Enhancing existing federal training programs
- Incentives for establishing dental practices in underserved areas
- Improvements to the Medicaid program relative to the provision of oral health care
- Continuing education and cultural awareness training for general dentists
- Public health enhancements and health literacy improvements
- Support for the "dental team" concept
- Greater collaboration between private organizations and government entities

"Adoption of the specific recommendations included in the white paper with each of these broad subject areas is likely to dramatically increase access to oral health care and reduce the incidence of dental disease and associated systemic ailments," says AGD President Paula S. Jones, DDS, FAGD. Access article online at: [http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-29-2009/0005015636&EDATE=.](http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-29-2009/0005015636&EDATE=)

Avoid a Dental Drama with New Child-Friendly Approach

(Mirror-UK—Apr 29)

The sound of the dentist's drill sends a shiver through most parents, let alone kids. But a pioneering child-friendly approach could be the cure for their fears. A child's first trip to the dentist can be a fearful, tearful affair - but could it be partly your fault? The infamous "drill and fill" approach of the 1970s left many of today's parents associating the dentist with pain and distress. Mike, 55, and his wife Sara, 43, a nursery nurse have set up Smilescool - the first UK dental practice just for children. Children go to a bright classroom where they are gradually introduced to the hygienist, then dentist. "By the time they eventually sit in the dentist's chair they feel safe and realize that, actually, it's no big deal," explains Sara. The new approach is welcome - 100,000 fewer children are now visiting a dentist than in 2006, according to figures from the NHS. And an alarming 30,000 children a year go to hospital for extractions. Smilescool is aimed at pupils aged up to 11. Even mums-to-be are encouraged to enroll. Access article online at: [http://www.mirror.co.uk/life-style/sex-health/2009/04/29/avoid-a-dental-drama-with-new-child-friendly-approach-115875-21317888/.](http://www.mirror.co.uk/life-style/sex-health/2009/04/29/avoid-a-dental-drama-with-new-child-friendly-approach-115875-21317888/)

No Clear Winner Among Fillings for Childhood Cavities

(Newswise — Apr 28)

So far, there is not a clear winner among the types of fillings used to repair childhood cavities, according to a new review. In fact, there are so few useful studies on the topic that there is not enough evidence "to make any recommendations about which filling material to use," said Veerasamy Yengopal, who led the review. Yengopal, an oral health expert at South Africa's University of Witwatersrand, said it was "disappointing" that there have been few comparisons of dental fillings for children, given "remarkable advances in dental restorative materials over the last 10 years." "Oral health professionals need to make astute decisions about the type of restorative material they choose to best manage their patients," Yengopal said, since the type of material used in the fillings could affect how long the filling lasts, how well it looks in the child's mouth and whether it causes any pain. Joel Berg, DDS, chair of pediatric dentistry at the University of Washington and a spokesperson for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, said high-level studies of dental fillings could be hard to come by, since filling manufacturers change their products from year to year. "Manufacturers replace their products so frequently; by the time that outcome and controlled data can be collected on a product, it might not be on the market any longer," said Berg. The review appears in the latest issue of *The Cochrane Library*. Access article online at: [http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/551755/.](http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/551755/)

Tribal Members Recruited Into Medical Fields

(Arizona Republic—Apr 27)

For a young Hopi medical student, the problem was over-coming her culture's view of handling a dead body.

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For a Navajo student, it was learning to believe that he could become a doctor when every other kid in his graduating class was going to a trade school. The need for Native Americans in the health-care professions has never been greater, but the obstacles standing between them and medical degrees are often daunting, if not overwhelming. George Blue Spruce knows those obstacles firsthand and has spent a lifetime helping others overcome them. Blue Spruce, the nation's first American Indian dentist, is an assistant dean at A.T. Still University in Mesa, where he is helping tribal members enter the world of medicine. At 78, Blue Spruce has a long and distinguished resume. He founded the Society of American Indian Dentists and was assistant U.S. surgeon general from 1981 to 1986. He also wrote the original draft of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act in Title 1 of federal statutes. Now "retired," he is pursuing what he calls his true life's work: traveling the nation to tell young American Indian men and women that the medical professions need them and perhaps more importantly, that their people need them to be in the medical professions. Largely through his efforts, A.T. Still claims more American Indian dentists in training than any other school in the country. Access article online at: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2009/04/27/20090427natedentists0427.html>.

Louisiana Dental Association Wants to Establish Dental Regimen

(News Star—Apr 23)

Three local dentists believe there are better ways to meet the dental needs of children than to have examinations in a makeshift clinic set up in a school gym with portable dental equipment. Dr Lance Donald, Dr King Scott and Dr Jeff Hooton met with The News-Star editorial board to explain how the Louisiana Dental Association is working with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to improve comprehensive dentistry to children served by Medicaid or the state insurance program for children, LaCHIP. Citing the most recent statistics available from DHH, Donald said some 212,359 Louisiana children on Medicaid, ages 2-21, have at least one dental examination per year. Donald said that figure disputes the claim by a Lafayette dentist who saw children at Swayze Elementary School in Monroe without the Ouachita Parish School Board's knowledge, that last year more than 432,000 Medicaid-eligible children in the state went without dental care. State records show 536,621 children, ages 2-21, are enrolled in Medicaid. "You actually have a pretty decent number of kids being seen," Donald said. The dentists at the editorial board meeting were there in response to recent News-Star stories about Dr Gregory Folsie, who goes to public schools and sees students onsite. Folsie is paid by state Medicaid. His actions are not supported by the LDA, nor the three dentists at the meeting, each of whom is a current or former officer of the LDA. The LDA argues children should have a dental "home" — a dentist office which is their base for treatment, much like having a family physician. Access article online at: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20090423/NEWS01/904230330>.

Home Teeth Whiteners May Weaken Enamel

(Reuters—Apr 23)

Teeth bleaching products for home use may minimally reduce the surface hardness of tooth enamel and enamel's ability to "bounce back" from normal wear and tear, a laboratory study suggests. Still, "the public should not be alarmed of the bleaching process," said Dr Shereen Azer, at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry in Columbus. "In reality -- or clinically speaking -- these effects may not be detectable," Azer told Reuters Health. Moreover, Azer said, "human enamel has been shown to heal itself and 'remineralize' over time, meaning it has the ability to restore back the levels of surface calcium that has been lost due to bleaching." This is particularly evident with subsequent fluoride treatments and use of fluoride toothpastes. Azer and colleagues used a nanometer scale - the equivalent of one over a billionth of a meter - to measure the hardness and elasticity of tooth enamel both before and after laboratory exposures to over-the-counter teeth bleaching solutions. The researchers exposed 50 human tooth samples to 2 types of whitening strip and 3 types of night guard home bleaching systems. Access article online at: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNewsMolt/idUKTRE53M56L20090423>.

ADA Reports on Geography and Access, Workforce Projections Available

(ADA News—Apr 21)

Two survey reports—2008 ADA Dental Workforce Model: 2006-2030 and Rural Dentistry: Rural Patients, Travel Burdens and Rural Oral Public Health—are available from the ADA Health Policy Resources Center. The 2008 ADA Dental Workforce Model: 2006-2030 provides national projections of the number of dentists (professionally active dentists and active private practitioners), applicants to dental school, first-year dental school enrollments and dental school graduates up to the year 2030. Rural Dentistry: Rural Patients, Travel Burdens and Rural Oral Public Health addresses the geographic component of access by comparing the travel burdens and experiences faced by rural and non-rural populations. Aggregate results are presented for dental practices located in large (population greater than or equal to 250,000) economically disadvantaged urban areas, small (population less than 250,000) economically disadvantaged urban areas, rural areas, suburban and not economically disadvantaged areas. Access article online at:

<http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/pubs/adanews/adanewsarticle.asp?articleid=3545>.

Parents Warned Over Mouth Pain Gels

(Press Association—Apr 21)

Children under 16 should not be given Bonjela or Bonjela Cool mint gel, a health watchdog has said. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) issued an alert on oral pain relief gels which contain salicylate salts, which have the same effect on the body as aspirin, which is already not recommended for those under the age of 16. There are concerns that young children could develop Reye's syndrome, a rare but serious condition, although no cases have been reported in connection with Bonjela. It is thought a previous viral infection, such as flu or chickenpox, and exposure to aspirin could cause Reye's syndrome. A statement from the MHRA said: "This is a precautionary measure only and there are no new safety concerns. The advice is being introduced due to a theoretical risk these products could increase the possibility of a child developing Reye's syndrome - a rare but serious condition. "There are a number of options and alternative treatments for pain associated with teething and mouth ulcers. If parents, carers or young people are unsure how best to treat these problems they should ask a GP, health visitor, dentist or pharmacist for advice." Access article online at:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5jsA3Q89osNDXLE4RLu2A6AVwt4wA>.

Laser Bleaching May Help Stubborn Stains

(InteliHealth News Service—Apr 22)

A new type of bleaching may help whiten stubborn tooth stains, a study says. Researchers from Iran did the study. They tested a type of whitening called photodynamic bleaching. They used it on teeth that had been discolored by tetracycline, an antibiotic. Tetracycline is not recommended for use in pregnant women or in children whose teeth are developing (until age 16). This drug can affect the development of tooth enamel, causing dark stains. Researchers tested the whitening method on 90 teeth in 23 adults. Photodynamic bleaching uses a whitening gel and a laser. The gel is put on the teeth, and the laser's light activates the gel. Each tooth was exposed to the light for 2 minutes total. The treatment lightened about 80% of the teeth. Currently, lasers can remove some tooth stains, but they usually work best with stains that come from outside, such as those from food or coffee. Tetracycline stains are "built in" to the tooth as it develops. They are much more difficult to remove. Dentists usually cover teeth stained by tetracycline with veneers -- thin sheets of tooth-colored material. The study appears in the April 15 issue of the journal Photo medicine and Laser Surgery. Access article online at:

<http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.EMIHC252/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.1330139.html>.

Tongue Piercing May Negatively Impact Dental Health

(DentalPlans.com—Apr 21)

People who sport a tongue piercing may be at an increased risk of poor dental health by harming their gums and breaking their teeth, according to some dentists. James McCormick, a resident of Houston, Texas, recently

spoke with Khou.com and admitted that his tongue piercing had broken all of his molars. "However many you start out with, that's how many I broke," McCormick told the news provider. Dr Greg Condrey said people with such a piercing can also harm their gums the longer they have it in their mouths. "It's like waxing a car," Condrey told the website. "If you wax, wax it too hard and you're gonna wax right through the paint." A past study has found people with tongue piercings, especially the long-stemmed barbells, who wear them for two or more years may have a 35 percent chance of gum recession. The findings came from a study that examined 52 young adults. Dr Dimitris Tatakis, who coauthored the study, said the research suggested the tooth chipping was a "result of habitual biting of the barbell." Access article online at: <http://www.dentalplans.com/articles/41509/tongue-piercing-may-negatively-impact-dental-health.html>.

Strawberries- A Natural Way to Whiten Your Teeth

(Examiner.com—April 21)

A surprising natural solution to keeping those pearly whites, white, may be sitting in your refrigerator or on your grocery list at this very moment. This may sound strange, but strawberries have been found to be quite effective at whitening teeth. The secret to this inexpensive home whitening treatment is the malic acid, which acts as an astringent to remove surface discoloration. Combined with baking soda, strawberries become a natural tooth-cleanser, buffing away stains. While it's no replacement for a bleaching treatment at your dentist's office, it is a fast, cheap way to brighten your smile. And as a bonus, it tastes better than those store-bought whitening treatments! Access article online at: <http://www.examiner.com/x-4056-Denver-Health-and-Beauty-Examiner~y2009m4d21-Strawberries-can-whiten-your-teeth>.

60% of Dental Schools Miss Enrollment Quotas

(The Yomiuri Shimbun-Japan—Apr 18)

More than 60 percent of private dental colleges and schools across the country fell short of enrollment quotas for this academic year, a Yomiuri Shimbun survey has shown. The shortfalls have prompted concern that dental institutions may face shortfalls of dentists in the future. According to the survey, 11 of 17 dental colleges and dentistry schools failed to meet the enrollment quotas for this academic year. Three of these saw enrollment fall by between 35 and 43 students--a more than 40 percent fall. Meanwhile, the total number of students who took entrance examinations for such schools or faculties decreased from the previous year by about 2,800 to 4,973. The Japanese Association of Private Dental Schools plans to investigate possible countermeasures out of fears the shortage could lead to the collapse of the nation's dental care system. According to sources, it was the first time these schools have faced such a shortage of enrollees. The total number of people who took entrance examinations for private dental colleges or schools for this academic year was 4,973, a sharp fall on previous years. The number had generally exceeded 10,000 until academic 2006. Access article online at: <http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/national/20090419TDY01303.htm>.

Indigenous Oral Health Project 'Must Be Extended'

(ABC News-Australia—Apr 18)

The Australian Dental Association says addressing oral health care in remote Aboriginal communities is key to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous life expectancy. The association's Northern Territory president, Denise Salvestra, says oral health has improved in Indigenous communities since the federal intervention, with thousands of children treated under a project called Helping Hands. But she says the project only runs until June this year and it only focuses on children. "If somebody has poor oral health then it impacts on their general health," she said. "In particular in the Indigenous community there are a lot of people with compromised health - rheumatic heart disease, diabetes - obviously there is a very high instance of those illnesses in Aboriginal communities and having poor oral health certainly impacts on those conditions." She says the oral health project needs to be extended and must include adults. "It's made a small indent and it needs to continue and we hope that the Federal Government appreciates that there is this ongoing need and this is addressing a small part of it," she said. Access article online at: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/04/18/2546378.htm>.

In Bad Times, Dental Care First to Get Cut

(DentalPlans.com—Apr 17)

With a weak economy, more Americans are looking for ways to cut costs and in an effort to do that, some have cut dental care, according to one dental expert in Oregon. Peter Morita, an associate dean for patient services at the Oregon Health & Science University School of Dentistry, said in economies such as the one the country is facing now, preventative health measures are usually the first to go, the Oregonian reports. "Dental care takes a back seat to medical care," Morita told the news provider. "It's one of the first things that, in bad times, people cut back on or go without." This statement goes along with a Harris Interactive/HealthDay poll conducted last month that found the majority of Americans were cutting health care expenses and that dental care was scaled back the most. A total of 51 percent of the poll respondents who did not have dental insurance and 30 percent of people who did have insurance said they had skipped necessary dental care in the past year due to financial reasons, HealthDay reports. Access article online at: <http://www.dentalplans.com/articles/41422/dentist-in-bad-times-dental-care-first-to-get-cut.html>.

Parents: Bottled Water Trend Poses Threat to Dental Health

(PRNewswire-USNewswire—Apr 16)

Five billion gallons of bottled water were consumed in 2000, an increase of more than 200 percent from a decade earlier. Whether consumers drink more bottled water because it is an alternative to soda, or because it is convenient to do so is unclear, but one thing is certain: they are missing out on the valuable fluoride found in tap water, which helps to protect teeth from cavities, according to a study published in the January/February 2009 issue of *General Dentistry*, the Academy of General Dentistry's clinical, peer-reviewed journal. Researchers tested the fluoride content in more than 100 different samples of bottled water, which fell into six categories: distilled, drinking/purified, spring/artesian, mineral, fluoride-added and flavor-added. Of the total 105 samples, the fluoride concentrations in the majority of the samples fell below the US government's recommended range of 0.7-1.2 parts per million (ppm), the ideal range to prevent cavities. Only five samples met the recommended range. Lead author of the study, Ryan Quock, DDS, recommends that consumers speak with their dentist about their primary drinking water source. "Understanding consumers' water drinking habits is extremely important," he says. "Determining if they are drinking appropriately fluoridated water, especially when they have or are at risk for cavities, is crucial information, because fluoridated water is an automatic way for them to help improve their oral health. Talking to them also allows us to have a conversation about fluoride's effects, mainly focusing on its relationship to dental caries and fluorosis." Receiving the appropriate amount of fluoride is critical to consumers' oral health -- especially children's oral health -- as it strengthens the teeth and protects them against cavities. Access article online at: <http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/04-16-2009/0005007429&EDATE=>.

Oral Care Key to Successful Organ Transplants

(Medical News Today—Apr 16)

Study after study point to the connection between oral health and a person's general well-being. However, for thousands of Americans waiting for an organ transplant each year, maintaining good oral health, free of infection, is critical for successful organ transplantation and requires specialized dental care. At Children's Hospital Los Angeles, a team of doctors and dentists face the responsibility of caring for critically ill children. For the team, addressing oral health concerns is vital when working to save the life of a sick child. "We've treated children as young as six months old who have been diagnosed with congenital heart disease or have been affected by severe kidney or liver diseases and are now preparing to receive an organ transplant," said Jose Polido, a USC School of Dentistry faculty member who also heads the Division of Dentistry at Children's Hospital. Systemic problems can affect the development of the teeth. Depending on the age of the child, such problems can damage the primary teeth, permanent teeth, or portions of those permanent teeth. Polido said both baby teeth and permanent teeth can develop problems such as generalized enamel hypoplasia and hypomineralization - poor formation and mineralization of the enamel. "When we see these children in the hospital they have poorly formed teeth with a high incidence of caries and infection and now they are preparing

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to receive a transplant," Polido said. He added that after the transplants, they have to take anti-rejection medications that further compromise their immune systems and increase susceptibility to infections, which can include oral yeast infection (thrush), herpes and various aggressive types of bacteria. Periodontal disease, though more common in adults, can be quite severe in immunocompromised children. Access article online at: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/146282.php>.

20,000 Children per Year Will be Medically Examined for Caries

(Focus News Agency-Bulgaria—Apr 16)

Government approved national program on prevention of oral diseases of children at the age of between 0 to 18 years, government press office informs. The time term of the program is up to 2014. The aims of the program are to find out condition of oral children health through national inquiry. The program also envisages more children to know and to have adequate abilities to take care of their oral health; to decrease intensity of caries of first permanent teeth; to provide co-operation of regional prevention programs. The program envisages caries prevention to be implemented through modern methods of permanent teeth restoration. Program envisages teeth of 10 000 children at the age of 6 to 9 years to be restored and of 20 000 children per year in the next four years. Working out methodic handbooks on prevention of caries through healthy food, right tooth hygiene and other also envisaged in the document as well as providing information and teaching material for oral diseases. Access article online at: <http://www.focus-fen.net/index.php?id=n177979>.

Does Gum Disease Boost Risk for Pregnancy-Related Diabetes?

(InteliHealth News Service—Apr 15)

A new study carried out in Sri Lanka reports of an association between gum (periodontal) disease and gestational diabetes. Gestational diabetes happens only during pregnancy. It can lead to a very large baby, which can cause problems during birth. The study involved 190 pregnant women who lived in Sri Lanka. About one-third of them said that their gums bled when they brushed their teeth. All women were given dental exams. Their blood was tested for high levels of sugar. Those with bleeding gums were more likely to have high levels of blood sugar, which indicates diabetes. An earlier study, done in New York, included 256 women. During the first 6 months of pregnancy, 8% developed gestational diabetes. Those women tended to have more periodontal bacteria in their mouths and weigh more than women who did not develop diabetes. They also had more gum inflammation. Additional research is necessary to determine if periodontal disease is associated with gestational diabetes. Periodontal disease in pregnant women has been linked with other unwanted outcomes, including low birthweight and premature birth. The New York study appeared in the April 2008 issue of the Journal of Dental Research. Access article online at: <http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.EMIHC252/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.1329735.html>.

Rise in Hospital Admissions for Children's Dental Work is 'Worrying'

(Dentistry.co-UK—Apr 15)

Tooth decay is putting 30,000 children in hospital every year, a study has found. That's according to researchers at the Peninsula Dental School, Plymouth, and University College London, who used data from the Hospital Episodes Statistics resource to identify a marked increase in the number of hospital admissions for children with caries and other dental conditions, between 1997 and 2006. The study shows that while rates of infection are stable, hospitalization and the use of general anesthetics have increased and are more prevalent in areas of social deprivation. The study, published in the *British Dental Journal*, revealed that there were 517,885 NHS 'episodes of care' for children with dental conditions in the nine-year period. Of these, over half were for dental caries and 80% involved extractions. There was a year-on-year increase in the number of episodes during the period covered by the statistics, averaging out at 29,676 admissions a year – most of which would have required a general anesthetic. Extractions for caries rose by 66% between April 1997 and March 2006. The increase in the number of general anesthetics for children and dental treatment goes contra to desired best practice and may put children at risk – general anesthetic in children is at best unpleasant, at worst potentially life threatening. Access article online at: http://www.dentistry.co.uk/news/news_detail.php?id=1844.

Home Tooth Bleaching Slightly Reduces Enamel Strength

(Science News—Apr 14)

New research shows that human teeth lost some enamel hardness after the application of several different products used in the home to whiten teeth. The study suggests that future generations of such products might be reformulated in an effort to reduce these side effects. The researchers noted that teeth typically can restore their previous hardness after losing small amounts of enamel calcification. But this is the first study to show at a nanometer scale – measuring in billionths of a meter – how human teeth are affected by the popular home whiteners. "There is some significant reduction in nano-hardness of enamel, but we are talking on a very minute scale. So even though it may not be visible to the human eye, it's important for research because that's how we improve products," said Shereen Azer, assistant professor of restorative and prosthetic dentistry at Ohio State University and lead author of the study. Azer and colleagues applied the recommended treatments of five name-brand home whiteners to samples of human teeth and compared the effects to tooth samples that received no treatment. In all cases, the products reduced the hardness of the enamel as well as what is called the elastic modulus or stiffness, a measure of the ability of the tooth surface to bounce back in response to applied force. Access article online at:

<http://esciencenews.com/articles/2009/04/14/home.tooth.bleaching.slightly.reduces.enamel.strength>.

Mystery of Tooth Strength Cracked

(Live Science—Apr 13)

Our teeth are put to the test every day, withstanding all the crunching and munching of meals and snacks. This remarkable resilience appears to be due to the microscopic "basket-weave" structure of human tooth enamel, a new study finds. Tooth enamel, which forms the outer coating of teeth, is a strong but brittle substance. Given the brittleness of teeth, which is comparable to that of glass, it's a wonder that for the most part, they can last a lifetime without cracking to pieces. "It's a bit of a mystery as to why they don't just fall apart," said co-author of the new study Brian Lawn of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Lawn and his colleagues took teeth extracted from humans, sea otters and a few other animals, and subjected them to loading from a metal rod, sort of a worst-case scenario bite. The researchers, whose work was funded by the George Washington University Research Endowment Fund, wanted to "see how much force [the teeth] could withstand before they break," Lawn explained. The researchers, whose work was funded by the George Washington University Research Endowment Fund, wanted to "see how much force [the teeth] could withstand before they break," Lawn explained. Access article online at: <http://www.livescience.com/health/090413-teeth-cracks.html>.

NHS Scandal: 'I couldn't find a dentist... Now, aged 21, I've had to have all my teeth removed'

(Mail-UK—Apr 13)

Like so many young women, Amy King always took great pride in her appearance. Standing in front of the mirror to check her make-up before a night out, the 21-year-old would always try a smile - friends told her they loved the way it lit up her face. Eight weeks ago, all that changed. The student from Plymouth was admitted to hospital where, in a single operation, she had every tooth in her mouth removed. Amy, whose dental problems were caused by untreated gum disease, does not go out any more. And when she looks in the mirror she hardly recognizes the face staring back at her. 'Even with my mouth shut I look different,' she says. 'My cheeks are hollowed and my face looks thinner. I look like an ugly, old woman.' Amy's story gets worse. First, doctors have told her they can't fit a set of false teeth until her gums are sufficiently healed and that could take six months. But she has also been warned that there is a slim chance they will never recover enough for dentures to be fitted. Second, Amy believes that had she been able to get dental treatment earlier, then all the pain and disfigurement she has experienced might have been avoided. 'I feel that if I'd managed to see a dentist sooner or could have afforded to have private treatment I wouldn't be like I am today,' she says, explaining how it took months of searching and dozens of phone calls to find an NHS dentist willing to treat her - by which time it was too late. Access article online at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-1169764/NHS-scandal-I-dentist--Now-aged-21-Ive-teeth-removed.html>.

Woman Uses Super Glue for Teeth

(Fox-LA—Apr 13)

Super glue has many applications, but using it to keep a tooth in place is not a good idea. However, one Colorado woman had no choice when she couldn't afford a dentist. But now, a dentist from Chatsworth heard her story and volunteered to help the woman. Access video report of story online at:

http://www.myfoxla.com/dpp/news/local/Woman_Uses_Super_Glue_for_Teeth_20090412.

In Teeth, More Cracks are Better Than One

(Science News—Apr 13)

Small, extending tufts may give tooth enamel its strength. Mammalian tooth enamel is as brittle as glass, yet the teeth can withstand the force required to hold a 220-pound barbell steady. Now a team of materials scientists and anthropologists reports how the structure of tooth enamel gives teeth the strength to bear a lifetime of chewing. Led by Brian Lawn of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md., the researchers applied force to and imaged teeth to get at how the tooth enamel of human and sea otter molars behaves under duress. Enamel is made up of rodlike structures interwoven in a basket weave-style, sealed with a protein-based glue. Where enamel meets dentin, the material that makes up the bulk of the tooth, small cracks known as tufts develop in the enamel, pointing from the inside outward. When serious force is applied to the tooth, the length of several tufts may extend, the team now reports online April 13 in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. So rather than shattering in one long crack, a tooth distributes force among many small cracks. Tufts make a tooth tough by bearing the weight together, resulting in enamel that behaves more like concrete than glass, Lawn says. Tufts arise naturally during enamel development, Lawn says, but scientists never considered that these cracks could shield a fully-formed tooth from fracture. "It's easy to make a crack start, it's not easy to prevent it from growing to failure," he says. Access article online at:

http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/42752/title/In_teeth,_more_cracks_are_better_than_one.

AWARDS / FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

CATCH Planning Funds Program and CATCH Resident Funds Program Call for Proposals

The CATCH Planning Funds Program and CATCH Resident Funds Program Call for Proposals is now available! Applications from pediatricians and pediatric residents will be accepted through July. For more information and to access the online application, please go to: <http://www.aap.org/catch/planninggrants.htm> (Planning Grants), or <http://www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm> (Resident Grants). Technical assistance is available from the Chapter CATCH Facilitator or your District Resident CATCH Liaison. Please see the Website for how to contact your facilitator or liaison.

Health Insurance: David and Lucille Packard Foundation

The goal of The David and Lucille Packard Foundation's Children's Health Insurance grants is to ensure that all children have health insurance that provides them access to health care appropriate to their needs. Funding is focused on maximizing participation in public programs, for which most uninsured children are eligible, and supporting new and innovative programs to meet the remaining unmet needs for children's health insurance. Information can be found online at:

<http://www.packard.org/categoryDetails.aspx?RootCatID=4&CategoryID=109>.

Grants Encourage Innovative Racial Justice Programs from the Akonadi Foundation

The Akonadi Foundation: Strategic Opportunity Support Fund supports the development of a social change movement to eliminate structural racism and create a racially just society. The goal of the Foundation's Strategic Opportunity Support Fund is to encourage innovation in racial justice movement building through cross learning, alliance building, and strategic initiatives. The Fund will provide small one-time grants to timely efforts as they emerge on a local, regional, and national level. In 2009 the Fund is particularly interested in two key areas: Making Racial Equity an Economic Priority and Building Communities Free of State Violence. Approximately \$300,000 will be awarded, with grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The remaining

application deadlines for 2009 are June 5, August 28, and December 4. Guidelines for submitting applications are available on the Akonadi Foundation's website at:

http://akonadi.org/section/view/sos_request_for_proposals.

CONFERENCES

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (May 21-25)

The 62nd Annual Session will be held in Honolulu, HI. Information is available online at:

http://www.aapd.org/events/detail.asp?EVENT_ID=182&MONTH_CHOICE=5&DAY_CHOICE=21&YEAR_CHOICE=2009.

Dental Management Coalition (June 1 – 2)

The 2009 meeting of the Dental Management Coalition will take place in Jersey City, NJ at the Westin Jersey City Newport Hotel. More info including a regularly updated agenda can be found on the website, www.dmcnet.org.

International Association of Paediatric Dentistry (June 17-20)

The 22nd meeting of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry will take place in Munich, Germany at the Gasteig Convention Centre in the city of Munich. Information is available online at:

<http://www.iapdworld.org/>.

American Dental Hygienist Association (June 17-23)

The 86th annual meeting of the American Dental Hygienist Association will take place in Washington, DC at the Shoreham Hotel. Information is available online at: <http://www.adha.org/annualsession/index.html>.

Academy of General Dentistry (July 8-12)

The Annual meeting of the Academy of General Dentistry will take place in Baltimore, MD. Information is available online at: <http://www.agd.org/annualmeeting/>.

National Dental Association (July 24-29)

The 96th Annual Convention of the National Dental Association will take place at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville- Riverfront in Jacksonville, Florida. Information is available online at: <http://www.ndaonline.org/>.

World Congress on Preventive Dentistry (Sept 7 – 10)

The 9th World Congress on Preventive Dentistry will take place in Phuket, Thailand at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa. Information is available online at: <http://www.iadr.com/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3777>.

International Symposium on the Oral-Systemic Health Connection in Children (October 9th)

The 3rd International Symposium will be held at North Pointe Conference Center, Columbus, Ohio. Information is available online at:

<http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/gd/templates/pages/medpros/medpros.aspx?url=409&page=4609&clk=58094>.

Hispanic Dental Association (Oct 22-24)

The 17th Annual Meeting of the Hispanic Dental Association will be held at the Hilton Americas in Houston, TX. Information is available online at: http://www.hdassoc.org/site/epage/25547_351.htm.

RESOURCES / RESEARCH

The Dental Public Health Infrastructure: Failing to Meet the Needs of the Underserved

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors has produced an issue brief on Oral Health in Health Care Reform, available online at: <http://www.astdd.org/docs/HCRIssueBrieffinal4.1.2009II.pdf>. A condensed one-pager for educational use is available online at: <http://www.astdd.org/docs/HCRone-pagefinal4.1.2009II.pdf>. Both are available from ASTDD's home page, www.astdd.org.

Minnesota Oral Health Practitioner

Minnesota is establishing a new oral health practitioner discipline, licensed by the Board of Dentistry and working under the supervision of a dentist. The Minnesota also creates a work group to advise the commissioner of health on recommendations and legislation to specify the training and practice details for oral health practitioners. The Minnesota Department of Health's Office of Rural Health & Primary Care will convene and host the work group created. Information can be found online at:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform/oralhealth/index.html>.

Statistical and Methodological Aspects of Oral Health Research

Now available Statistical and Methodological Aspects of Oral Health Research provides oral health researchers with an overview of the methodological aspects that are important in planning, conducting and analyzing their research projects whilst also providing biostatisticians with an idea of the statistical problems that arise when tackling oral health research questions. This collection presents critical reflections on oral health research and offers advice on practical aspects of setting up research whilst introducing the reader to basic as well as advanced statistical methodology. Additional information can be found online at:

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/2327055/>.

Medi-Cal Physician and Dentist Fees: A Comparison to Other Medicaid Programs and Medicare

Medi-Cal fees for physician services, on average, have for many years been near the bottom nationally among Medicaid programs, and well below the rates paid by Medicare. This report by the Urban Institute, funded by the California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF), compares 2008 Medi-Cal physician fees for selected procedures with fees paid by other states' Medicaid programs and by Medicare. Researchers also examined changes in fees for the same set of procedures from 2003 to 2008, and Medicaid fees for selected dental procedures in 2008.

Access report online at: <http://www.chcf.org/topics/healthinsurance/index.cfm?itemID=133926>.

Survey Examines the Public's Views and Experiences with Nation's Health Care System

A new survey by NPR and researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Harvard School of Public Health highlights the public's attitudes and experiences with the American health care delivery system. The new survey sheds light on Americans' experiences with issues more typically discussed by health policy experts – including electronic medical records, coordination of care and comparative effectiveness research – all of which have become serious components of reform plans and some of which have been signed into law this year. It also covers public opinion on possible policy changes. The survey is available online at

<http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/posr042209pkg.cfm>.

Report Maps Out Structure and Funding for the US Government's Global Health Policy Efforts

The Kaiser Foundation issued a report that provides the first comprehensive look at the U.S. government agencies and programs involved in the nation's global health response, including their funding and their approaches. Federal funding for such initiatives reached \$9.6 billion in fiscal year 2008, more than double the amount just four years earlier. The report is available online. It will become a key element of the Foundation's forthcoming Web gateway on U.S. global health policy, set to launch next week. The report is available online at:

<http://www.kff.org/globalhealth/7881.cfm>.

Medicaid Physician Fees Rose More Than 15 Percent from 2003 to 2008, Narrowing Gap with Medicare Payment Rates But Losing Ground To Inflation

As policymakers consider health reform options that include improvements and expansions to Medicaid - the health insurance safety net for nearly 60 million of the nation's poorest and sickest individuals - many have raised concerns that the program's physician payment levels contribute to difficulties accessing care. Medicaid has historically reimbursed physicians under fee-for-service at levels below what Medicare and private health insurers would pay for the same services. Information on how Medicaid rates currently vary across the states and how they have changed in recent years can help inform the policy choices in health reform. A new study, published in a Health Affairs Web, provides the first national and state-by-state update of Medicaid physician

fees since 2003. The study finds that Medicaid fees grew by more than 15 percent from 2003 to 2008, but fell in real terms because the gains did not keep pace with inflation. Medicaid fees did grow faster than Medicare fees during that period, however, rising from 69 percent of Medicare in 2003 to 72 percent by 2008. Access study online at: <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/kcmu042809oth.cfm>,

Highwire Press

Articles on interest from Stanford University Highwire Press:

- *Support for the Role of Candida Spp in Extensive Caries Lesions of Children.*
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;19382675>
- *Are Putative Periodontal Pathogens Reliable Diagnostic Markers?*
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;19386852>

Access (April 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Access—the Dental Hygiene journal are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.adha.org/publications/index.html>

American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (Volume 135, Issue 5: May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://journals.elsevierhealth.com/periodicals/ymod/current>.

American Journal of Public Health (Volume 99, Issue 5; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the American Journal of Public Health are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.ajph.org/content/vol99/issue5/>. Articles of interest include:

- *An Observational Study of Consumers' Accessing of Nutrition Information in Chain Restaurants*

British Dental Journal (Volume 204, Issue 1; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the British Dental Journal are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.nature.com/bdj/journal/v204/n10/index.html>. Articles of interest include:

- *Northern Ireland Turns to Private Sector to Solve Dentist Shortage*
- *Teaching Centre Improves Access*
- *Only the Best is Good Enough for Children*
- *Caries-Preventive Effectiveness of a Fluoride Varnish: A Randomized Controlled Trial in Adolescents with Fixed Orthodontic Appliances*

Caries Research (Volume 43, Number 4; 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Caries Research magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at:

<http://content.karger.com/ProdukteDB/produkte.asp?Aktion=Ausgabe&Ausgabe=248979&ProduktNr=224219>.

Articles of interest include:

- *Feasibility of the International Caries Detection and Assessment System (ICDAS-II) in Epidemiological Surveys and Comparability with Standard World Health Organization Criteria*
- *Reexamination of Caries and Fluorosis Experience of Children in an Area of Jamaica with Relatively High Fluorosis Prevalence*
- *Income, Income Inequality, Dental Caries and Dental Care Levels: An Ecological Study in Rich Countries*

Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology (Volume 37, Number 2; April 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/COM>.

Articles of interest include:

- *A Longitudinal Study of Dental Caries Risk Among Very Young Low SES Children*
- *Life Course Dental Caries Determinants and Predictors In Children Aged 12 Years: A Population-Based Birth Cohort*
- *Comparison of the Discriminative Ability of the Generic and Condition-Specific Forms of the Child-OIDP Index: A Study on Children with Different Types of Normative Dental Treatment Needs*
- *Confirmatory Factor Analysis on the Health Domains of the Child Perceptions Questionnaire*
- *Impact of Oral Disease on Quality of Life in the US and Australian Populations*
- *Black Stain and Dental Caries in Filipino Schoolchildren*

Dental Clinics of North America (Volume 53, Issue 2, April 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Dental Clinics of North America magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.dental.theclinics.com/current>. Articles of interest include:

- *Issues in Access to Oral Health Care for Special Care Patients*
- *Health Related Issues for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs*
- *Planning Dental Treatment for People with Special Needs*
- *Special Needs of Anxious and Phobic Dental Patients*
- *Evaluation, Scheduling, and Management of Dental Care Under General Anesthesia for Special Needs Patients*
- *Dental Care for Patients Who Are Unable to Open Their Mouths*
- *Oral Self-Injurious Behaviors in Patients with Developmental Disabilities*
- *Oral Health Burden in Children with Systemic Diseases*
- *Behavioral Management for Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disorders*
- *Home Oral Health Practice: The Foundation for Desensitization and Dental Care for Special Needs*

Dental Economics (Volume 99, Issue 4; 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Dental Economics magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.dentaleconomics.com/issue/toc.html>.

Dutch Journal of Dentistry (Volume 116, Number 5; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Dutch Journal Dentistry are available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://english.ntvt.nl/>. Articles of interest include:

- *Adverse Effect of Local Anesthetics*
- *Radiodiagnosics: Between Looking and Observing*

General Dentistry (Volume 57, Number 3; May-June 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of General Dentistry are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.agd.org/publications/issue/?PubID=17>. Articles of interest include:

- *Effects of Common Beverages on the Development of Cervical Erosion Lesions*

International Journal of Dental Hygiene (Volume 7, Issue 2; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the International Journal of Dental Hygiene are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at:

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118537311/home?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0>. Articles of interest include:

- *Child Abuse and Dental Neglect: The Dental Team's Role in Identification and Prevention*
- *Factors Affecting Oral Health-Related Quality of Life Among Pregnant Women*
- *Public Awareness and Social Acceptability of Dental Therapists*
- *Increase in Detectable Opportunistic Bacteria in the Oral Cavity of Orthodontic Patients*
- *Dentist-Assistant Interaction Styles in Jordan*

International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry (Volume 19, Issue 3; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the International Journal of Paediatric Dentistry magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/loi/ipd>. Articles of interest include:

- *An Overview of Oral Health Promotion in Adolescents*
- *Agenesis of Permanent Teeth in 8138 Danish Schoolchildren: Prevalence and Intra-Oral Distribution According to Gender*
- *The Prevalence of Molar Incisor Hypomineralization (MIH) in a Group of Children in a Highly Polluted Urban Region and a Windfarm-Green Energy Island*
- *Clinical, Salivary, and Bacterial Markers for Caries Risk Assessment in Schoolchildren: A 4-Year Follow-Up*
- *Distribution of Selected Cariogenic Bacteria in Five Different Intra-Oral Habitats in Young Children*
- *Factors Affecting Masticatory Performance of Japanese Children*
- *The Changes in the T-Lymphocyte Subsets in a Population Of Turkish Children with Puberty Gingivitis*
- *Central Haemangioma of the Mandible in a 7-Year old Child*

Journal of the American Dental Association (Volume 140, Issue 5; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of the American Dental Association are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://jada.ada.org/current.dtl>. Articles of Interest Include:

- *Retention of Sealants*
- *First Global Survey of Salivary Microbes Performed*
- *The U.S. Approach to Dental Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response*
- *An Assessment of Oral Health Importance: Results of a Statewide Survey*

Journal of the Canadian Dental Association (Volume 75, Number 4; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of Canadian Dental Association are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: http://www.cda-adc.ca/jcda/back_issue.html. Articles of interest include:

- *Why Are the Diagnosis and Management of Orofacial Pain So Challenging?*
- *Latex Hypersensitivity: A Closer Look at Considerations for Dentistry*
- *Techniques for Managing Behavior in Pediatric Dentistry: Comparative Study of Live Modelling and Tell-Show-Do Based on Children's Heart Rates during Treatment*
- *Overview of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Children: Exploring the Role of Dentists in Diagnosis and Treatment*

Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice (Volume 10, Number 3; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.thejcdp.com/issue046/index.htm>. Articles of interest include:

- *The Effect of Pre-cooling the Injection Site on Pediatric Pain Perception during the Administration of Local Anesthesia*
- *The Role of Saliva in Dental Erosion and a Prosthetic Approach to Treatment: A Case Report*
- *Continuing Education: Commonly Prescribed Medications in Pediatric Dentistry*

Journal of Dental Education (Volume 73, Issue 5; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of Dental Education are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.jdentaled.org/current.shtml>. Articles of interest include:

- *Orthodontists' and Orthodontic Residents' Education in Treating Underserved Patients: Effects on Professional Attitudes and Behavior*
- *Factors Influencing Implementation and Outcomes of a Dental Electronic Patient Record System*

Journal of Dental Research (Volume 88, Issue 4; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of Dental Research magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://jdr.sagepub.com/current.dtl>. Articles of interest include:

- *Healthy Eating Index Is a Predictor of Early Childhood Caries*

Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (Volume 20, Number 2A; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the current issue of the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved are available online. The table of contents can be accessed at:

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_health_care_for_the_poor_and_underserved/index.html.

Journal of Periodontology (Volume 80, Number 5; 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Journal of Periodontology are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.joponline.org/toc/jop/80/5>.

Pediatrics (Volume 123, Issue 5; May 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Pediatrics is now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/current.dtl>.

Pediatric News (Volume 43, Number 4; April 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Pediatric News are available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.epediatricnews.com/current>.

RDH Magazine (Volume 29, Issue 4; April 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of RDH Magazine are available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.rdhmag.com/issue/toc.html>.

Smile Dental Journal (Volume 4 Issue 1; March 2009)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of Smile Dental Journal are available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://www.smile-mag.com/?pid=magd&magid=11>. Articles of interest include:

- *The Clinical Applications of Tooth Mousse™ and other CPP-ACP Products in Caries Prevention: Evidence- Based Recommendations*
- *Proven Strategies to Improve Endodontic Success and Promote Natural Tooth Retention*

NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Current issues of the following Newsletters are now available online:

ADHA Update

The current issues of the Bi-Weekly News Service from the American Dental Hygienists' Association is now available online at: http://adha.informz.net/adha/archives/archive_231868.html.

HDA News and Reports

The current issue of the Hispanic Dental Association Newsletter is now available online at: http://www.hdassoc.org/site/files/351/32799/125363/392070/HDA_newsletter_Spring_09.pdf.

Maternal and Child Health Library

The current issue of the MCH Alert is now available online at: <http://www.mchlibrary.info/>.

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research E-Newsletter

The current issue of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research E-Newsletter is now available online at: <http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/NewsAndFeatures/ENewsletters/CurrentNews/>.

NNOHA News

The current issue of the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) News is now available on their web site at: <http://www.nnoha.org/>; look under “What’s New”.

Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start

The current issue of the Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start is now available online at: <http://www.mchoralhealth.org/alert/archives.html>.

Oral Health America Advocate

The current issue of the Oral Health America Advocate is now available online at: http://campaign.constantcontact.com/render?v=001pMIczRphAqrplGY_3NkSdw4MNay6Gz_c0K_uaVH9qAVHysSrAV7ocloBmPAg2KvLCX4KPEsjDs25QfE6zPnu3wa95s0wYT94wf4OAeVp7l2MteGNvZYOd6xDuHUHh--Ps3t3NjC3CLQ5tDqEajgWuw%3D%3D.

Update

The current issue of Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (FNIDCR) E-News is now available online at: <http://www.fnidcr.org/newsletters/Apr09eNews.html>.

OPPORTUNITIES



PedJobs is the electronic recruitment resource for pediatrics. View available jobs or post a resume. PedJobs is found online at: <http://jobs.pedjobs.org/>.

Indian Health Service

Indian Health Service (IHS) has vacancies in facilities large and small in some of the most beautiful areas of the United States. Whether you choose the Commissioned Corps, Civil Service, or direct Tribal hire career path, IHS has a position that will meet your specific needs for opportunity, adventure, and purpose. There are currently 84 vacancies—77 available now. To access an unofficial listing of vacancies open or soon to be open go online to: <http://www.dentist.ihs.gov/Positions/vacancies.cfm>. For more information contacts each area's contact person found by clicking on the job title opening to page 2 of the vacancy listing.

Indianapolis, Indiana—Indiana University School of Dentistry Dean

The Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer for the School of Dentistry. Responsibilities will include shaping and articulating a vision for the school, enhancing the school's national reputation in education and scholarship, and managing the school's diverse curriculum, personnel matters, and fiscal affairs. Candidates for the dean's position must hold a DDS (or equivalent) or PhD; have a record of academic leadership and experience in managing an educational program; have fund raising experience; have a scholarly record sufficient for appointment as full professor with tenure; have a record of research and competitive extramural funding; have an appreciation and understanding of the challenges and opportunities of dentistry, dental education, and clinical practice; have a record of active participation and membership in professional organizations dedicated to dentistry and dental education. The dean should have a firm understanding of fiscal

management and high comfort level in working in decentralized budgeting systems Such as Responsibility Center Management. The school is particularly interested in candidates who have experience working with individuals from diverse backgrounds, and a demonstrated commitment to improving access and the conditions in higher education for underrepresented individuals. For more information visit <http://www.iusd.iupui.edu/>. For full consideration, submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and names of five professional references to Dr. Augustine O. Agho, Chair, Search Committee and Dean of Indiana University School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences / 1140 W. Michigan St / Indianapolis, IN 46202, or via email at aagho@iupui.edu by July 15. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Electronic submission of materials is preferred.

Pine Ridge, South Dakota—Dental Research

A dental research study in Pine Ridge, SD needs a hygienist or dentist to conduct oral health examinations of children 0-3 years of age. This is a community based study designed to determine when and from whom young children acquire *Streptococcus mutans* and the impact of *S. mutans* on early childhood caries. Primary duties include documentation of caries status and collection of oral bacterial samples during home visits with a local research assistant. A South Dakota license is not required. Hours are negotiable and salary is dependent on qualifications. For more information contact Kathy Phipps, kpr123@charter.net or 805-771-9843 (Pacific Time Zone).

El Paso, Texas—Public Health Dentists

Reporting to the Senior Public Health Dentist, this position provides professional chair side dental services to El Paso County residents from ages 1 to 21, both in the Public Health Department's Rawlings Dental Clinic and in three Mobile Dental Clinics which operate at schools throughout El Paso County. Important aspects of the Dental staff's responsibilities are Oral Health Education and related preventive services. Responsibilities of this position include restorative and surgical services, preventive services to include prophylaxis, topical fluoride, oral hygienic instruction, diet instruction and sealant placement, and the interpretation of radiological survey of oral structures and tissues. The Public Health Dentist also completes required documentation of treatments and patient assessments and ensures compliance with guidelines related to infection control, radiation safety, hazardous chemicals and other policies and regulations as promulgated by the El Paso Public Health Department and/or Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. The position is open until filled, with the first resumé review date on May 8th. Qualified candidates please submit your resumé online by visiting our website at www.watersconsulting.com/recruitment.

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