

**November 2008**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Web Conference Series for *Healthy People 2010/2020* Oral Health Objectives**

On Tuesday, Nov 18, at 2:00 PM EDT, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/ Division of Oral Health will be presenting a Web conference entitled: "*Updates and Preparing for the Healthy People 2010 Final Review and Planning Healthy People 2020.*" The final review of the *HP 2010* is fast approaching. In addition, for the past year plans have been underway for the planning and preparation for *HP 2020*. Thus far, 6 Regional Meetings been held to obtain public comment and there have been 6 meetings of the Secretary's Advisory Committee. This Web conference will provide information related to the planning for the *HP 2010* Final Review, current progress related to the preparation of *HP 2020* and next steps for the preparation of the Oral Health objectives. This is the first in a series of Web conferences to facilitate dialogue and obtain input from our oral health partners. Invited Presenters:

- Laurie Barker, MSPH, Statistician / Surveillance, Investigations, and Research Team / Division of Oral Health / National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Bruce Dye, DDS, MPH / Dental Epidemiology Officer / Division of Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys / National Center for Health Statistics
- Alice Horowitz, PhD / Research Professor School of Public Health University of Maryland

Facilitators:

- Kathleen Mangskau, RDH, MPA / ASTDD Consultant for HP 2020
- Gina Thornton-Evans, DDS, MPH / Dental Officer / Surveillance, Investigations, and Research Team Division of Oral Health / National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Detailed instructions on how to participate and presentation handouts will be forthcoming. Limited phone lines will be available. We hope you will join us. For additional information, please contact Astrid Palmer at 770/488-6013 or by email at [gyel@cdc.gov](mailto:gyel@cdc.gov).

### **National Oral Health Conference Abstract Submission Request**

The National Oral Health Conference has announced a call for abstracts for the 2009 Annual Conference, "Pursuing Excellence in Dental Public Health." The National Oral Health Conference, which will be held April 20-22, 2009 in Portland, Oregon, will feature leading experts in dental public health sharing information of critical concern to professionals and others involved in community oral health. The 2009 National Oral Health Conference provides an important opportunity for individuals to present their work and exchange ideas about dental public health. The Program Committee invites abstract submissions for posters and contributed oral presentations. We encourage abstracts that share findings from scientific research and evaluations of programs and policies that aim to advance the public's oral health, prevent disease, and reduce disparities. All abstracts must be submitted electronically. An online form will walk you through the process step-by-step and you can link directly to the abstract submission through the National Oral Health Conference website at [www.nationaloralhealthconference.com](http://www.nationaloralhealthconference.com). The on-line submission process will be available after November 14, 2008. The deadline for submissions of abstracts will be January 7, 2009. Notification of selection will be made in early February 2009. Please call 217/529-6941 with questions.

## **Call for Abstract: 2009 National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health**

The Office of Minority Health (OMH), Department of Health and Human Services, issues this Call for Abstracts for oral and poster presentations as part of the Third National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. The Summit will include sessions which highlight progress, challenges, and opportunities for improving the health of minority populations since the release of the 1985 "Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black and Minority Health." As part of OMH's broader initiative to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities, this 2009 Summit will:

1. Build a renewed sense of leadership and partnerships across communities,
2. Share success stories and methods,
3. Demonstrate how model programs can be replicated or tailored for greater impact, and
4. Create methods, tactics, and ideas that support more effective and efficient action.

Abstracts & Disclosure Form Must Be Submitted Electronically By November 18, 2008. Results of the Summit will become part of the National Blueprint for Action, which will guide OMH and its public and private partners. The National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA) was developed by OMH as a means of strategically executing that blueprint effectively. For more information about the NPA, please visit <http://www.omhrc.gov/npa>.

## **Kaiser Health Independent News Service Soon to be Launched**

The Kaiser Family Foundation is launching Kaiser Health News (KHN), an independent news service, to report on the nation's complex health care system and the increasingly urgent political and policy debates surrounding it. The goal of the new effort is to provide in-depth coverage and news at a time when news organizations are being forced to scale back their efforts in this crucial area. Kaiser Health News will be headquartered at Kaiser's Washington, DC building and be headed by two veteran journalists who have spent years covering health care. Laurie McGinley, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and editor, is the former deputy bureau chief for global economics and national health care policy correspondent at The Wall Street Journal. Peggy Girshman, an Emmy-winning editor and producer, is a former managing editor of National Public Radio and an executive editor at Congressional Quarterly. The centerpiece of KHN will be in-depth stories on new developments in the health care system and on health care initiatives and debates in Washington and in state capitals. Supplementing the stories will be columns, video interviews, graphics, and multimedia features, as well as a daily synthesis of news stories from around the country—which Kaiser already provides. All news content will be available for free on a new Web site, [www.kaiserhealthnews.org](http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org), expected to be launched in the early part of 2009.

## **Healthy People Consortium**

Just announced: the reinvigoration of Healthy People Consortium. Originally established in 1988 by the Public Health Service, the Consortium is a diverse, motivated and dedicated group of agencies and organizations committed to working together to help achieve Healthy People's health goals and objectives for the nation. The Consortium also serves to help expand the reach of the Healthy People initiative as widely and broadly as possible. This group was a tremendous asset during the early part of Healthy People 2010 when as many as 400 national membership organizations and 250 State public health, mental health, substance abuse and environmental agencies made up the Consortium. They actively participated in the development of the health objectives, integrated Healthy People objectives into programs and initiatives, and used Healthy People as the basis for program planning. A vital networking and communication tool, the Consortium helps members to continually stay informed about various Healthy People activities at the federal, state, local and tribal levels. ODPHP fully understands the importance of partnerships and contributions from as diverse a group as possible. As the Healthy People 2020 process moves into Phase II, the focus will be on developing objectives, setting targets and identifying implementation strategies. We are very excited to have the Consortium on board as part of this process. The support and input from such a diverse group will only serve to make Healthy People 2020 that much more appealing and useful and go a long way in helping to move toward a healthier US. Agencies and organizations interested in joining the Consortium can sign up through the Healthy People 2020 website at [www.healthypeople.gov](http://www.healthypeople.gov). (Click on "Consortium—Become a Member!" on the home page.)

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### **Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start**

The October 2008 issue of the Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start is now available at <http://www.mchoralhealth.org/alert/2008/ohalert1008.html>. Resources that can be downloaded include:

- American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's Head Start Dental Home Initiative (special notice)
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month (special notice)
- National Dental Hygiene Month (special notice)
- Dental Coverage of Children and Young Adults Under Age 21, in US, 1996 and 2006 (statistical brief)
- Impacts of Early Childhood Programs (research briefs)
- Policy Issues in the Delivery of Dental Services to Medicaid Children and Their Families (paper)
- Follow-Up Preventive Dental Visits for Medicaid-Enrolled Children in the Medical Office (journal article)
- Opinions of Early Head Start Staff About the Provision of Preventive Dental Services by Primary Medical Care Providers (journal article)
- Oral Health Program Preferences Among Pregnant Women in a Managed Care Organization (journal article)
- Parental Perceptions of Dental/Oral Health Among Children with and Without Special Health Care Needs (journal article)
- Providing a Dental Home for Pregnant Women: A Community Program to Address Dental Care Access -- A Brief Communication (journal article)
- Racial/Ethnic Disparities in the Acceptance of Medicaid Patients in Dental Practices (journal article)

The Oral Health Alert: Focus on Head Start is published by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center with funding provided by an intra-agency agreement between the Office of Head Start and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

### **Dental Public Health Board Exam Preparation Course**

Announcing the 2009 Dental Public Health Board Exam Preparation Course at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine in Boston (188 Longwood Ave/ Boston, Ma. 02115) on Jan. 25th, 26th and 27<sup>th</sup>. This course will provide a review of basic DPH content and familiarize ABDPH candidates with the examination process. The course is taught by American Board of Dental Public Health Diplomates. For more details about the content of the course or for questions about logistics and accommodations please email [zavras@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:zavras@hms.harvard.edu).

### **California Pipeline Program**

NNOHA is working with the California Pipeline program to study FQHC dental program finances. Funded by The California Endowment, this study will collect data from up to 40 FQHC dental programs. This project has the full support of the NNOHA Board, and according to NNOHA President John McFarland, "this project has great potential for helping us advance the cause of FQHC dental programs and reduce access disparities." The goals are to assist individual FQHCs to improve their effectiveness and efficiency and at the national level, to build the case for more public support. The project is aimed at FQHC dental programs that have electronic dental record systems. Participating clinics will be asked to complete a brief survey and download 12 months of patient visit data. Participating clinics will receive:

- a detailed analysis of their financial operations,
- an aggregate analysis of all participating FQHCs, and
- \$200 to help cover the cost of providing the data.

To protect FQHC and patient privacy, data on individual FQHCs will only be available to that FQHC, and only aggregate FQHC data will be published. No information will be collected on patient names, addresses, or any other patient identifiers. This project has been approved by the Human Subjects Committee of the University of Connecticut Health Center. Interested FQHCs can obtain more information by contacting Howard Bailit from the Pipeline program (860-679-5487, [bailit@nso1.uchc.edu](mailto:bailit@nso1.uchc.edu)), Colleen Lampron from NNOHA (720-838-7739, [info@nnoha.org](mailto:info@nnoha.org)).

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Boy's Tooth Infection Death Spurs Dental Project**

(Examiner.com—Nov 13)

A 12-year-old Prince George's County boy killed when a tooth infection spread to his brain will live on through a project aimed at bringing dental care to needy children in his community. State and county health officials gathered to announce the Deamonte Driver Dental Project, which will bring a mobile dental office to nine elementary schools in Prince George's and Montgomery counties, including the school Driver attended, the Foundation School in Largo. Driver died from a tooth infection that spread to his brain in February 2007 after his Medicaid coverage lapsed and his mother couldn't find a dentist to treat him. "He was a child I never knew, but we all felt in our hearts we knew, and we took that tragedy very personally," said project director Dr. Hazel Harper. The goal is to serve about 2,000 students at nine schools in the first school year and grow thereafter. The state has given Prince George's County more than \$288,000 to pay for the first year of the project and a bus-like vehicle with dental chairs and equipment. They will rely on volunteer dentists to staff the vehicle that will visit schools during the week and could make stops at churches or shopping malls on weekends, Harper said. The project also aims to persuade more dentists to take Medicaid and identify children who are eligible, but are not yet enrolled, in Medicaid. They also want to establish a 24-hour children's dental hot line to make sure parents can always find a dentist for children in need of dental care. Access article online at:

[http://www.examiner.com/a-1689223~Boy s tooth infection death spurs dental project.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1689223~Boy_s_tooth_infection_death_spurs_dental_project.html).

### **The Tooth Whisperers**

(Newswise — Nov 11)

The phrase, "the eyes are the windows to the soul," is attributed to several authors and philosophers. But the phrase, "your teeth are the windows to your health," can be attributed to Mohamed Bassiouny, DMD, MSc, PhD, who has been studying how teeth provide important clues to his patients' overall health for more than 30 years. As part of his ongoing research, Bassiouny chronicles the case of a patient in the November/December issue of *General Dentistry* whose teeth had eroded from stomach acids, a condition normally associated with bulimia and other systemic disorders. However, in this case the patient had no history of an abnormal eating disorder or gastric reflux syndrome. Rather, she suffered from dysmenorrhea - painful cramping related to menstruation. This severe cramping is what forced acids from her stomach back up her esophagus and into her mouth. Bassiouny, a professor of restorative dentistry at Temple's Kornberg School of Dentistry, says he was able to identify and diagnose the problem by accounting for her oral health status, considering her entire medical and dental history, and factoring in other aspects that might not seem related. Access article online at:

<http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/546344/>.

### **Lack of Children Receiving Dental Care is Public Health Problem**

(Newswise—Nov 11)

A University of South Carolina study of children's dental health has found that nearly one-fourth of the nation's children have had no dental care in at least a year. Conducted by researchers at the SC Rural Health Research Center at the Arnold School of Public Health, the study found that nearly 32 percent of Hispanic children in rural areas had no dental care in the past year. Twenty-six percent of rural black children had no dental care, followed by 23 percent of "other" children and 22 percent of white children. "Our nation has a group of children suffering dental disease severe enough to constitute a public health problem," said Dr. Amy Brock Martin, the lead author of "Dental Health and Access to Care among Rural Children: A National and State Report." Data for the report came from the 2003 National Survey of Children's Health, which used parents' reports to measure the health and well-being of children from birth to age 17. The survey asked parents in urban and rural areas about the condition of their children's teeth, utilization of dental care and dental insurance coverage. The University of South Carolina report looks at dental health from a national perspective and also provides state and regional analyses. Access article online at: <http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/546350/>.

### **Delivering on Our Dentistry Promises**

(Bannifshire Journal-UK—Nov 11)

Access to an NHS dentist is something that should be available to all who need it. It is a principle that is important to the SNP, but one that for too long before last May's election was neglected. In Banff and Buchan, and indeed across the North-east, the level of access residents enjoyed to an NHS dentist was woefully poor. Public Health Minister Shona Robison recently joined the first students to enrol at the new £21 million dental school in Aberdeen. This school will see 20 extra dentists qualify in Scotland every year. Incentives will be put in place to ensure that they enter the NHS when they graduate, and I am confident this will have a positive impact on the various challenges that have faced dentistry in the North-east in recent years. The Scottish Government are delivering on election commitments, and tackling the problems in dentistry in the North-east after many years of neglect. Access article online at: [http://www.banffshire-journal.co.uk/news/fullstory.php/aid/3461/Delivering\\_on\\_our\\_dentistry\\_promises.html](http://www.banffshire-journal.co.uk/news/fullstory.php/aid/3461/Delivering_on_our_dentistry_promises.html).

### **Toothless in Appalachia**

(Washington Post—Nov 10)

Hundreds of uninsured and underinsured Americans flock to Wise County, Va., every year to seek treatment at a makeshift field hospital operated by the Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps. For three days in this isolated corner of Appalachia, a small army of health-care professionals offers medical attention to patients who are not likely to see another doctor or dentist all year. The annual clinic saves lives and alleviates suffering, but in the face of a growing national health-care crisis, it may not be enough. The Washington Post video series called "The Healing Fields," about the Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps in Wise County, VA found online at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/interactives/healingfields/>.

### **A Chicago Summit on Children's Oral Health**

(Chicago Tribune—Nov 8)

More than 100 experts are gathering in Chicago today for a national summit on children's oral health, an important issue that doesn't get enough attention. Indeed, dental disease is the most common illness of childhood – five times more common than asthma. Rates of cavities in very young children are rising, and access to care remains inadequate. When untreated, dental problems in children can interfere with eating, growth and development. The Chicago summit is the first in-depth look at the issue since a 2000 Surgeon General's report and the first time a leading medical organization – the American Academy of Pediatrics – is sponsoring a conference on the topic. The academy is releasing a major new policy statement in connection with the event. It calls for pediatricians to take greater responsibility for educating parents about oral health and for monitoring dental problems in youth. This emphasis on bringing together medical and dental care for children is unprecedented. I spoke with Dr. Wendy Mouradian, a professor of pediatrics and pediatric dentistry, in advance of the meeting. She's been spearheading a project examining how far the nation has come since the 2000 Surgeon General's report. An edited version of our conversation is available in the article which can be found online at: <http://newsblogs.chicagotribune.com/triage/2008/11/a-chicago-summi.html>.

### **Some Adults More Likely to Have Problems after Wisdom Tooth Removal**

(InteliHealth News Service—Nov 5)

Many people get their wisdom teeth removed as teenagers. Others wait until adulthood. A study of more than 4,000 adults looked at which adults were most likely to have problems after this surgery. Wisdom teeth also are known as third molars. Researchers from the Harvard School of Dental Medicine did the study. The average age of people in the study was 40. Infection and dry socket are the most common problems that occur after wisdom tooth removal. In dry socket, the blood clot falls out of the hole where the tooth used to be. Dry socket is painful and can last for weeks. Some people in the study had impacted wisdom teeth or partially impacted wisdom teeth. An impacted tooth is under the gum and bone and cannot come in properly. Access article online at: <http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.WSIHW000/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.889613.html>.

## **Ministry Gives Priority to Oral Health**

(Fiji Daily Post—Nov 4)

Interim Minister of Health Dr Jiko Luveni says oral health is a vital component of Fiji's health system she is determined to see that oral health standards in the country are raised. Dr Luveni said over the previous years, oral health had been largely neglected and pushed aside whilst the efforts had been placed on other aspects of national health. "As a result, we've allowed both internal and external factors to play pivotal roles in determining outcomes," said Dr Luveni. She said one of the reasons why oral health had been neglected in the past was the lack of knowledge and the basic awareness of its importance and how it affected the general health of an individual. "The challenge is now upon us as key stakeholders to stand up and be vigorous in the making of our statements. There is power in standing together and combining the numbers to put forward issues that are relevant and needs to be addressed urgently." Dr Luveni said the Ministry of Health would work together with FDA to ensure that more proactive approach was taken in the area of oral health and a more concerted effort forged into the organization of awareness campaigns for the general public. She has called on all the stakeholders in the Oral Health profession to come together and collectively work hand in hand to ensure that we remain proactive towards Oral health. Access article online at:

<http://fijidailypost.com/news.php?section=1&fijidailynews=20029>.

## **And You Thought the Debate Over Fluoridation Was Settled**

(Wall Street Journal—Nov 4)

As a baby boomer growing up without fluoridation, I had 14 cavities before my 18th birthday, including seven at one particularly mortifying dental visit. A generation later, my teenage daughters, who've grown up in a fluoridated city, have a combined total of none. I assumed that the debate over fluoridation was long settled -- after all, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calls adding minute quantities of fluoride to municipal water supplies one of the 10 most significant public-health advances of the 20th century. But opposition remains fervent in some communities. More than 180 million Americans have access to fluoridated water, which leaves over 100 million who do not. Fluoridation is on the ballot today in 41 such communities in Nebraska, as well as one in New York state, one in Maine and two in Wisconsin -- and the battles echo 60 years of controversy. Bill Bailey, a dental health officer at the CDC, says while a few isolated studies have raised such questions, "there's never been any compelling evidence that fluoridation has any harmful health effects" in over 60 years of research. A long list of medical associations have also endorsed fluoridation, including the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, the World Health Organization and the past five surgeons general. Overall, drinking fluoridated water cuts the rate of tooth decay 18% to 40%, according to the CDC.. The ADA estimates that every \$1 spent on community fluoridation saves \$38 in dental bills. Access article online at: <http://www.onlinenews.com/article/SB122576047888095495.html>.

## **Reasons to Stick With Chewing Gum**

(Seattle Post- Intelligencer—Nov 3)

A new Australian research makes a case for gum-chewing on both physiological and mental levels. Andrew Scholey, a professor of behavioral and brain sciences at Swinburne University in Melbourne, led a team of researchers who discovered that chewing gum before stressful events can reduce stress and anxiety while boosting alertness. There already are some functional niches for gum, including nicotine replacement products that help stop a smoking habit. Dentists, such as Dr Matthew Messing, a Cleveland practitioner and spokesman for the American Dental Association, are happy to go on record saying gum benefits your oral health because it "causes us to salivate and saliva is a buffering solution that washes the teeth." In fact, a growing number of dentists encourage chewing sugarless gum after meals to prevent tooth enamel erosion from bacteria and acids in plaque that is highest after a meal or snack. It can take up to two hours for the acids to dissolve by normal saliva production in the mouth, but gum significantly accelerates the process. So does eating a crisp apple as your finishing food. Note the sugarless recommendation. Sugary gums can lead to cavities at any age. Rather than counter them, the sugar introduces even more bacteria and acids to your mouth. Access article online at: [http://www.ahiphewire.org/Dental/News/Default.aspx?doc\\_id=213836](http://www.ahiphewire.org/Dental/News/Default.aspx?doc_id=213836).

## **Are Pediatricians Getting the Training They Need to Meet Patient Needs?**

(Newswise—Nov 3)

Four studies led by the Child Health Evaluation and Research (CHEAR) Unit at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital finds recently trained pediatricians and pediatricians-in-training agreed that a one-size-fits-all approach to education in pediatrics may no longer be the right course of action. The studies are set to appear in November Pediatrics supplement. Many physicians-in-training who took part in the studies noted a desire for more instruction in mental health, outpatient specialty care, oral health, sports medicine and developmental-behavior health. Few, however, felt they needed additional training in patient safety, patient communication and coordination of care for children with complex illnesses, despite studies that have pointed to the contrary. "We need to make sure that we are educating physicians in the new millennium in a way that is not only responsible, but also responsive to the changing needs of medicine and our patients and their parents," says lead author of the studies Gary L Freed, MD, MPH, chief of the Division of General Pediatrics and director of the CHEAR Unit at Mott. "In order to meet those needs, there must be a balance in the workforce between general pediatricians and specialty pediatricians who focus their careers on a specific disease. But to ensure that happens, we first need to understand what makes people want to go into pediatrics and how they select particular training programs." Access article online at: <http://www.newswise.com/articles/view/545818/>.

## **No End in Sight for Dentist Shortage**

(ABC News-AU—Nov 3)

New figures predict Australia will be facing a shortfall of around 900 dental workers in 2020.

An Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report says despite an expected increase in numbers of dental graduates, demand will continue to outstrip supply. The report comes as waiting times for private dentists sit at around 10 days in cities and 27 days in regional areas. Public patients can wait for up to five years to get restorative work done. Three regional dentist-training centers opened last year and the number of Australian graduates from local universities is expected to double in the next six years. By 2020 the number of dentists per 100,000 people is expected to increase by 28 per cent. Despite these improvements, the report says between 800 and 900 more dental professionals will be needed to serve the expected number of visits in 2020. Previous studies have predicted a shortfall of 1,500 by 2010. Access article online at:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/11/03/2408639.htm?section=australia>.

## **Improved Training for Wales Dentists**

(Western Mail-UK—Nov 3)

Dental students will benefit from a revamped training facility and modernized teaching facilities. The refurbished dental annex at Cardiff University's School of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education, will bring staff and students within the dental section together for the first time. Disused dental clinics in the annex have been converted to 25 work stations for full and part-time tutoring and administrative staff. First Minister Rhodri Morgan, who officially opened the new facility, said: "This is an important development for the School of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education. "The expansion in the student intake in the dental school, from 55 a few years ago to 64 today to 75 in 2010, a 33% increase, has to be backed up by growth in continuing dental education in Wales. "When the new Cynon Valley Community Hospital opens in a couple of years, it will include a £10m dental primary care centre linked to the dental school at UHW, so that our dentistry students can be educated to do outreach work in communities, where there are many challenges in oral health," he added.

"That is why I believe this is the most exciting period yet for oral health in Wales." Access article online at:

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/2008/11/03/improved-training-for-our-dentists-91466-22168718/>.

## **The Wisdom of Removing Wisdom Teeth**

(ABC 7 Chicago.com—Oct 31)

It's become almost a rite of passage to young adulthood for many Americans. But is wisdom tooth surgery really worth the pain and cost, especially if the teeth are not yet causing trouble? In many cases, people are advised to have their wisdom teeth pulled before they create health problems. But not everyone agrees this is such a good

idea. In fact, the American Public Health Association adopted a policy recommending that the removal of wisdom teeth only be done when there is evidence of infection, pain or other problems." Millions of Americans have their wisdom teeth removed every year. It almost seems to be a rite of passage for 16 to 21-year-olds. It's believed the earlier they're extracted, the easier the surgery with fewer complications. Also, wisdom teeth can cause trouble before they've erupted, including overcrowding, infection, even pain. Access video online at: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/health&id=6480245>.

### **Cavity-fighting Trick**

(Seattle Times—Oct 31)

The worrisome state of oral health, especially for the youngest children, is the topic of a national summit of the American Academy of Pediatrics next week in Chicago. The event is being chaired by Dr. Wendy Mouradian, a physician who teaches both pediatrics and pediatric dentistry at the UW. The pediatrics academy has named oral health one of its top priorities for 2008, along with mental health and care for foster kids and other special-needs care. Mouradian said early dental decay has a host of causes: Parents too often neglect care for baby teeth. Poor and uninsured children receive much less dental care than their peers. And a third of the U.S. water supply lacks fluoride, perhaps the single biggest defense against decay. In response, pediatricians and family doctors are increasingly bridging the historical split between medicine and dentistry. The American Association of Medical Colleges has urged better oral-health training for medical students. Access article online at: [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008333561\\_dentaldecay31m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008333561_dentaldecay31m.html).

### **How to Balance Sugary Fun, Healthy Teeth at Halloween**

(CNN—Oct 31)

It makes sense, given that cavities form when bacteria in plaque ferments the sugars in candies and creates acid that attacks the tooth's surface, says Dr. Clarice Law, assistant professor of dentistry at the University of California-Los Angeles School of Dentistry. Repeated "attacks" lead to cavities, so eating a bunch of candy -- for example, with a meal -- and then brushing your teeth is better than spreading that candy out over time. Law doesn't recommend bingeing but does advise that children limit their candy-eating episodes. Read more about good candy, bad candy in Consumer Tips "The key message is that the longer the sugar stays on the teeth, the more damaging it is to the teeth," said Dr. Joel Berg, chair of the pediatric dentistry department at University of Washington School of Dentistry and head of dentistry at Seattle Children's hospital. "So it's more about frequency of exposure than the quantity of exposure." Access article online at: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/HEALTH/10/31/halloween.candy.teeth/index.html>.

### **Woman Charged With Failing to Provide Dental Care to Son**

(Yakima Herald—Oct 31)

A 36-year-old Yakima woman was charged in Yakima County Superior Court with failing to provide urgent dental care to her severely developmentally delayed son. Kathren Ann Carter was charged with first-degree criminal mistreatment and was released on her own recognizance. She was arraigned Friday afternoon. Carter has a 10-year-old son who does not speak and requires around-the-clock care, according to court documents. Over the past 1½ years, Carter has missed three dental appointments for her son at Children's Village to treat abscesses in his teeth. Abscesses are severe infections at the root of teeth, usually caused by severe decay. By the time she brought him in Oct. 8, Dr Tyrone Rodriguez, a dentist, had to remove several adult teeth, including molars and incisors. Rodriguez told officers the problems would have been life-threatening had they gone on any longer and that the pain in the boy's mouth most likely was "similar to being shot with a nail gun," the charging documents said. Rodriguez called loss of teeth "permanent disfigurement." Access article online at: <http://www.yakima-herald.com/stories/8946>

### **Panel Faults FDA on Stance That Chemical in Plastic Is Safe**

(Wall Street Journal—Oct 29)

A scientific panel has issued a blistering report against the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), saying it ignored important evidence in reassuring consumers about the safety of the controversial chemical bisphenol-A.

The panel, in a report issued this week, did not draw any conclusions about the safety of the chemical, known as BPA. But it criticized the drug agency as ignoring crucial studies and using what it said were flawed methods in reaching its conclusions. The agency's evaluation of BPA "creates a false sense of security" and "overlooks a wide range of potentially serious findings," the report said. In a statement, the agency said that the report "raised important questions" and that more study was needed, but it did not back away from its claim that the chemical was safe. It will review the report on Friday. BPA is widely used to make hard, clear plastic water bottles and baby bottles, and it is found in the lining of nearly every soft drink and canned food product. Access article online at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/30/health/policy/30plastic.html?em>.

### **Nigeria has 3,000 Qualified Dentists**

(Punch-Nigeria—Oct 28)

The Nigerian Dental Association (NDA) has expressed concern about the quality of Nigeria's dental health, saying the country has only 3,000 qualified dentists. The Chairman of the Lagos State branch of the NDA, Dr. Donna Umesi-Koleoso, stated this in an interview with our correspondent in Lagos during this year's Annual General Meeting of the branch. He called for a national oral health policy. Umesi-Koleoso said that many graduates could not register as dentists because there were not enough tertiary hospitals where they could do internship. The chairman stated, "In Nigeria, at the last count, we have just over 3,000 dentists. I leave you to do the Mathematics yourself. You will then know dentists to patients ratio in the country." Lamenting the state of dental health in the country, she disclosed that some states had only one dentist. Umesi-Koleoso said, "Right now, there are very few dentists compared to the number of people in the country. In some parts of Nigeria, there is one dentist in a whole state. In some states, we do not even have dentists at all. It is that bad. Access article online at: <http://www.punchng.com/Articl.aspx?theartic=Art20081028252131>.

### **Raisins Contain Compounds that May Inhibit Cavity-causing Bacteria**

(PRNewswire Oct 27)

New research published in the journal, Phytochemistry Letters, reveals raisins may benefit oral health because the fruit possesses antimicrobial phytochemicals that suppress growth of some oral bacteria associated with dental cavities and gum disease. The study was conducted at the College of Dentistry, University of Illinois - Chicago (UIC), by a research group led by Christine D Wu, MS, PhD, Professor and Director of Cariology Research, Department of Pediatric Dentistry at UIC. The research is part of ongoing UIC studies that examine a variety of natural sources of compounds that possess antimicrobial activities against oral pathogens.

"The findings of this particular study build upon previous laboratory research identifying compounds in raisins as effective at inhibiting cavity-causing organisms in the mouth," said Wu. "Our investigation indicates there are several naturally occurring, beneficial phytochemicals in raisins that work to inhibit bacteria associated with dental caries and gum disease." Access article online at: <http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/university-illinois---chicago-study/story.aspx?guid=%7B1A850031-ABCC-4EC9-9DD3-FB629BF78A62%7D&dist=hppr>.

### **SMILE! To Delta Dental and National Head Start Association, It's Worth \$10,000**

(CRS Wire—Oct 27)

Delta Dental Plans Association this week launched "The 10,000 Smiles Project" and aims to collect 10,000 photos of people smiling on its unique microsite at [www.10000smilesproject.com](http://www.10000smilesproject.com). When the 10,000th photo is uploaded, Delta Dental Plans Association will donate \$10,000 to the National Head Start Association, its designated philanthropic partner. "Delta Dental Plans Association created this project as a fun and creative way for people to help us support the National Head Start Association and the young children it serves," says Tom Dolatowski, marketing vice president at Delta Dental Plans Association. The 10,000 Smiles Project builds upon Delta Dental Plans Association's existing partnership with the National Head Start Association. In 2007, the two organizations formed a special alliance to help improve the oral health of some of the nation's youngest children at a critical time in their development. Access article online at: <http://www.csrwire.com/News/13546.html>.

### **High Schoolers Head to University of Washington "Dental Camp"**

(Seattle Times—Oct 26)

The University of Washington's one-day dental camp gives students from Yakima the feel — literally — of a career in dentistry. The one-day camp is part of a UW "pipeline" program designed to get more low-income and minority students interested in medicine, and particularly in dentistry, a field that has traditionally underserved minority communities. Since 2002, about 800 middle- and high-school students have been through the UW's medical and dental camps, held in Eastern Washington and on the UW campus. Working in the dental school's high-tech Simulation Lab for a day, the kids get experience working with mannequins to make dental impressions and plaster models, applying wax as a dental sealant and talking with graduate dental students, hygienists and assistants, who serve as mentors for the day. Access article online at:

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008312150\\_dentalcamp26m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008312150_dentalcamp26m.html).

### **Big Brush-Off for Kids' Bad Dental Habits**

(Herald Sun-AU—Oct 24)

Young children and their parents need to brush up on dental hygiene, research shows. Only 3 per cent of preschoolers brushed their teeth correctly and only 22 per cent consistently brushed twice a day, the survey showed. More than half had never been to a dentist. The Galaxy Research poll found the bathroom was a battleground in many households with children aged two to five. More than 80 per cent of the 418 parents quizzed online struggled to get their youngsters to brush, with almost a third reporting it was a daily battle. Experts fear the problems will exacerbate Australia's child dental health shame. Almost half of six-year-olds have cavities in their teeth, and 12-year-olds have worse dental health than Ugandan children, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. "It certainly continues to concern us, but it's something that can be turned around," Australian Dental Association chief Robert Boyd-Bollard said. "We need to get parents to start early and often to train their children in daily oral hygiene habits that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. "If we can do that, a lot of future problems will be eliminated or reduced." Access article online at:

<http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,24543465-2862,00.html>.

### **UF College of Dentistry to Receive Grant**

(AM850 – FL—Oct 23)

The University of Florida's College of Dentistry is set to receive a research grant from the National Institutes of Health. The 5.3 million dollar research initiative will focus on head and neck cancer in minorities. Professor Henrietta Logan, from U-F's Department of Community Dentistry and Behavioral Sciences, says most cancer cases are preventable. Professor Logan went on to say that the African-American men have less access to healthcare and are disproportionately affected. Eleven-thousand people in the United States die from the disease each year. For some, oral cancer begins with a mouth sore that can be diagnosed by a dentist. Access article online at: [http://www.am850.com/news/archives/2008/10/uf\\_college\\_of\\_dentistry\\_to\\_recieve\\_grant.asp](http://www.am850.com/news/archives/2008/10/uf_college_of_dentistry_to_recieve_grant.asp).

### **Oral Hygiene Curbs Pneumonia Risk in Elderly**

(Reuters—Oct 23)

Among nursing home residents, having a nursing aide help them maintain good oral hygiene lowers the odds of them dying from pneumonia, a study suggests. Pneumonia is the leading cause of death in elderly nursing home residents, Dr. Carol W. Bassim and colleagues point out in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. "Several studies have shown that poor oral hygiene or inadequate oral care are also associated with pneumonia," they add. Pneumonia in the elderly is often triggered by aspirating saliva or food. It is likely that the risk of pneumonia "depends on the quality and the quantity of the oropharyngeal contents of a patient at the time of respiratory inoculation or introduction," Bassim and colleagues explain. Access article online at:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE49M87A20081023>.

### **Tailored Health Messages More Likely to Lead to Change**

(InteliHealth News Service—Oct 22)

Tailoring messages about flossing to a patient's personality type may work better than giving everyone the same message, research says. Researchers from three universities did three studies to support this idea. They were from the University of California, Santa Barbara; Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; and the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. In one study, they recruited 63 college students who did not floss their teeth. Each student took a short personality quiz. Students fell into two groups. One group was more likely to respond to positive messages about the effects of flossing. For example, "If you floss regularly, you will have healthier teeth and gums." The other group responded better to messages about what might happen if they did not floss. For example, "If you don't floss regularly, the health of your teeth and gums is at risk." The researchers note that during a dental visit, dental professionals have many opportunities to discuss flossing with patients. The authors say dentists can use the tool described in this study to determine the personality of a patient. By understanding each patient's personality features, the dentist and dental hygienist can help patients to learn how to take care of their teeth. Access article online at:

<http://www.simplestepsdental.com/SS/ihtSS/r.WSIHW000/st.32571/t.32571/pr.3/d.dmtNewsContent/c.883575.html>.

### **Steve Needed £198 of Dental Work so Why Was He Charged More?**

(The Sun-UK—Oct 22)

It is bad enough that two million of us cannot find an NHS dentist, but many patients are also paying for unnecessary costly treatment. A Government report this week accused some dentists of exploiting patients by calling them in for more check-ups than they need. Current guidelines suggest healthy patients only need a check-up every two years — but chief dental officer Dr Barry Cockcroft said some dentists — who earn on average £96,000 — are asking patients to return every six months. He also accused them of boosting their bills by splitting treatments which could be done in a single session, leading to more check-ups. We asked Steve Donoghue to visit five dentists in London for an examination and quotation for treatment. Steve's teeth were examined beforehand, and an independent expert said the cost for essential work should come to no more than £198. We went to NHS clinics and were offered a muddling mix of NHS and private treatment. The fees quoted ranged from £566 to a massive £1,231.20. Access article online at:

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/woman/health/article1815032.ece>.

### **Blueprint for Modernizing Public Health**

(Trust for America's Health—Oct 21)

Trust for America's Health (TFAH) released a Blueprint for a Healthier America: Modernizing the Federal Public Health System to Focus on Prevention and Preparedness with recommendations for the next Administration and Congress on ways to improve the health of Americans. More than 150 experts and organizations helped identify gaps and fixes for federal public health agencies and programs through a year-long consensus-building process. "America's public health system is broken. Serious gaps exist in the nation's ability to safeguard health, putting our families, communities, states, and the country at risk," said Jeff Levi, PhD, Executive Director of TFAH. "This *Blueprint* reflects ideas from the best and the brightest minds in public health for ways to prevent disease, prepare for disasters, and bring down health care costs." Access article online at: <http://healthyamericans.org/newsroom/releases/?releaseid=145>.

### **Dentists Back Sealants, Despite Concerns**

(New York Times—Oct 20)

Cavities or chemicals? That's the dilemma for parents worried about a controversial substance found in the popular sealants that are painted on children's molars to prevent decay. The chemical is bisphenol-A, or BPA, which is widely used in the making of the hard, clear plastic called polycarbonate, and is also found in the linings of food and soft-drink cans. Most human exposure to the chemical clearly comes from the food supply. But traces have also been found in dental sealants. Although the Food and Drug Administration has reassured consumers that the chemical appears to be safe, it has received increasing scrutiny in recent months from health

officials in the United States and Canada. The National Toxicology Program, part of the Department of Health and Human Services, has raised concerns about BPA, particularly over childhood exposure to the traces that leach from polycarbonate baby bottles and the linings of infant formula cans. Despite these concerns, the American Dental Association remains strongly in favor of sealants. Dentists note that numerous studies show that any exposure they cause is negligible and temporary, lasting no more than three hours after the initial application. And other studies have found no detectable levels of BPA in most American-made sealants. Meanwhile, sealants have been shown to offer years of protection against cavities. Access article online at: [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/21/health/21well.html?\\_r=1&ref=science&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/10/21/health/21well.html?_r=1&ref=science&oref=slogin).

### **Prescription for Change: Information Technology**

(Wall Street Journal—Oct 20)

The health-care industry is about to undergo a global revolution driven by a force it can no longer resist: information technology. While hospitals and other care providers have long been quick to adopt breakthrough technology in medical devices, procedures and treatments, far less attention has focused on innovations in networking and communications. This is partly because of concerns about breaches in security and patient privacy, and because health care until recently was a service always performed locally, and in person. Big computer networks and the core benefits they offer -- such as increased group productivity and access to data -- weren't on the health-care sector's radar screen. But that is about to change. IT security will eventually meet the expectations of the health-care industry, just as has happened in other sectors, like banking. And when it does, powerful IT networks crisscrossing the globe will change the way much of health care is delivered: Outsourcing and offshoring of medical and nonmedical services will increase, providing more efficient health care at the most cost-effective rates; systems integrations will allow more medical records to be transferred swiftly and securely; efforts to monitor the safety of medicines will gain global access to data; and professionals and patients will find authoritative and up-to-date information on every specialty online. Access article online at: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122426733527345133.html>.

### **Recession Taking a Bite Out of Dentists' Pockets**

(3 News New Zealand—Oct 20)

Economists have their finger on the pulse when it comes to a recession, but if you want to know how it affects people in their everyday lives, ask a dentist. Industry heads say they know when times are tough because their appointment books go quiet. That's one more reason why smiles are not so bright during a recession. The Dentists' Association says practices have lost up to 15 percent of patients in the last six months because people are reluctant to fork out for regular check-ups. "A lot of people have got different priorities that don't involve dentistry, and you're right, they will leave dentistry until the last possible moment when they can't avoid it," says association president Mark Goodhew, "and that's usually when something's broken or something is really painful." The average cost of a check-up ranges from \$60 to a \$130. Dentist Rob Shearman says people are not taking care of the small jobs, and that could lead to big problems in the long run. A dentist's bill has become more feared than their tools. An oral health survey revealed 55 percent of people say they do not visit the dentist regularly because of the cost. Access article online at: <http://www.3news.co.nz/News/HealthNews/Recession-taking-a-bite-out-of-dentists-pockets/tabid/420/articleID/76294/cat/59/Default.aspx>.

### **New National Public Opinion Survey Reveals Important Findings on Oral Health Care Perceptions**

(Market Watch—Oct 17)

The American Dental Association (ADA(R)), in collaboration with Crest(R) and Oral-B(R), yesterday revealed findings from a national public opinion survey on oral health care. Key findings include:

- While eight of 10 Americans say taking care of one's mouth, teeth and gums is "absolutely needed," only one-third of them say they do an "excellent" job taking care of them.
- One parent in four says his or her kids do only a "fair" or "poor" job taking care of their own mouth, teeth and gums.

- Americans deem the smile the most important physical attribute but do not realize a beautiful smile is not always a healthy smile and can mask underlying oral health problems.

"This survey helps dentists understand opinions their patients may not be sharing, opinions that provide an opportunity to address perception versus reality when it comes to oral health," said Ada Cooper, D.D.S., Consumer Advisor for the ADA and a practicing dentist in NY. "These findings further strengthen our dedication to helping all Americans achieve good oral health through the products and education we offer," said Leslie Winston, D.D.S., Ph.D., director of Professional and Scientific Relations, Procter and Gamble Oral Care Research Center. "We are happy to provide a united front with the ADA to help combat these societal issues." Access article online at: <http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/new-national-public-opinion-survey/story.aspx?guid=%7BA5DBD9DB-5BDE-4ADA-8141-C69D22D556E5%7D&dist=hpr>.

### **Deadline Drawing Near for Hospitals' Unhealthy Snacks**

(Wales Online—Oct 17)

Hospitals in Wales have less than two weeks to remove all unhealthy snacks and drinks from vending machines. New guidance issued by the Welsh Assembly Government will ban fizzy drinks, sweets, chocolates and crisps from being sold in machines from November 1. And all food produced by hospital catering departments to be sold in vending machines must comply with the new rules from January 2009. The details of what foods will be banned comes as a national dental health charity has called for all unhealthy snacks and drinks to be removed from all vending machines in UK hospitals and schools. The British Dental Health Foundation said the move would help to prevent tooth decay. Dr Nigel Carter, chief executive of the Dental Health Foundation, said: "Sugary products taken between meals are the main cause of tooth decay, which can lead to fillings and extractions. Your teeth are under acid attack and risk of decay for up to an hour each time you eat sugary products. Access article online at: <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/2008/10/20/deadline-drawing-near-for-hospitals-unhealthy-snacks-91466-22070085/>.

### **Hormones May Be to Blame for Women's Cavity Rates**

(US News & World Report—Oct 17)

Women can blame those extra cavities on their hormones, a new study suggests. A comprehensive review of dental records in prehistoric and current human populations found that women have more dental health issues than men because of reproduction and fertility issues linked to female-specific hormones. Previous studies have tied a change in food production by agrarian societies and gender-specific behavioral factors, such as division of labor and dietary preference, to an increase in cavities among women. However, in the October issue of *Current Anthropology*, John R. Lukacs, of the University of Oregon, pointed more directly at internal as well as external causes. "I argue that the rise of agriculture increased demands on women's reproductive systems, contributing to an increase in fertility that intensified the negative impact of dietary change on women's oral health. The combined impacts of increased fertility, dietary changes and division of labor during the move into agricultural societies contributed to the widespread gender differential observed in dental caries rates today," Lukacs, a professor of anthropology who specializes in dental, skeletal and nutritional issues, said in a university news release. Access article online at: <http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/healthday/2008/10/17/hormones-may-be-to-blame-for-womens-cavity-rates.html>.

### **Growing Number of US Residents Delay Medical Care as Economy Worsens**

(Medical News—Oct 17)

The Washington Post examined how "the global economic crunch is forcing a growing number of Americans to scale back on medical care." The number of people who have gone without a prescription, used retirement savings to pay for health services or skipped a doctor's appointment for themselves or a child has increased since last year, according to a study released this summer by the Rockefeller Foundation and *Time Magazine*. The study found that 25% of 2,000 respondents said in 2008 they skipped a doctor's visit because of cost, up from 18% in 2007, and 10% said they decided to forgo a visit to the doctor for their child for the same reason. According to the Post, "Layoffs, shrinking bank accounts, rising medical prices and widespread anxiety that the economy is likely to worsen" are leading people to "split pills, forgo screening tests, ... delay elective procedures

... and turn to home remedies as cheaper alternatives." While the "burden is especially heavy for uninsured Americans, even those who have coverage are feeling the pinch" as employers raise deductibles and copayments for workers, the Post reports. Access article online at: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/125801.php>.

### **Parents, Schools Cite Dental Horror Stories**

(Northern Advocate-AU—Oct 17)

Whangarei primary school parents, principals and trustees have met National's health spokesman to voice anger about school dental services. Parua Bay Primary School had no on-site dental care for three and a half years until recently. Other schools had not seen dental therapists for at least two years. Children could often see dental therapists only when in pain, and growing numbers of them needed emergency treatment at Whangarei Hospital or private dental practices. Northland District Health Board representatives were not invited to the meeting, but department head Neil Croucher told the Advocate the board was aware there were too few dentists and dental therapists, and that facilities needed upgrading or replacing. The board had recently reviewed its dental services and had sent a business case to the Ministry of Health for funding, Dr Croucher said. "The approval of the business case will place the board and the community in a good position to redevelop oral health-care delivery," he said. "We will consult with individual, schools, dentists, organizations to obtain their feedback and recommendations, so we can deliver a robust oral health service for the region." This year the board announced plans for a "hub and spoke" service, with mobile units operating from central clinics. Access article online at: <http://www.northernadvocate.co.nz/localnews/storydisplay.cfm?storyid=3788085&thesection=localnews&thesubsection=&thesecondsubsection=>.

### **X Prize, WellPoint Announce \$10M Contest to Develop Proposals to Improve Health Care Quality, Reduce Costs**

X Prize Foundation and WellPoint have announced an open competition to develop a system of proposals to improve health care quality and reduce costs, with the winner to receive a prize of at least \$10 million, the AP/San Francisco Chronicle reports. X Prize will manage the competition, and WellPoint will provide the prize. Competition organizers plan to finalize the details of the contest by early next year. As part of the competition, which could take several years, WellPoint will test proposals from finalists in state markets. The proposals must prove effective for finalists to qualify for the prize. X Prize CEO Peter Diamandis said, "Reinventing and rebooting the US health care system is not to be taken lightly," adding, "It's an audacious task but, we think, very achievable." Access article online at: [http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/rep\\_index.cfm?DR\\_ID=55032](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=55032).

### **Doctors to Start Dental Service**

(Gazette & Herald-UK—Oct 16)

The oldest dental practice in Marlborough is having to move because the doctors' surgery next door wants to expand and offer a rival NHS dentist service. The move could be good news for the less well-off in Marlborough because not only are the doctors planning to offer NHS dentistry, the dentists are proposing to take on more NHS patients when they move to new premises on the Salisbury Road business park. The Marlborough Medical Practice owns all of the George Lane premises and has leased part of it to the dentists Taylor, Denning and Russell since it was built 20 years ago. The two practices have happily co-existed alongside each other, sharing the same corner site with Vantage Chemists. Now the doctors have asked the dentists to move out and are advertising for dental nurses for a new NHS dental clinic. "The main thing as far as we are concerned will be increasing the NHS dental provision," Mr Taylor said. Access article online at: [http://www.gazetteandherald.co.uk/news/3764932.Doctors\\_to\\_start\\_dental\\_service/](http://www.gazetteandherald.co.uk/news/3764932.Doctors_to_start_dental_service/).

## **AWARDS / FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **CATCH Residency Training Grants**

The American Academy of Pediatrics Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Residency Training Funds program supports residency programs in building sustainable opportunities for residents to gain experience

working on innovative, community-based initiatives that increase children's access to medical homes or specific health services not otherwise available. Grants of up to \$12,000 will be awarded on a competitive basis for residency programs to address the needs of children in their communities and enhance community pediatrics training activities in their program. These community-based initiatives should lead to the development of successful projects that could be replicated in other communities and training programs. A pediatric faculty mentor must lead the project and be significantly involved in proposal development and project activities. The deadline is December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Information is available online at: <http://www.aap.org/commpeps/cpti/Opportunities.htm>.

### **CATCH Resident Funds**

The American Academy of Pediatrics Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Resident Funds program supports pediatric residents in the planning of community-based child health initiatives. Grants of up to \$3,000 are available for pediatric residents to work with local communities to ensure that all children, especially underserved children, have medical homes and access to any needed health care services. The deadline is Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. Information is available online at: <http://www.aap.org/catch/residentgrants.htm>.

### **CATCH Implementation Funds**

The American Academy of Pediatrics Community Access to Child Health (CATCH) Program is accepting applications for its CATCH Implementation Funds grants. CATCH supports pediatricians in the initial and/or pilot stage of developing and implementing a community-based child health initiative. Grants of up to \$12,000 are awarded annually on a competitive basis to pediatricians who want to address the local needs of children in their community. The deadline is Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. Information is available online at:

<http://www.aap.org/catch/implementgrants.htm>.

### **Pfizer Visiting Professorships in Health Literacy/Clear Health Communication**

Pfizer Inc is proud to sponsor the Pfizer Visiting Professorships in Health Literacy/Clear Health Communication. This program facilitates in-depth, educationally focused visits by prominent experts to US healthcare organizations. These unrestricted educational grants are nationally competitive, and an independent academic advisory board of recognized leaders in health literacy/clear health communication chooses grant recipients. The purpose of this visiting professorship program is to increase awareness about health literacy and its importance in improving patient-physician communication, patient self-management, patient navigation and improved health status. Up to 8 grants of \$7500 each will be awarded to selected organizations ("host institutions") to cover the visiting professors' honoraria, travel expenses, and other direct expenses related to the visit. A visit may occur between July 2009 and June 2010. The purpose of the visit is to bring new educational value to the institution; therefore, it should not be part of or adjunct to a previously planned or regularly scheduled program/event. The deadline for application is Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. Information is available online at:

<http://www.promisingminds.com/AwardDetails.aspx?ProgramID=304>.

### **Community Health Target Grants from CIGNA**

The CIGNA Foundation makes Targeted Grants to organizations working in five core concern areas. These areas are, (1) the health of women, children and families, (2) obesity awareness and prevention, (3) patient/doctor communications and health literacy, (4) elimination of gender and ethnic disparities in health care, and (5) the connection between a healthy mind and a healthy body. This is a rolling deadline. Information is available online at: [http://www.cigna.com/about\\_us/community/grant\\_application\\_checklist.html](http://www.cigna.com/about_us/community/grant_application_checklist.html).

### **2009 Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program**

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation is accepting applications for the 2009 Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program. This intensive summer program provides college students with an opportunity to work on policy issues in a congressional office and to engage in original health policy research and analysis under the guidance of Foundation research staff. College seniors and recent college graduates who have a strong interest in addressing racial and ethnic health disparities, or who are themselves a member of a population that is

adversely affected by racial and ethnic health disparities are eligible to apply. The application deadline is 5 p.m. ET on Friday, December 12th. Selected Scholars will work in congressional offices in Washington, D.C. for nine weeks, and will participate in weekly seminars and site visits designed to increase their understanding of the intersection between policy and the legislative process. Each Scholar is expected to write and present a health policy research paper before an audience of policy analysts and practitioners in one of the following research areas: Medicaid, the uninsured, Medicare or HIV/AIDS. Eligible candidates must be US citizens who will be seniors or recent graduates of an accredited US college or university in the fall of 2009. Individuals with an advanced degree, and those individuals currently enrolled in an advanced degree program are not eligible to participate. Application materials and more information are available online at <http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/bjscholars/bjsapplication.cfm>.

## **TRAINING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

The Biomedical Informatics Training Program at the University of Pittsburgh! The Center for Dental at the University of Pittsburgh Informatics is currently recruiting for one trainee in one or more of the following research areas:

- clinical informatics, with focus on applications in dental care
- information model and/or terminology development
- 3D visualization and simulations
- human-computer interaction
- computer-supported cooperative work
- informatics in evidence-based healthcare

The program is highly multidisciplinary and is open to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, such as information science/computer science, dentistry, medicine, information technology or related fields. The program prepares trainees for a research and teaching career in dental/biomedical informatics. As part of a group of over 35 trainees, you will participate in a multi-faceted and stimulating curriculum that leads to a Masters or a Doctoral Degree in Biomedical Informatics. Twenty-eight core faculty and over 40 affiliated faculty, spanning a total of 20 departments and centers, are available to interact with and mentor you. Financial support from the NIDCR/NIH is available to eligible individuals (US citizens and permanent residents). NIDCR/NIH funds provide for a stipend, tuition, fees and health insurance support, travel subsidies, and a state-of-the-art computer. The program also offers a limited number of positions for self-funded trainees. Applications are due by spring 2009. The program begins in August 2009. Please note: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) offers a loan repayment program for qualifying educational loans. This program is open to trainees through a separate application and award by the NIH. The program provides a maximum of \$35,000 per year for three years in loan repayments. For more information, please visit our Website at <http://di.dental.pitt.edu/postgrad.php>.

## **CONFERENCES**

### **National Healthy Start Association** (*March 1-4, 2009*)

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference of the National Healthy Start Association will take place in Washington, DC at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. When available, information will be posted on the Associations Web site at: <http://www.healthystartassoc.org/>.

### **National Oral Health Conference** (*April 20-22, 2009*)

The Annual National Oral Health Conference will take place at the Doubletree Hotel Portland-Lloyd Center in Portland, OR. When available, info will be posted online at: <http://www.nationaloralhealthconference.com/>.

### **American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry** (*May 21-25, 2009*)

The 62nd Annual Session will be held in Honolulu, HI. Information is available online at: <http://www.aapd.org>.

### **International Association of Paediatric Dentistry (June 17-20, 2009)**

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/>.

## **RESOURCES / RESEARCH**

### **Oral Health Status and Treatment Needs of Children and Young Adults Attending of Day Centre for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs**

The oral health condition of individuals with special health care needs have been reported in literature to be influenced by various sociodemographic factors, including living conditions and severity of impairment. This study was carried out to determine the oral health status and treatment needs of children and young adults attending a day institution for those with special needs.

Methods: This study was carried out as part of an oral health screening program organized by the institution and consent was obtained from parents and guardians before the screening. All information was supplied by the parents during the screening using a questionnaire completed by the dentist. Oral examination was carried out on all consenting subjects in attendance on the days of screening in the school clinic with parents and teachers in attendance, using standard World Health Organization oral health indices to assess dental caries, oral hygiene status, malocclusion and other oral health parameters.

Results: Fifty-four subjects aged 3-26 years (mean 12.28+/-6.82 years) and comprising 72.2% males and 27.8% females participated in the study. Over 90% were from parents of high and middle level educational background. Thirty-six (66.7%) were caries free, with a mean dmft score of 0.7+/-1.77 and mean DMFT score of 0.4+/-1.44 with no significant difference across gender (p=0.5) and parents' educational status (p=0.43).

Study available online at:

[http://7thspace.com/headlines/295956/oral\\_health\\_status\\_and\\_treatment\\_needs\\_of\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_adults\\_attending\\_a\\_day\\_centre\\_for\\_individuals\\_with\\_special\\_health\\_care\\_needs.html](http://7thspace.com/headlines/295956/oral_health_status_and_treatment_needs_of_children_and_young_adults_attending_a_day_centre_for_individuals_with_special_health_care_needs.html).

### **America's Health Starts with Healthy Children: How Do States Compare?**

The data in the *America's Health Starts with Healthy Children: How Do States Compare* report provides state and national data on two widely used measures of child health: infant mortality and children's general health status. The compares the current state of child health to national benchmarks. Content includes a national overview, state-by-state comparisons, a state snapshot of North Carolina, and profiles of all states. Findings are presented in two forms: a print overview and a Web version that contains detailed state-by-state data. Access the report at <http://www.commissiononhealth.org/StateByStateData.aspx>. (Information provided by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America)

### **National Child Health Chartbook**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Commission to Build a Healthier American National Child Health Chartbook provides state and national data on two widely used measures of child health: infant mortality and children's general health status. Content includes a national overview, state-by-state comparisons, a state snapshot of North Carolina, and profiles of all states. Findings are presented in two forms: a print overview and a Web version that contains detailed state-by-state data. Individual files for each state are available for download at <http://www.commissiononhealth.org/StateByStateData.aspx>. The report is available online at:  
<http://www.commissiononhealth.org/Report.aspx?>

### **Basic Facts About Low-Income Children**

The National Center for Children in Poverty has released several new resources on children who are considered poor and those who are growing up in families with low incomes. The Basic Facts About Low-Income Children is a series of fact sheets that provide data and trends on US children who live in families with low incomes. Facts and figures are provided for three ages groups: birth to age 3, birth to age 6, and birth to age 18. Data are presented on the number and percentage of children from families with low incomes by parents'

employment and education, family structure, age, race and ethnicity, parents' country of birth, and where the children live. The fact sheets are available at [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_849.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_849.pdf) (birth to age 3), [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/download\\_258.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/download_258.pdf) (birth to age 6), and [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/download\\_256.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/download_256.pdf) (birth to age 18).

### **Briefs Analyze Trends in Health Coverage, Access to Care**

The Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured issued four new and updated resources on the trends affecting the nation's 45 million people without health insurance. One issue brief, <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/7826.cfm>, examines the underlying shifts in health insurance coverage that led to an increase in coverage in 2007 as a result of public programs. That brief also projects that the current economic downturn and rising unemployment rate likely will cause the number of uninsured to grow by at least two million in 2008. A separate issue brief, <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/7824.cfm>, looks at trends in access to care over the past 10 years. In addition, the Foundation's uninsured primer, <http://www.kff.org/uninsured/7451.cfm>, and online chartbook, <http://facts.kff.org/chartbook.aspx?cb=55>, on health coverage have been updated to reflect the latest available data.

### **DataSpeak: US/Mexico New Articles Available**

Now available through the DataSpeak website: 10 newly published articles on Maternal and Child Health on the U.S.-Mexico Border. These articles, in the current issue of Preventing Chronic Disease, analyze data and bi-national surveillance issues based on the Brownsville-Matamoros Sister City Project (BMSCP). Many of these findings were first presented by Brian Castrucci from the Texas Department of Social and Health Services and Jill A. McDonald from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention during the July 23, 2008 DataSpeak program. The links to the articles and authors listed below can be found on the DataSpeak website at: [http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/mchirc/dataspeak/events/july\\_08/resource.htm](http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/mchirc/dataspeak/events/july_08/resource.htm) (Information provided by DataSpeak)

### **Highwire Press**

Articles on interest from Stanford University Highwire Press:

- *Open Versus Closed Surgical Exposure Of Canine Teeth That Are Displaced In The Roof Of The Mouth*  
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;18843740>
- *Pit and Fissure Sealants for Preventing Dental Decay in the Permanent Teeth of Children and Adolescents.*  
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;18843625>
- *Tracking the Dynamic Interactions During Plaque Formation.*  
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;18849426>
- *The Importance and Provision of Oral Hygiene in Surgical Patients.*  
<http://highwire.stanford.edu/cgi/medline/pmid;18947816>

### **American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics** (Volume 134, Issue 5: November 2008)

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 98, Issue 11; November 2008)

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/current.shtml>. Articles of interest include:

- *Persistent Disparities in the Use of Health Care Along the US-Mexico Border: An Ecological Perspective*
- *State-Level Health Care Access and Use Among Children in US Immigrant Families*
- *Immigrant Children's Reliance on Public Health Insurance in the Wake of Immigration Reform*
- *Access to and Use of Health Services Among Undocumented Mexican Immigrants in a US Urban Area*
- *Language Spoken and Differences in Health Status, Access to Care, and Receipt of Preventive Services Among US Hispanics*
- *Health Selection Among New Immigrants*

**British Dental Journal** (Volume 205, Issue 9; November 2008)

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/v205/n9/index.html>. Articles of interest include:

- *NHS Employers Recommend 2% Pay Increase for Dentists*
- *Make All NHS Dentistry Salaried Service, Says Private Dentist Chair of Patients Association*
- *Out-Of-Hours Emergency Dental Services in Scotland – A National Model*
- *Understanding the Motivation: A Qualitative Study of Dental Students' Choice of Professional Career*

**Caries Research** (Volume 42, Number 6; 2008)

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=240363&ProduktNr=224219>.

Articles of interest include:

- *Fluoride Concentration in Dentin of Exfoliated Primary Teeth as a Biomarker for Cumulative Fluoride Exposure*
- *Effects of Different Kinds of Fluorides on Enolase and ATPase Activity of a Fluoride-Sensitive and Fluoride-Resistant Streptococcus mutans Strain*
- *Streptococcus mutans and Streptococcus sanguinis Colonization Correlated with Caries Experience in Children*
- *Acid Production from Sugars and Sugar Alcohols by Probiotic Lactobacilli and Bifidobacteria in vitro*
- *Effects of Erosive, Cariogenic or Combined Erosive/Cariogenic Challenges on Human Enamel*
- *Demonstration of Mother-to-Child Transmission of Streptococcus mutans Using Multilocus Sequence Typing*

**Dental Economics** (Volume 98, Issue 10; 2008)

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>. Articles of interest include:

**General Dentistry** (Volume 36, Number 11; November)

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=4&IssID=831>.

**Journal of the American Dental Association** (Volume 139, Issue 11; November 2008)

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:

- *Assessment of Treatment Provided by Dental Health Aide Therapists in Alaska*
- *First-Trimester Maternal Alcohol Consumption May Lead to Oral Clefts*
- *Radiograph Analysis Reveals Early Stage Caries*
- *Fluoride Supplements, Dental Caries and Fluorosis: A Systematic Review*
- *Immune Function Effects of Dental Amalgam in Children: A Randomized Clinical Trial*
- *Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Children's Oral Health: The National Survey of Children's Health*
- *The Caries Experience and Behavior of Dental Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder*
- *Assessment of Treatment Provided by Dental Health Aide Therapists in Alaska: A Pilot Study*

**Journal of the Canadian Dental Association** (Volume 74, Number 9; November 2008)

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/vol-74/issue-9/index.html>. Articles of interest include:

- *Early Childhood Caries and Access to Dental Care among Children of Portuguese-Speaking Immigrants in the City of Toronto*

**Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice** (Volume 9 Number 7; November 2008)

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/issue043/index.htm>. Articles of interest include:

- *Toothbrushing Effectiveness can be Improved with At-Home Reinforcement of Proper Technique*
- *The Environmental Influence of Light Coke™, Phosphoric Acid, and Citric Acid on Elastomeric Chains*
- *Addressing Language and Cultural Barriers of the Spanish Speaking Patient*

**Journal of Dental Education** (Volume 72, Issue 11; November 2008)

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>.

**Journal of Dental Research** (Volume 87, Issue 11; November 2008)

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.iadrjournals.org/content/vol87/issue11/>.

**Journal of Periodontology** (Volume 78, Number 11; 2008)

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/loi/jop>.

**Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry** (Volume 6, Issue 3; 2008)

Abstracts of articles found in the latest issue of the Oral Health and Preventive Dentistry magazine are now available online. The table of contents can be accessed online at: <http://ohpd.quintessenz.de/index.php?doc=toc>. Articles of interest include:

- *Oral Habits in the Primary and Mixed Dentitions of Some Nigerian Children: A Longitudinal Study*
- *Effectiveness of Two Mouth Rinses Solutions in Arresting Caries Lesions: A Short-term Clinical Trial*

**Pediatrics** (Volume 122 Issue 5; November 2008)

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

**Pediatric News** (Volume 42, Number 10; October 2008)

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>. Articles of interest include:

**RDH Magazine** (Volume 28, Issue 10; October 2008)

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>.

**NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Current issues of the following Newsletters are now available online:

***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/>.

### ***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://www.oralhealthamerica.org/enews091108.htm>.

### ***Oral Health Matters***

The current issue of the Association of State and Territory Dental Directors Newsletter is now available online at: <http://www.astdd.org/docs/OralHealthMattersFall2008Final.pdf>.

## **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 135 vacancies—105 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.

### **Phoenix, Arizona—Chief of the Office of Oral Health**

The Chief of the Office of Oral Health is responsible for development, implementation, and evaluation of a statewide dental public health strategic plan and initiatives which include preventive programs, community development activities, research and analysis, policy development, and general oral health promotion. This position manages an approximately \$1.5 million operating budget including federal and state funds; and is responsible for development and administration of a budget plan for use in grant funding, state funds and other appropriations; decision packages and critical issues and alignment of budget allocations with strategic plan priorities. This position works collaboratively with the Bureau of Women and Children's Health to meet national objectives set forth by the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant and works directly with a variety of stakeholder groups including state and national associations, legislators, community action groups, and the federal government and plans, directs, coordinates, and evaluates strategic planning. The preferred candidate will have a dental or dental hygiene license and a Master's degree in public health, or public administration and work experience in public health and health promotion. To Apply for DHS and State Hospital jobs you must apply on-line, go to [www.azstatejobs.gov](http://www.azstatejobs.gov), and click "Search for Jobs". Type DHS in the search field, press enter and self-nominate for the position(s) of interest. The Human Resources Office will only accept resumes that have been entered in this website. If you have any questions, please call the Human Resources office at 602 542-1085 or State Hospital Human Resources at 602/220-6462.

### **Denver, Colorado—Professional Research Assistant or Senior Professional Research Assistant: American Indian & Alaska Native Programs**

This full-time position will be primarily responsible for assisting with the implementation, management, and evaluation of a school-based oral health project and the evaluation of diabetes treatment and prevention programs. Work closely with project Director to manage the implementation and evaluation of a school-based

oral health project, coordinate and provide the oral health educational activities to project participants and their families, coordinate the provision of oral health services to project participants, document the number of participants consented for the oral health study. Please submit your application online at [www.jobsatcu.com](http://www.jobsatcu.com), including a cover letter, resume, and names of three references as attachments to your application. Job Title: Project Manager. Job Posting #805410.

**Atlanta, Georgia**—*Public Health Educator*

The Division of Oral Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has announced an opening for the position of Public Health Educator in Atlanta, Georgia. This person will serve as an authority in DOH on the development and implementation of oral health promotion and prevention strategies within State Oral Disease Prevention Programs; serve as a project officer on cooperative agreements such as the CDC's Support of State Oral Disease Prevention Programs; deliver technical assistance and consultation to professionals in a wide variety of public health settings; and provide leadership in the development, promotion and evaluation of policy strategies for oral health promotion at the Federal and state level. The position announcement is available on the USAJOBS website ([www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)) under announcement numbers HHS-CDC-T2-2009-0015, JR#077417 and HHS-CDC-D2-2009-0011, JR#077417. Interested persons may want to familiarize themselves with this website, including the capability to create and store an on-line resume.

**Burlington, Vermont**—*Office of Oral Health Director, Vermont Department of Health*

This position provides administrative, coordinating and supervisory work involving the direction of oral health programs for the Vermont Department of Health. More specifically, this position is involved with the planning and administration of programs to prevent future oral health diseases and to treat existing oral health deficiencies. The individual will work within the Division of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in collaboration with other Department chronic disease programs. Candidates should have a working knowledge of the objectives, strategies and procedures of a public health oral health program. Candidates must be graduates of an approved school of dentistry and either be licensed to practice in the State of Vermont or eligible for licensure within one year. Interested individuals must apply on-line through the Vermont Department of Human at [www.vermontpersonnel.org](http://www.vermontpersonnel.org)

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