

Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care

A Resource Guide

Second Edition



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Introduction



In 2000, *Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General* emphasized that oral health is integral to overall health and should not be viewed as separate from overall health.¹ Since then, several federal reports have highlighted integrating oral health care into primary care as a promising strategy for expanding access to oral health care and reducing health inequities; improving care coordination, health outcomes, and patient satisfaction; and reducing health care costs. The 2011 Institute of Medicine reports *Advancing Oral Health in America* and *Improving Access to Oral Health for the Vulnerable and Underserved Populations* recommended that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) address the need for improved access to oral health care through the development of a core set of oral health competencies for non-oral-health professionals.²⁻³ In response, HRSA released *Integration of Oral Health and Primary Care Practice*, which provides interprofessional oral health core clinical competencies to facilitate change in the clinical practice of primary care health professionals working in safety net settings.⁴ This document was followed by the release of the *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Oral Health Strategic Framework 2014–2017*,⁵ which asserts that interprofessional education and collaborative practice present tremendous possibilities for integrating oral health care and primary care and improving patient-centered care. In 2021, the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial

Research published *Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges*, offering strategies for integrating oral health care and primary care as part of a framework for meeting health needs effectively and efficiently.⁶ In addition to these federal reports, many organizations have developed resources to support the integration of oral health care into primary care. The focus of primary care for pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents includes family medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology.

The primary care setting presents an opportunity for providing oral health care, including risk assessment, screening, preventive interventions, anticipatory guidance and counseling, and referral to an oral health professional.

In spite of these efforts, the oral health care system remains largely siloed from the broader health care system. Challenges persist that hinder the provision of oral health care as part of primary care. A key strategy for improving access to oral health care and oral health outcomes is integrating oral health care and primary care; however limited research has been conducted to guide the development of an efficient and effective integrated oral health care–primary care system.⁷

The primary care setting presents an opportunity for providing oral health care, including risk assessment, screening, preventive interventions, anticipatory guidance and counseling, and referral to an oral health professional. Primary care health professionals have frequent contact with people across the lifespan, including groups at high risk for oral diseases such as young children, pregnant women, and adults with chronic diseases.⁷

Children under age 5 are more likely to see a primary care health professional than an oral health professional, which means that primary care health professionals have an important opportunity to support preventive oral health practices and connect children to ongoing oral health care.⁸ In addition, Medicaid beneficiaries are more likely to have a medical visit than a dental visit each year. In 2019, about 29 percent of children and adolescents who were publicly insured had both a medical and a dental visit, while 46 percent had a medical-only visit and 6 percent had a dental-only visit.⁹ *Bright Futures/American Academy of Pediatrics Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care* indicates that infants and children should have 12 well-child visits in the first 36 months of life and that children and adolescents ages 3–21 should have an annual well-child visit.¹⁰ During these visits, health professionals frequently observe morbidity associated with tooth decay (e.g., pain, compromised oral function).¹¹ Primary care health professionals have opportunities to detect oral lesions related to infections; systemic disease; or other causes, particularly those that may indicate oropharyngeal cancer. They also have opportunities to make timely referrals for appropriate care.¹²

Early referral to an oral health professional can contribute to maintaining good oral health, preventing disease, treating disease early, and potentially decreasing costs. Establishing collaborative relationships between primary care health professionals and oral health professionals at the community level is essential for increasing access to oral health care for all children and for improving their oral health and overall health.¹¹

Pregnancy is a unique period during a woman's life and is characterized by complex physiological changes, which may adversely affect oral health. Access to preventive oral health care is essential for pregnant women to have the best possible oral health and overall health. In many states, pregnant women with low incomes are eligible for Medicaid dental coverage that they don't have during other periods of their lives.¹³ Since non-oral-health professionals (e.g., obstetricians, family physicians, nurse midwives) are often first to assess pregnant women's health, they play a critical role in connecting women



with the oral health care system and community-based programs.¹⁴ These professionals can integrate oral health care into primary care visits, thereby increasing women's access to oral health care during the perinatal period.¹⁵

Integrating oral health care into primary care is a key strategy for improving access to oral health care and oral health, especially for vulnerable and underserved groups that face barriers to accessing the oral health care system.

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About This Guide

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) developed this publication, *Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care: A Resource Guide* (2nd ed.), to help health professionals, program administrators, educators, and others understand the benefits of integrating oral health care into primary care, and to provide information about how to implement oral health care integration in materials, programs, and systems of care.

The resource guide is divided into two sections. The first section describes materials, such as chartbooks, curricula, environmental scans, guides, guidelines, infographics, manuals, papers, policy statements, reports, and videos published from 2020 through 2024 that reflect current science and practice as well as seminal (i.e., very important or influential) resources published before 2020. The second section lists federal agencies, national professional associations, resource centers, and national coalitions that may serve as resources.

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

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



Assessment (questionnaire, readiness assessment, survey)



Book



Brief, monograph, paper, policy statement, proceeding, recommendations, report



Curriculum (course, initiative, program, training)



Guide or guidelines (pocket guide, periodicity schedule, practice guidance, resource guide, training guide, user guide)



Infographic and poster



Tool (brochure, case chart, checklist, fact sheet, flipbook, flipchart, form, framework, handout, manual primer, template, tip sheet, toolkit, website)



Video

Acknowledgments



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Materials

Materials

Produced by the Networks for Oral Health Integration Initiative

The section highlights the work of the [Networks for Oral Health Integration \(NOHI\) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Net](#) initiative.

Three projects in 11 states and Washington, DC, were awarded funding from the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau](#) for a 5-year period (2019–2024) to improve access to and utilization of comprehensive, high-quality oral health care for pregnant women, infants, and children at high risk for oral disease.

- [Midwest Network for Oral Health Integration](#): Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Ohio
- [Rocky Mountain Network of Oral Health](#): Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming
- [Transforming Oral Health for Families](#): District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, and Virginia

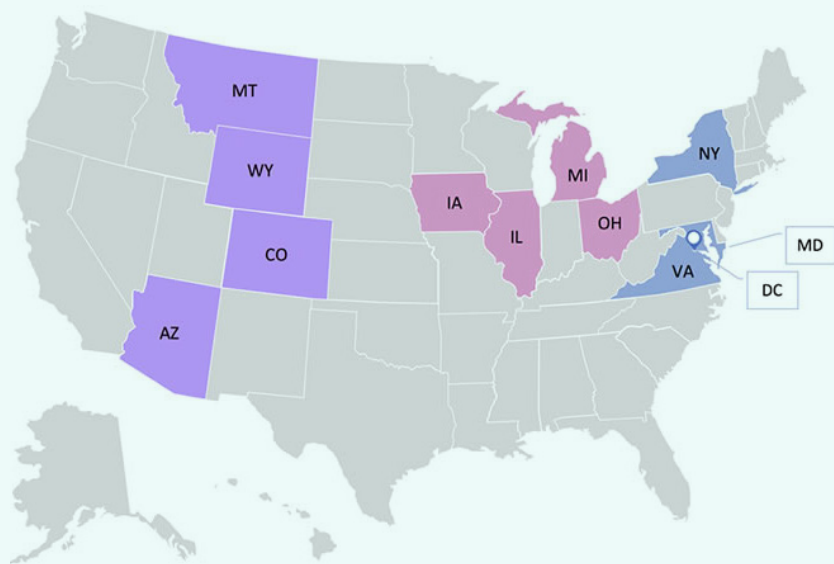
During the NOHI funding period, the three projects produced many materials of value to others engaged in integrating oral health care into primary care. The collection of materials produced by the NOHI projects can be viewed on the [NOHI webpage](#).

- Community health center assessments
- Community health center coaching tools
- Community health workers
- Data collection and reporting
- Oral health risk assessment
- Patient engagement, education, satisfaction, self-management goals
- Sustaining the integration of oral health care and primary care
- Training tools and assessments

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau also awarded funding to the [Consortium for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement \(COHSII\)](#) to support the NOHI projects via a learning collaborative. COHSII was led by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) working in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) and the Dental Quality Alliance (DQA). The NOHI learning collaborative was also supported by the FrameShift Group.

Map of NOHI Projects

By Regions



Below is a compilation of selected materials produced by COHSII to provide an overview of the NOHI projects.



Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI): Overview and Project Profiles—Update 2024

This report provides an overview of the Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Safety Net and a profile of each of three projects: (1) Midwest Network for Oral Health Integration, (2) Rocky Mountain Network of Oral Health, and (3) Transforming Oral Health for Families. Each profile provides information about the network's partners, approach, settings, models of care, and core function activities, as well as a discussion of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on network activities.

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2024. *Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI): Overview and Project Profiles—Update 2024*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 23 pp.



Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Network: Environmental Scan 2023 Chartbook

This series of chartbooks provides information on facilitators of and barriers to integrating oral health care into primary care for pregnant women and children. It includes data related to scope of practice for oral health professionals and non-oral health professionals; Medicaid billing and reimbursement; issues impacting care provided by dental hygienists, dental therapists, and community health workers; and teledentistry.

A set of project chartbooks complement the 12 state/ jurisdiction chartbook.

- *Midwest Network for Oral Health Integration (MNOHI): Environmental Scan Chartbook*
Results from Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Ohio
- *Rocky Mountain Network of Oral Health (RoMoNOH): Environmental Scan 2023 Chartbook*
Results from Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming
Executive summaries of the 2023 environmental scan results: [Arizona](#), [Colorado](#), [Montana](#), [Wyoming](#)
- *Transforming Oral Health for Families (TOHF): Environmental Scan 2023 Chartbook*
Results from District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, and Virginia

Phipps KR. 2023. *Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Network: Environmental Scan 2023 Chartbook*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 51 pp.



Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Oral Health Safety Network: Environmental Scan—Project Year 4

This tool was developed to conduct environmental scans to learn about factors that could impact the integration of oral health care into primary care at the state level to inform the work of the Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Net projects. In addition to questions, the tool includes background information, instructions, and definitions. Question categories include scope of practice, reimbursement, policy and regulation, and optional questions.

NOHI Environmental Scan Workgroup. 2023. *Networks for Oral Health Integration (NOHI) Within the Maternal and Child Oral Health Safety Network: Environmental Scan—Project Year 4*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 14 pp.

Produced by Government Agencies and National and State Organizations

Policy



Adopting Oral Health Integration to Advance Minimally-Invasive Care

This brief provides information on how minimally invasive care (MIC) can be used in conjunction with the integration of oral health care and medical care to improve oral health and overall health, as well as people's experiences with receiving oral health care. The brief presents strategies for integrating oral health care and medical care to promote MIC, including cross-training oral health professionals, Medicaid billing and reimbursement, dental hygienists, dental therapists, community health workers, and teledentistry.

Wilson K. 2023. *Adopting Oral Health Integration to Advance Minimally-Invasive Care*. Boston, MA: Community Catalyst, Dental Access Project. 4 pp.



Emerging Approaches in Oral Health Care: Considerations for Minimally Invasive Care in Medicaid

This report discusses minimally invasive care (MIC), how state Medicaid agencies' support of MIC can contribute to improving oral health, and opportunities for these agencies to support the availability of MIC through payment strategies that encourage oral health professionals to use this approach to providing care. Topics include what MIC is, avenues toward supporting it, supporting an expanded oral health workforce, promoting opportunities for clinical integration, and identifying oral health Medicaid payment strategies. Spotlights describing programs that use MIC are included.

Steward M, Howe G, Tran T. 2024. *Emerging Approaches in Oral Health Care: Considerations for Minimally Invasive Care in Medicaid*. Hamilton, NJ: Center for Health Care Strategies. 18 pp.



The Non-Invasive Caries Therapy Guide

This manual focuses on diagnostics, preventives, and therapeutics that can be used to help prevent tooth decay. Topics include tips on differentiating between active and arrested carious lesions; assessing lesion activity; applying fluoride varnish, 10 percent povidone-iodine, self-assembling peptide, silver diamine fluoride, and glass ionomer cement sealants or fillings; and performing Silver-Modified Restorative Treatment (SMART) and the Hall technique for placing stainless steel crowns.

CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 2023. *The Non-Invasive Caries Therapy Guide*. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 13 pp.



Oral-Systemic Interactions and Medical-Dental Integration: A Life Course Approach

This report provides information on a life course approach to oral health that focuses on the oral-systemic interactions upon which a medical-dental integration (MDI) model can be built. The report offers an overview of the bidirectional nature of oral and systemic diseases across different life phases and how integrated health care delivery can improve access to care and health outcomes. It also discusses gaps in, challenges to, and barriers to creating integrated models and provides recommendations for improving the future of MDI.

Heaton LJ, Tiwari T, Tranby E. 2023. *Oral-Systemic Interactions and Medical-Dental Integration: A Life Course Approach*. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 18 pp.



Policy Statement: Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care

This policy statement focuses on integrating oral health care into primary care. It provides a summary of the issue, presents the problem of pervasively poor oral health among pregnant women and children from families with low incomes, and discusses

opportunities to address this problem by integrating oral health care into primary care. Examples of a national initiative and statewide programs that are working to integrate oral health care into primary care are included, and the role of state and territorial oral health programs in this effort is discussed. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, Dental Public Health Policy Committee. 2024. *Policy Statement: Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care*. Reno, NV: Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors; Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 11 pp.

Recommendations for Improving Oral Health Care Access, Quality, and Outcomes and Advancing Equity in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program

This report describes the framework that the 2023 Medicaid and CHIP Oral Health Initiative (OHI) Workgroup used to set priorities for improving oral health care access, quality, and outcomes and advancing health equity in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The report also summarizes workgroup input for the following focus areas: strategic priorities, strategies, and measures for monitoring progress for the next phase of the OHI. It provides background on why good oral health is important and about what the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has done to achieve the goal of improving oral health care for Americans, as well as about the workgroup's charge.

Reyna S, Anderson S, Yang S, Rosenbach M. 2024. *Recommendations for Improving Oral Health Care Access, Quality, and Outcomes and Advancing Equity in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program*. Princeton, NJ: Mathematica. 35 pp.

Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP

This report focuses on aspects of Medicaid's mission to ensure access to high-quality health services and the program's future as a major health care payer driving health-system change. The report focuses on topics of interest to Congress, including Medicaid's responsiveness during economic downturns, concerns about high rates of maternal morbidity and mortality,

improving hospital payment policy for the nation's safety net hospitals, and the integration of care for people who are eligible for Medicaid and Medicare.

Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission. 2022. *Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP*. Washington, DC: Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission. 196 pp.

Santa Fe Group Continuum on the Benefits of Integrating Oral Health into Overall Health

This report provides information on a continuum undertaken to explore the benefits of integrating oral health care into overall health care. The continuum consisted of a series of webinars, background analyses, published papers, and a virtual salon. The report includes an overview of continuum components and discusses key continuum themes.

Mouradian WE, Kleinman D, Wilentz J. 2021. *Santa Fe Group Continuum on the Benefits of Integrating Oral Health into Overall Health*. New York, NY: Santa Fe Group. 19 pp.

System Transformation: A Three Domain Framework to Innovating Oral Health Care

This paper discusses a proposed oral health care model using emerging technology that builds on health promotion and disease prevention while supporting value-based care. Using an analysis of projected Medicaid costs, the paper describes the model and offers a roadmap for implementation. Topics include the purpose and significance of the model, social determinants of health and healthy communities, tele-prevention, minimally invasive care, and personalized and integrated intervention.

CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 2020. *System Transformation: A Three Domain Framework to Innovating Oral Health Care*. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 45 pp., exec. summ (5 pp).

Practice Guidance and Tools



Capacity Inventory for Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care for Pregnant Women: Brief

This brief provides information on the development of a capacity-inventory tool to help state oral health program staff assess systems-level capacity factors and prioritize needs. The brief discusses the importance of oral health, especially during pregnancy, and strategies to advance oral health equity for the maternal and child health population. Factors contributing to state systems-level capacity to improve integration of oral health care and primary care for pregnant women are organized by categories. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2023. *Capacity Inventory for Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care for Pregnant Women: Brief*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 3 pp.



Capacity Inventory for Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care for Pregnant Women: Tool

This tool was developed to assist states in efforts to improve their capacity to integrate oral health care and primary care for pregnant women. The purpose of the tool is to help state oral health program staff assess systems-level capacity factors and prioritize needs. Staff can use the tool to consider factors that facilitate integration of oral health care and primary care for pregnant women and to look for opportunities to improve integration. A companion brief with more information on the tool's development is also available. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 2024. *Capacity Inventory for Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care for Pregnant Women: Tool*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 13 pp.



Dental Home Playbook: A Physician Guide with Tips and Tools to Integrate Oral Health into Your Primary Care Practice

This guide for primary care physicians includes tips for integrating oral health care into their practices and tools to help them do so. The guide provides information on why it is important for primary care physicians to integrate oral health care, barriers to accessing oral health care, and the dental home. A checklist for how physicians can support their patients' oral health and help them find a dental home is included, along with information on assessing infants' and young children's risk for developing tooth decay and reducing risk for this population.

Benevis. 2023. *Dental Home Playbook: A Physician Guide with Tips and Tools to Integrate Oral Health into Your Primary Care Practice*. No place: Benevis. 14 pp.



Front Line Health Worker Curriculum

This curriculum is designed for front line health workers (FLHWs) (e.g., community health workers, health educators, case managers, care coordinators, public health workers, peer health promoters) who provide oral health outreach, advocacy, patient education, care coordination, health care navigation, and social support for the communities they serve. The curriculum consists of four modules; the first is an introduction, and the remaining three focus on the oral health of children, women (including pregnant women), and adults. A facilitator handbook and resources for FLHWs are also included.

Glicken A, Smiles for Life Steering Committee. 2020-. *Front Line Health Worker Curriculum*. Leawood, KS: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. 6 items.



Integrating Oral Health Evaluation into Prenatal Care: Considerations and Examples

This report presents key considerations for integrating oral health evaluation into prenatal care. Topics include completing an oral health evaluation, integrating oral health evaluation into the electronic medical record, integrating oral health evaluation into the prenatal care workflow, and strategies to increase primary care health professionals' confidence in completing an oral health evaluation. The document also includes summaries of how prenatal clinics integrate oral health evaluation, as well as links to examples. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Fischer D, Kolo S, Battani K. 2024. *Integrating Oral Health Evaluation into Prenatal Care: Considerations and Examples*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 13 pp.



Medical-Dental Integration Models: A Critical Review of the Last Decade

This report provides a review of medical-dental integration (MDI) models used to deliver integrated oral health and overall health that have been implemented in the last 10 years. The report introduces the issue and provides information to help increase understanding of MDI model approaches and of the challenges and barriers MDI models face and solutions that have been implemented and to promote the sustainability of MDI models.


Delta Dental Institute. 2022. *Medical-Dental Integration Models: A Critical Review of the Last Decade*. Washington, DC: Delta Dental Institute. 19 pp.



Patient Care and Training Videos

These videos offer information for primary care health professionals to help them provide preventive oral health care in their practices. The videos focus on conducting a knee-to-knee oral health screening, providing fluoride varnish, examining the temporomandibular joint, and examining the floor of the mouth. The videos can be viewed online or downloaded.

Clark M, ed. 2018-. *Patient Care and Training Videos*. Leawood, KS: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. 4 videos (5:06 min.).



Perinatal Oral Health Screening Video

This video provides information about oral health during pregnancy and recommendations for integrating oral health care into primary care. It discusses the Health Resources and Services Administration's oral health clinical competencies for primary care health professionals. An example of how these competencies can be part of a prenatal visit shows a health professional talking to a pregnant woman about oral health and looking into her mouth for white spots and swollen gums; providing a referral to a dentist; and discussing the safety of receiving oral health care during pregnancy.

University of Colorado, Public Health and Dental Medicine. 2020. *Perinatal Oral Health Screening Video*. Denver, CO: CU Productions. 1 video (6:14 min.).



Protect Tiny Teeth Implementation Guide: Lessons Learned from Quality Improvement Projects to Integrate Oral Health into Prenatal and Pediatric Settings

This guide discusses lessons learned from quality-improvement projects conducted to integrate oral health care in prenatal and pediatric settings. It offers steps to take in integrating oral health care in these settings. Steps are divided into the following categories: planning; setting goals; educating and training staff; launching an integration project and tracking progress; adapting resources to fit the setting; reviewing, celebrating, and discussing progress; and maintaining and sustaining progress. Advice from projects that have integrated oral health care is included.

American Academy of Pediatrics. 2023. *Protect Tiny Teeth Implementation Guide: Lessons Learned from Quality Improvement Projects to Integrate Oral Health into Prenatal and Pediatric Settings*. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 8 pp.



Protect Tiny Teeth Implementation Project: Toolkit for Healthcare Professionals

This guide for prenatal and pediatric health professionals discusses lessons learned from quality-improvement projects conducted to integrate oral health care into primary care settings. Topics include planning; setting goals; educating and training staff; launching an integration project and tracking progress; adapting resources to fit the setting; reviewing, celebrating, and discussing progress; and maintaining and sustaining progress.

American Academy of Pediatrics. 2023. *Protect Tiny Teeth Implementation Project: Toolkit for Healthcare Professionals*. Itasca, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 8 items.



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

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

Clark M, ed. 2018-. *Smiles for Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum* (4th ed.). Leawood, KS: Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. Multiple items.

Professional Education and Training



Preventive Dental Visits for Children and Adolescents Are Important!

This infographic provides information about benefits of and barriers to receiving preventive dental visits for children and adolescents. It emphasizes the importance of these visits to reduce oral health problems and promote overall health throughout life. It discusses integration of oral health care into primary care, the cost savings that early intervention can confer, and disparities in oral health status and in access to oral health services. The infographic is available in English and in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

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

encourages parents to have a nighttime routine that includes helping their young child brush their teeth and reading a book to their child before bed. A list of relevant organizations is included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Barzel R, Holt K (eds.). 2024. *Promoting Oral Health Literacy: A Resource Guide*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 21 pp.



Oral and Mental Health During and After Pregnancy: The Importance of Medical-Dental-Behavioral Integration

This report discusses the importance of integrating oral health care and mental health care into obstetrical care to improve the overall health of women during and after pregnancy. The report explains why poor oral health and mental health may be a particular problem for women during and after pregnancy, and how oral health and mental health are linked. The report also explains the role obstetricians can play in identifying oral health and mental health problems in pregnant and postpartum women.

CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 2024. *Oral and Mental Health During and After Pregnancy: The Importance of Medical-Dental-Behavioral Integration*. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 4 pp.



Promoting Oral Health Literacy: A Resource Guide

This resource guide features materials on policy; professional education, tools, and training; program development; and public education. Examples of materials include a report offering guiding principles that can help Head Start staff promote health literacy, a paper discussing challenges in integrating oral health care and primary care for populations with low health literacy, and a guide describing a program that

Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges

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

pain, mental illness, and substance abuse; and emerging science and promising technologies to transform oral health. The report's executive summary is available separately.

National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. 2021. *Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges*. Bethesda, MD: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. 1 v., exec. summ (22 pp.).

Program Development: National Efforts

Advance Health Equity: An Alignment and Action Summit—Summary Report

This report presents information from a summit convened to advance health equity by catalyzing aligned, multistate action. The summit focused on three strategic areas: expanded oral health insurance coverage, workforce development, and integration of oral health care and overall health care. The report provides background information and an overview of the summit, as well as a description of sessions.

Santa Fe Group. 2023. *Advance Health Equity: An Alignment and Action Summit—Summary Report*. New York, NY: Santa Fe Group. 21 pp.

Compendium of Rural Oral Health Best Practices

This compendium presents programs designed to improve access to oral health care in rural communities and shares best practices related to providing care in these communities. The compendium is divided into topic areas: workforce development and training, care integration, telehealth, clinical, and policy and national models. Each topic area highlights specific programs and provides information on the program purpose, a program summary, and information on the program's efficacy and impact.

National Rural Health Association. 2020. *Compendium of Rural Oral Health Best Practices*. Kansas City, MO: National Rural Health Association. 36 pp.

Blueprint

This technical report presents a blueprint for structural improvement designed to rebuild the national oral health care system with the goal of providing equitable oral health care for everyone. The tool encompasses five “levers” (worksheets) that include national-, state-, and local-level action items in the following areas: amplify consumer voices, advance oral health policy, integrate oral health care and medical care, emphasize prevention, and bring care to the people.

Oral Health Progress and Equity Network. 2021. *Blueprint*. No place: Oral Health Progress and Equity Network. 1 website.

Guidelines for State and Territorial Oral Health Programs

These guidelines help state health agency officials and public health administrators develop and operate oral health programs and promote integration of oral health activities into public health systems. Part I provides an overview of oral health disparities and strategies for prevention. It describes the diversity and uniqueness of oral health programs and efforts to increase infrastructure and capacity. Part II is a matrix of state oral health program roles for each of the 10 essential public health services. It includes examples of specific activities for each role and links to selected resources to help states accomplish the activities. An [assessment tool](#) is also available.

Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors. 2021. *Guidelines for State and Territorial Oral Health Programs*. Reno, NV: Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors. 18 pp.



Innovations in Oral Health and Primary Care Integration: Alignment with the Shared Principles of Primary Care

This report discusses ways that health professionals, community members, and public health leaders are working together to integrate oral health care and primary care. It highlights the mechanisms for and scope of integration efforts, ranging from statewide initiatives to incorporate oral health care into value-based primary care payment models to initiatives to improve oral health in communities. The report presents seven shared principles of primary care, discusses lessons learned from the patient-centered medical home initiative and from behavioral health integration, and offers a call to action.

Primary Care Collaborative. 2021. *Innovations in Oral Health and Primary Care Integration: Alignment with the Shared Principles of Primary Care*. Washington, DC: Primary Care Collaborative. 75 pp.



Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care: Five Successful, Long-Standing Programs Providing Care for the Maternal and Child Health Population

This report spotlights five programs focused on integrating oral health care into primary care serving the maternal and child health population. Each spotlight includes an overview of the program; a description of its inception and early years; information about funding, notable strengths, notable evaluation activities, and evaluation methodology; select evaluation findings; and resources to learn more about evaluation. The report also describes key elements for individual program success and the challenges common across all programs that limit program success. Stand-alone spotlights of each program are also available. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Battani K, Crall J, Fischer D, Goodman H, Holt K. 2024. *Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care: Five Successful, Long-Standing Programs Providing Care for the Maternal and Child Health Population*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 40 pp.



Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care Learning Collaborative: A State and Local Partnership Final Report

This report describes programmatic efforts of the Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care Learning Collaborative: A State and Local Partnership project designed to integrate oral health care and prenatal care, with both a state and a local component. The report discusses project team selection, the state-level approach, the local-level approach, use of stipend funds and in-kind support, and integration of interprofessional oral health core clinical competencies into prenatal care at the participating clinic site. The report's [executive summary](#) is available separately. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Battani K, Kolo S, Owen C, Fischer D, Bagin A. 2024. *Integrating Oral Health Care and Primary Care Learning Collaborative: A State and Local Partnership Final Report*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 43 pp., exec. summ. 6 pp.



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

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

Battani K, Holt K. 2021. *The Partnership for Integrating Oral Health Care into Primary Care Project 2019–2021: Final Report*. Washington, DC: National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. 32 pp.

Program Development: State Efforts



2022 Oral Health Needs Assessment

This report provides information about oral health in the District of Columbia (DC). It discusses characteristics of DC's diverse population and social determinants of health. It also describes the District's oral health landscape, including the safety net infrastructure, and the location of federally qualified health centers that provide oral health care and other types of health care. In addition, it discusses the oral health workforce, efforts to integrate oral health care into primary care, and challenges related to achieving equitable access to oral health care.

District of Columbia Department of Health, Community Health Administration. 2023. *2022 Oral Health Needs Assessment*. Washington, DC: District of Columbia Department of Health, Community Health Administration. 58 pp.



2024 Connecticut Medical/Dental Integration Report

This report provides information about why medical-dental integration (MDI), a model of care that emphasizes the connection between oral health and systemic health, is important. Topics include MDI efforts in Connecticut, emerging MDI-related trends outside Connecticut, barriers to MDI, and policy and program recommendations.

Connecticut Dental Health Partnership. 2024. *2024 Connecticut Medical/Dental Integration Report*. Farmington, CT: Connecticut Dental Health Partnership. 26 pp.



Evaluation of Oregon's 2017–2022 Medicaid Waiver: Interim Report

This interim report presents results from an evaluation of performance during the first 3 years (2017–2019) of Oregon's 1115 Medicaid waiver to transform its Medicaid program, establishing 16 coordinated-care organizations to provide comprehensive care for its Medicaid population. The report assessed progress in four key areas: behavioral health integration, oral health integration, use of health-related services—a mechanism for addressing social determinants of health, and program enhancements for individuals who are dually enrolled in Medicaid and Medicare.

Oregon Health & Science University, Center for Health Systems Effectiveness. 2021. *Evaluation of Oregon's 2017–2022 Medicaid Waiver: Interim Report*. Portland, OR: Oregon Health & Science University, Center for Health Systems Effectiveness. 171 pp.



Evaluation Report: Medical-Dental Integration at the University of North Dakota Center for Family Medicine

This report provides information about an evaluation of the North Dakota Department of Health's Oral Health Program after it hired a public health hygienist to provide oral health education to medical residents and staff and to provide preventive oral health services and oral health education to children and their families with low incomes who were uninsured. The report introduces the program and discusses evaluation results related to the medical-dental integration model, patient data, and oral health training for medical residents.

Schroeder S, Knutson S. 2020. *Evaluation Report: Medical-Dental Integration at the University of North Dakota Center for Family Medicine*. Grand Forks, ND: University of North Dakota, Center for Rural Health; Bismarck, ND: North Dakota Department of Health, Oral Health Program. 57 pp.



Medical-Dental Integration Manual

This manual is intended for health professionals interested in integrating a dental hygienist into a medical care team. It discusses billing, contracting, rules and regulations, and scope of dental hygiene practice specific to North Dakota. It also provides information related to workflow, patient data, and education relevant to health professionals outside North Dakota. The manual discusses scheduling a visit, the oral health screening process, integrating a dental hygienist into the workflow, electronic medical and dental records, care coordination, charging and billing services, rules and regulations, and medical resident and clinical staff evaluation.

Bopp V, Schroeder S, Kiefer C. 2021. *Medical-Dental Integration Manual*. Bismarck, ND: North Dakota Department of Health, Oral Health Program; Grand Forks, ND: University of North Dakota, Center for Rural Health. 51 pp.



MORE Care in Ohio: Medical Oral Expanded Care

This brief provides information about MORE Care, a program in Ohio conducted by Health Ohio and CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, in partnership, to improve children’s oral health and reduce costly, invasive dental procedures by advancing value-based care and integrating oral health care into primary care. The brief describes how the program works, offers information about Health Ohio and the CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, and presents an example of how MORE Care is being implemented.

Oral Health Ohio and CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 2024. *MORE Care in Ohio: Medical Oral Expanded Care*. Boston, MA: CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. 2 pp.



North Dakota Oral Health Program Evaluation Data

This report provides information from an evaluation of the North Dakota Oral Health Program. Topics include community water fluoridation, oral health services provided in federally qualified health centers, all North Dakota school-based dental sealant programs, SEALIND: all schools served by one North Dakota school-based dental sealant program, SEALIND: schools qualifying for oral health services based on need, and the integration of oral health care and primary care in a North Dakota family medical center.

Schroeder S, Greiner B, Stepanov A. 2023. *North Dakota Oral Health Program Evaluation Data*. Bismarck, ND: North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services. 12 pp.



Ohio’s State Oral Health Plan 2021–2022: Goal—Integration of Oral and Overall Health Across Systems

This infographic provides information about Ohio’s 2021–2022 state oral health plan goal to integrate oral health and overall health across systems in the state. It discusses school-based health centers and the impact that tooth decay in children and adolescents can have on school readiness, absenteeism, career readiness, and mental health and well-being. Also discussed are two policy opportunities: adopting K–12 education standards and including oral health in school-based drug-prevention-education and mental-health-promotion curricula.

Oral Health Ohio. 2021. *Ohio’s State Oral Health Plan 2021–2022: Goal—Integration of Oral and Overall Health Across Systems*. Cincinnati, OH: Oral Health Ohio. 1 p.



Oral Health Training for Community Organizations

This training provides information and resources for community organizations in Maine to improve women’s oral health through education, collaboration, and integration of oral health care into prenatal care and primary care. It includes reasons that preventive oral health care is important and key messages to use with pregnant women and parents with infants. It also reviews basic concepts related to oral health in pregnant women, infants, and children and discusses the importance of the dental home and of providing referrals to dentists. [Partially funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

Before the First Tooth, From the First Tooth. 2022. *Oral Health Training for Community Organizations*. Portland, ME: Before the First Tooth, From the First Tooth. 1 video (19:04 min.).



Organizations

Organizations

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

P.O. Box 11210
Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-1210
Phone: (800) 274-2237
E-mail: contactcenter@aafp.org

The American Academy of Family Physicians represents family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students who seek to promote the science and art of family medicine and to ensure high-quality, cost-effective health care for clients of all ages.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORAL SYSTEMIC HEALTH

2501 Chatham Road
Springfield, IL 62704

The American Academy of Oral Systemic Health (AAOSH) promotes partnerships and communication among oral health professionals and other health professionals. AAOSH seeks to increase the understanding of health professionals and other members of the health care community about the relationship between the mouth and other parts of the body. The association encourages them to become involved in changing attitudes toward and increasing awareness of oral-systemic connections.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Section on Oral Health

141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1098
Phone: (800) 433-9016
E-mail: oralhealthinfo@aap.org

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

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS

409 12th Street, S.W.
P.O. Box 96920
Washington, DC 20090-6920
Phone: (202) 638-5577
E-mail: resources@acog.org

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) provides educational materials on pregnancy, birth, contraception, reproductive health, and women's issues such as violence against women, smoking cessation, and underserved women. Members and invited experts serve on various ACOG committees focusing on adolescent health care, gynecologic practice, obstetrics, American Indian affairs, and other topics.

ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL DENTAL DIRECTORS

3858 Cashill Boulevard
Reno, NV 89509
Phone: (775) 626-5008
Fax: (775) 626-9268

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

CAREQUEST INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH

465 Medford Street
Boston, MA 02129-1454
Phone: (617) 886-1700

The CareQuest Institute for Oral Health focuses on transforming the health care system to achieve better health through oral health by prioritizing person-centered care. The institute provides grantmaking, research, and care-improvement initiatives, including: (1) a single, national oral-health-measurement system, (2) person-centered models of care through value-based transformation, and (3) public adult dental benefits.

CENTER FOR INTEGRATION OF PRIMARY CARE AND ORAL HEALTH

Harvard University Schools of Medicine and
Dental Medicine
188 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
E-mail: cipcoh@hsdm.harvard.edu

The Center for Integration of Primary Care and Oral Health (CIPCOH) serves as a national resource to consolidate the evidence base for systems-level oral health integration into primary care training. CIPCOH conducts systems-level research on primary care training; disseminates information, best practices, and resources; recommends and promotes primary-care-training enhancements; and develops community-of-practice plans that mobilize stakeholders to integrate oral health care into primary care training and to integrate oral health care into primary care.

CIPCOH is a joint endeavor of the Harvard University School of Dental Medicine, the Harvard Medical School, the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care, and the University of Massachusetts Medical School's Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, in partnership with MCPHS University (formerly Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences) and Stony Brook University.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BUREAU

5600 Fishers Lane, Parklawn Building
Rockville, MD 20857

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau provides leadership, in partnership with stakeholders, to improve the physical, mental, and [oral health](#); safety; and

well-being of the maternal and child health population, which includes all women; infants; children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs; and their families.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS

101 Ponce De Leon Avenue, Suite 400
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: (770) 458-7400
E-mail: info@chronicdisease.org

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors' oral health program recognizes the critical link between oral health and overall health. The program collaborates with diverse partners to promote the integration of oral health care and overall health care to achieve whole-person health.

NATIONAL INTERPROFESSIONAL INITIATIVE ON ORAL HEALTH

E-mail: Anita.Glicken@NIIOH.org

The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health (NIIOH) is a systems-change initiative to expand interprofessional health workforce capacity by embedding oral health and interprofessional practice competencies across health professional education and practice. NIIOH promotes workforce policies that support health professionals, including oral health professionals. Strategic activities cultivate oral health champions; facilitate interprofessional learning; develop resources; and support, connect, and align partner efforts to integrate oral health across health care systems.

NATIONAL MATERNAL AND CHILD ORAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER

Georgetown University
E-mail: OHRInfo@georgetown.edu

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

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR ORAL HEALTH ACCESS

181 East 56th Avenue, Suite 410
Denver, CO 80216
Phone: (303) 957-0635
E-mail: info@nnoha.org

The National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) works to improve the oral health of underserved populations and contribute to overall health through leadership, advocacy, and support for oral health professionals in safety-net systems. NNOHA's priorities include ensuring that oral health care is integrated into primary care; promoting evidence-based oral-disease-management models; advocating for every health center to have an oral health program; and ensuring that oral health professionals have the information, resources, and support to deliver high-quality services.

ORAL HEALTH NURSING EDUCATION AND PRACTICE INITIATIVE

E-mail: ohnep@nyu.edu

The Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice Initiative (OHNEP) is the nursing arm of the [National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health](#). OHNEP encourages nursing professionals (nurse practitioners, nurse-midwives, nurses) to partner with family medicine professionals, pediatricians, physician assistants, and oral health professionals to promote interprofessional oral health integration. The initiative develops resources for students and faculty to build interprofessional oral-health-workforce capacity to improve oral health access, decrease oral health disparities, improve oral health and overall health outcomes, and enhance the health of the communities they serve.

SANTA FE GROUP

531 Wedge Lane
Longboat Key, FL 34228
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The Santa Fe Group works to resolve health issues, including oral health issues, to improve access to primary care and promote the importance of linking medical and dental health systems. Resources focus on improving oral health during pregnancy, integrating oral health care into primary care, and addressing obesity in the dental setting.



National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center