



April Webinar: Let's Prevent Oropharyngeal Cancer

TxOHC is pleased to host “Let’s Prevent Oropharyngeal Cancer (and Avoid Awkward Conversations While Doing It!)” with Dr. Rhonda Stokley, DDS, MPH Friday, April 8, 2022, at 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CDT for 1.0 hours of continuing dental education credit.

Vaccination is important to the dental community because most oropharyngeal cancer (OPC) is HPV-associated. OPC affects both men and women. The HPV vaccine also prevents five other types of cancer. Our patients need a strong recommendation from us to vaccinate. This presentation provides information about HPV, OPC and the HPV vaccine. We will also explain what a strong recommendation is and how to integrate HPV vaccine conversations into your practice without having awkward talks about sexual activity.

Registration is complimentary but required at <https://bit.ly/Reg-4822> to receive your webinar link and passcode. To learn more about our featured speaker, course description, and learning objectives, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/lets-prevent-oropharyngeal-cancer/>.

Let's Prevent Oropharyngeal Cancer (and Avoid Awkward Conversations While Doing It!)

Rhonda Stokley, DDS

Date: Friday, April 8, 2022
Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CDT

For more information on the speaker, course description and objectives, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/cdhc-webinar/>.

Pre-registration is required for all attendees.

Your registration email will contain the webinar link and password to use.

Register: <https://bit.ly/Reg-4822>

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7/1/2021 to 6/30/2024. Provider ID# 34614

TxOHC Member Spotlight

Dr. Sherdeana Owens Presents Texas Tooth Steps



Our many thanks to Dr. Sherdeana Owens for presenting TxOHC's Texas Tooth Step (TTS) program at the Healthy Mom, Healthy Baby Community Health Fair in Corpus Christi, on January 29, 2022, to 155 participants and distributed over 38 perinatal TxOHC gift bags.

Exit interviews reflect several pregnant ladies mentioned that they learned a lot about infant oral health and how to care for their own teeth.

View the video from United Way of the Coastal Bend's Success By 6 Early Childhood Coalition [here](#).

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who joined after March 8, 2022.

Organizational Members:

- SCADHA at Texas Woman's University
Charlene Dickinson, RDH, BSDH, MS, SCADHA Advisor at
Texas Woman's University Denton, TX

Individual Members:

- Linda Millard, RDH, MEd
Associate Professor, Coastal Bend
College
Corpus Christi, TX



AAP Protect Tiny Teeth: A Prenatal Implementation Guide

A mother's oral health status is a strong predictor of her child's oral health status. Women may be more prone to gum disease and cavities during pregnancy, but only half of women receive a dental cleaning while pregnant. To address the gap in information about oral health and pregnancy, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), with support from CDC's Division of Oral Health, created the [Protect Tiny Teeth Toolkit](#).

This kit includes communications and practice tools that can be used to educate health care professionals and families about oral health and support the integration of preventive oral health care for pregnant patients in the primary care setting. To help inform ways to implement preventive oral health services for pregnant people in primary care, AAP planned a Protect Tiny Teeth 9-month pilot project in 8 prenatal practice settings.

The goal of the project was to implement the Protect Tiny Teeth tools in practice and help the pilot sites to improve the oral health of their pregnant population. This was done in a learning collaborative format that brought the sites and faculty together to discuss progress, successes, and challenges of implementation. AAP recently released an [Implementation Project Overview & Results Report](#) and an [Implementation Guide](#) for those interested in oral health medical-dental integration.

The reports outline the results and lessons learned from the pilot project and serve as a resource for prenatal care providers and others who care for pregnant people and their families. Learn more.

-- ASTDD

New CDC Article has Implications for Medical-Dental Integration in the United States

This week, CDC's Division of Oral Health released [Dental health status, use, and insurance coverage among adults with chronic conditions: Implications for medical-dental integration in the United States](#) in the Journal of the American Dental Association.



This study examines potential benefits and difficulties in integrating oral health services into medical visits for adults with chronic conditions.

-- ASTDD

New Article on Fluoridation

Jennifer Meyer an Assistant Professor of Public Health at the University of Alaska Anchorage wrote an opinion article for The Anchorage Daily News on March 10, 2022, entitled, "The facts on fluoridation — lessons for a healthier Alaska." This article



discusses both the role misinformation plays in ending water fluoridation in cities stating, "much like the well-financed anti-vaccine apparatus, opponents of fluoridation are [very active online](#), questioning fluoridation's benefits and attacking its safety." This article also discusses the results of a study done on children's teeth in two Alaska cities: Juneau (stopped fluoridation) and Anchorage (remained fluoridated) which found:

In Anchorage, between 2003 and 2012, the average number of cavities treated among 0-18-year-olds enrolled in Medicaid modestly declined (down 6%), while in Juneau it increased 16%. Similarly, the inflation-adjusted cavity-related costs rose by only 5% (\$18.47) in Anchorage, while in Juneau costs jumped by 47% (\$161.84). As decades of earlier research suggested, Juneau children suffered from more cavities without fluoridated water, and taxpayers paid more for procedures that could have been prevented.

Read the full article at: <https://www.adn.com/opinions/2022/03/10/opinion-the-facts-on-fluoridation-lessons-for-a-healthier-alaska/>

New Report Released on Medicaid Oral Health for Adults with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities



A new National Council on Disability (NCD) report, [*Medicaid Oral Health Coverage for Adults with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities – A Fiscal Analysis*](#) has been released this month.

"The report presents key findings from a mixed methods study of Medicaid covered dental care for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Providing Medicaid coverage for preventive dental care to adults with I/DD is estimated to result in a savings of \$7.7 million annually, in those

states that do not currently provide such coverage, due to a reduction in ER use and hospital admissions, and improved overall health for those with chronic conditions. The report also shows that adults with I/DD that live in states that provide Medicaid coverage for preventive dental care are three times more likely to receive preventive dental care, relative to adults

with I/DD living in states without such coverage."

This report is part of ongoing research which is to include a forthcoming database comparing state Medicaid dental benefits for adults with I/DD and a future study will examine how to incentivize oral health providers to participate in Medicaid and facilitate the treatment of patients with I/DD.

-- ASTDD

TSBDE March Newsletter



The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) has released its March 2022 Newsletter this newsletter includes an update on the percentage of dentists registered to use the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP).

A TSBDE reminder to dentists, "prior to prescribing or dispensing opioids, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or carisoprodol, a dentist must access the patient's prescription drug history through the Texas Pharmacy Board's Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) pursuant to [board rule 111.3](#). Additionally, a yearly self-query through PMP must be done pursuant to [board rule 111.2](#)."

To register for the PMP, please visit <https://texas.pmpaware.net/identities/new>.

TxOHC also offers three self-instructional courses for prescribers the first of which, "[Complying with the Statewide Mandate and Using the PMP to Provide Patient-Centered Care](#)," will provide instructions on how to "use PMP data and the NarxCare™ dashboard to provide patient-centered care."

To access free online courses for dental prescribers, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/prescribers-online-series/>.

View the full TSBDE March newsletter [here](#).

CMS Issues Request for Information (RFI)



If you are a Medicaid dental provider, the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) would like your opinion on this linked survey below. Please respond to any of the questions you feel strongly about or have an opinion on.

<https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/access-care/downloads/access-rfi-2022-questions.pdf>

This RFI is not specific to oral health, but oral health is one of the most unmet health care needs in Medicaid.

There is 60-day response period which started February 17, 2022, and **ends April 18, 2022**, so please let them hear from you.

Oral Cancer Foundation Fundraiser Walk/Run

Saturday, April 23, 2022

Free oral cancer screenings and HPV vaccination to the public.
Raffles, a talent show, live music, and inspiring speakers.

We want to use this opportunity to educate and screen our community for Oral Cancer, but also to celebrate Oral Cancer survivors in our community and remember those lost from the disease.

[Linked here](#) is the event flyer with more information about where to register.

If any of you have any hidden talents, feel free to sign up for the Talent Show!



Resources for People with Disabilities

It is National Disability Awareness Month and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! This is a great occasion to share the oral health resources TxOHC provides for people with disabilities. People with disabilities are at greater risk for poor oral health and access to dental care. The ability to receive quality oral healthcare is the number one problem faced by children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities.



Check out TxOHC's disability oral health resources:

- The TxOHC Regional Oral Health Coalitions have developed Community Resource Guides for individuals with disabilities for four geographic areas, Austin, Houston, San Antonio, and Tyler to date. These guides incorporate social determinants of health to help address adverse experiences across the lifespan. [The Disability Community Resource Guides](#) target individuals with disabilities and may be used as resource materials to find local services for dental care, food pantries, transportation, housing, and more.
- This February we hosted the first course in a special [3-course learning series with Dr. Mark Bullock, DDS about how to provide dental care for patients with IDD](#).
 - A recording of *Providing Dental Care under Advanced Anesthesia: Oral Sedation, IV Sedation, TIVA, IV Mac, and General Anesthesia*, presented on February 11, 2022 is available.
 - Registration is open for the next two courses:
 - *Special Conditions and Barriers and Challenges Providing Dental Care to Patients with IDD* on May 13, 2022, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CDT
 - *Understanding and Working with Caregivers and Group Homes, Dental Desensitization/Advanced Behavior Techniques for Patients with IDD at AbSSLC* on August 12, 2022, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

TxOHC Board of Directors



If you are a TxOHC member and interested in taking a more active role within the Coalition, please complete this [interest application](#) to let us know. To learn more about the Coalition and our activities, please visit our website at <https://txohc.org> or

contact us at info@txohc.org for more information.

Employment Opportunities

School-based Setting Needs Dentist in Houston, TX

The CATCH Healthy Smiles program is a coordinated school health approach to reduce the risk of dental caries among elementary school children in Texas.



We are currently seeking Dentists who have

an interest in working with this program to conduct oral examinations on children in kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 2nd Grade in a school-based setting.

Position requirements:

- Licensed Texas Dentist
- Availability to be trained in the International Caries Detection and Assessment System (ICDAS)
- Reliable transportation (schools are located in Houston, TX)

Candidate preferences:

- Experience working in a school-based oral surveillance program

The program is affiliated with an ongoing clinical trial and training will be provided.

If you would like more information about this opportunity, please forward a current CV or resume to the contacts below:

Dr. Kila Johnson - kila.johnson@phs.hctx.net

Alissa Ensor - alissa.ensor@phs.hctx.net

Special Needs Facility Needs Dentist in Abilene, TX

Exciting, non-private practice opportunity. Steady pay, great benefits and great worklife balance. No billing, no insurance, no quotas. Just provide the very best, comprehensive dental care to a very special patient population.

Please refer to the [job handout](#) for additional employment details.

Visit AbSSLC.org or call 325-795- 3298 and ask for Dr. Bullock, or apply today

at: https://jobshportal.hhsc.state.tx.us/ENG/careerportal/job_profile.cfm?szOrderID=514358&szConcept=1.

Dental Openings at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities located throughout the State of Texas. To apply online visit <http://jobs.utmb.edu>.

Ready for a Challenge?

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Kevin Martin (409)747-2694 kelmarti@utmb.edu

TxOHC Self-Instructional Courses

TxOHC offers multiple online self-instructional continuing dental education courses.



For Prescribers:

[Prescriber courses include:](#)

- Statewide Mandate Compliance Using the PMP to Provide Patient-Centered Care
- Maximizing Your Limited Time: Navigating Challenging Patient Conversations
- Single Use Disposal Systems (SUDS) Training for Dentists

Oral Pathology

[Dr. Paras Patel's oral pathology lecture series includes:](#)

- Oral Cancer Update
- Oral Manifestations of Systemic Diseases and Conditions
- Common Lesions of the Oral Cavity, from Diagnosis to Treatment

Health Literacy

[Matt Jacob's health literacy series includes:](#)

- The Power of Audience Insight
- Using Storytelling to Engage
- Making Data Count
- Building Your Social Media Presence
- Speaking Up for Fluoride

Teledentistry

[Amber Lovatos, RDH, BSDH teledentistry series includes:](#)

- Tech Talk: an Introduction to Teledentistry
- Bridging the Knowledge Gap – Navigating Teledentistry Policy
- Cracking Texas Teledentistry Legislation

SAVE THE DATE



**TEXAS ORAL
HEALTH
CONFERENCE**

A True Collaboration To Improve Oral Health In Texas

Building Bridges to Better Health

Virtual Conference
July 14-15, 2021

Event schedule will be posted soon.

<https://www.texasoralhealthconference.com/>

Donate to TxOHC

Please make plans to contribute to your favorite nonprofit either through [AmazonSmile](#), by choosing TxOHC as your cause as you do your online shopping, or by the donation button below.

Your contribution is essential to our continued efforts and will make a real difference in the lives of thousands of your neighbors. Please share in our vision to make optimal health a reality for all Texans by donating today. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to you joining our efforts to continue this forward momentum.

DONATE

Many Thanks to Our TxOHC Organizational Members



With much appreciation and sincerest gratitude, we wish to thank our 2022 Coalition Partners!

