



New Article Highlights Private Equity Firms Ownership of Health Care

Private equity firms have shelled out almost \$1 trillion to acquire nearly 8,000 health care businesses, in deals almost always hidden from federal regulators.

The result: higher prices, lawsuits, and complaints about care.

Read the full Kaiser Health News article, *Sick Profit: Investigating Private Equity's Stealthy Takeover of Health Care Across Cities and Specialties* by Fred Schulte [here](#).

Inflation and Low Fees Driving Medicaid Dental Providers Out of the Program

The Texas Dentists for Medicaid Reform (TDMR) published a letter they received highlighting the difficulty Medicaid dental providers are having in today's current economic climate and the need for the legislature this session to take corrective action.

"It is no secret that [Medicaid dental rates](#) have not increased in 15 years and that there have been several small decreases over the past decade. This fact, along with historical inflation levels since the pandemic, has meant that many Medicaid providers in Texas that are not part of a big company/ DSO are facing an existential crisis. I have seen more and more of my friends and colleagues divest out of their own offices to escape the financial pressures and become associates of large DSOs."

Read the full letter [here](#).

WHO Global Oral Health Report



The WHO Global oral health status report reviews the most recent data on major oral diseases, risk factors, health system challenges and opportunities for reform. The Report's clear conclusion is that the status of global oral health is alarming and requires urgent action. The Report will serve as a reference for policy-makers and an orientation for a wide range of stakeholders across different sectors to

guide advocacy towards better prioritization of oral health in global, regional and national contexts. In addition, the Report provides, as a separate online resource, the first-ever country oral health profiles for all 194 WHO Member States, giving unique insights into key areas and markers of oral health that are relevant for decision-makers.

[For more information on oral health country profiles and related materials](#)

Green Sprouts Recalls Toddler's Stainless Steel Bottles and Cups Due to Lead Poisoning Hazard

Name of Product: This recall involves 6 oz and 8 oz Green Sprouts Stainless Steel cups and bottles with tracking numbers 29218V06985, 35719V06985, and 33020V06985, which can be found on the bottom of the base. The recalled double-walled stainless steel bottles were sold in aqua, pink, green, and navy colors with one of three closure options:



a silicone sippy spout with a colored plastic lid, collar and handle, a silicone sippy spout and a straw spout with colored plastic lid, collar and handle, or a silicone straw with plastic screw-on flip cap. The tracking number is printed on the bottom base.

Hazard: The recalled stainless-steel bottles and cups bottom base can break off, exposing a solder dot that contains lead, posing a lead poisoning hazard to the child. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children, and can cause adverse health effects.

Learn more at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Green-Sprouts-Recalls-Toddlers-Stainless-Steel-Bottles-and-Cups-Due-to-Lead-Poisoning-Hazard-Recall-Alert>.

Future Ready Oregon, OHSU initiatives aim to bolster Oregon's healthcare workforce

Like most states, Oregon faces significant challenges in growing and supporting its healthcare workforce. Industry leaders discussed some useful tools for addressing those challenges during last month's 2022 Oregon State of Reform Health Policy Conference.

Read the full article [here](#).

TxOHC 2022 Wrap-Up and Celebration



Register here to join TxOHC members on **Friday, December 9, 2022**, for the 2022 Wrap-Up and learn what our Regional Oral Health Coalitions have been working on all year. Register for the virtual meeting at https://bit.ly/TxOHC_12922 to join us and help celebrate our members' accomplishments in 2022.

As part of the Collaborative Stakeholder Initiative between TxOHC and Midwest Dental, TxOHC members and partners can be entered into a drawing for a Young™ Infinity™ Cordless Prophy Handpiece. For each merchandise or equipment order placed with Midwest Dental in excess of \$500, your name will be added to the drawing.

The drawing will be held during the virtual TxOHC meeting on Friday, December 9, 2022.

To determine your eligibility for this drawing, please contact [Midwest Dental](#).

Members must be present virtually to win.

MidwestDental
EQUIPMENT - SERVICES - SUPPLIES
"Promoting total health through oral health."

Help fund TxOHC and Oral Health for all Texans!

Collaborative Stakeholder Initiative
Your monthly purchases will help support and fund TxOHC and help improve the oral health of all Texans.

MidwestDental
EQUIPMENT - SERVICES - SUPPLIES

- Texas-based, family-owned, full-service dealer
- Next-day delivery of supplies
- Factory-trained, professional service techs
- Branch offices in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio

TxOHC member benefits through Midwest Dental:

- Substantial price discounts on merchandise, capital equipment and laboratory services
- Reduced service rate available
- Opportunities for free quarterly service call and equipment maintenance training session

Enter for your chance to win a Cordless Handpiece:

For each merchandise or equipment order placed with Midwest Dental in excess of \$500, your name will be added to a drawing for a free **Young Infinity™ Cordless Prophy Handpiece!**
Drawing will be held Dec. 9, 2022, at the TxOHC annual meeting. Member must be present to win.

To place an order, please visit us at [MidwestDental.com!](https://www.midwestdental.com)

Your designated Midwest Dental contact:
Customer Service Manager Kristin Gonzales
(800) 766-2025 • kristin.gonzales@midwestdental.com

WIN ME!

YOUNG Infinity™ Cordless Prophy Handpiece

Choose the Young Infinity™ Cordless Prophy Handpiece featuring a soft-angled, rotary with any brand or size of the cordless prophy angle. Cordless via Bluetooth to a cordless hand piece. Bluetooth charge or replace, contact, and replace only 15kg. Two-year warranty.



Join us this Giving Tuesday!



At TxOHC, we're gearing up for our favorite day of the year; #GivingTuesday!

It's the day we get together with people all over the world to celebrate the positive impact that giving, volunteering, and kindness make in our

communities. It's always the Tuesday after Black Friday, and that means this year, it's **today, November 29th**.

The Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC) is happy to join the largest giving day of the year with a twist. Our goal is to raise **\$3,00000 in 30 days**. All donations submitted during the month of November will go towards our Giving Tuesday fundraising goal.

This year, we're excited to make even more progress toward gathering and disseminating information relating to oral health and the delivery of oral health care in the state of Texas at no charge to the public. We hope you'll join our nonpartisan network of diverse stakeholders focused on creating viable solutions, sharing innovative information, and leveraging resources for the health of all Texans.

Thanks to the support from our community, we hope this year's celebration will be even bigger and better. TxOHC strives to continue our monthly webinars to provide oral health education for health providers, produce additional [community resource guides](#) that address social determinants of health factors for specific populations, and increase the number of [regional oral health coalitions](#) across Texas whose purpose is to improve the oral health of communities and promote partnerships for sustainable, equity-informed, community-driven advocacy.

**DONATE
TODAY!**

Make a donation at <https://txohc.org/givingtuesday> and make a difference

in the impact the Texas Oral Health Coalition can make to achieve optimal health for all Texans.

TxOHC Member Spotlight

Dr. Sherdeana Owens Presents Texas Tooth Steps



Dr. Sherdeana Owens, DDS, MPA brings the Texas Tooth Step Program to the Healthy Mom, Healthy Baby! a community health fair in Corpus Christi, on January 28, 2023.

TxOHC Offers Several Self-Instructional Courses that may be Completed Online for CDE

Oral health providers may obtain 1.0 CDE for every one(1) hour of lecture. Online courses to choose from include:

- **Prescribers**
 - Mental Health & Opioid Use Disorder: Using the PMP to improve patient-centered care & communication
 - 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
- **Patients with IDD**
 - Providing Dental Care under Advanced Anesthesia: Oral Sedation, IV Sedation, TIVA, IV Mac, and General Anesthesia
 - Special Conditions and Barriers and Challenges Providing Dental Care to Patients with IDD
 - Understanding and Working with Caregivers and Group Homes, Dental Desensitization/Advanced Behavior Techniques

for Patients with IDD at AbSSLC

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

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

- **Teledentistry**
 - Selection of Teledentistry Platforms and Utilization in Alternative Care Settings

- **Prenatal**
 - Maternal Depression: Signs, Facts & Resources

To access any of these courses, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/self-instructional-webinars/>.

TxOHC Board of Directors



If you are a TxOHC member and interested in taking a more active role within the Coalition, we are looking to build a pool of potential board members. Please complete [this interest application](#) to let us know of your interest.

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.

Dental Bits and Bites

This edition of Fillings, Bits & Bites will focus on the topic of Performing Oral Health Exams in Patients with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (ASD population).

[Read More Here.](#)

Full-time RDH Position with Texas Tech University Correctional Managed Care

The position opening is at the TDCJ Lynaugh and N5 units located in Fort Stockton, Texas.



- 40 hours per week, 4 days a week, 10-hour days. The pay scale is in the range of \$70,000.00-73,697.23. This position has full benefits:
- Teacher Retirement (TRS) System
- Group Health Insurance
- Optional vision, dental, and life insurance
- Paid Time OFF
- 10-12 Paid holidays a year

Link to apply:

<https://jobs.brassring.com/TGnewUI/Search/home/HomeWithPreLoad?PageType=JobDetails&partnerid=25898&siteid=5283&Areq=31031BR> or interested hygienists can call Dr. Farrell Scruggs, Regional Director at 817-937-6299 to set up an interview or ask questions.

TxOHC Members-Only Listserv

A friendly reminder to all of our members that the Coalition has a private members-only listserv. This is where you can share information, resources, and discuss current topics.

Please complete this short online form linked below and **reply to the**

email confirmation to complete the process. <https://txohc.org/get-involved/membership/m-o-mail-list/>

Thank you and we look forward to your participation.

Call for Presenters

The Texas Oral Health Coalition is excited to continue hosting monthly webinars in 2023 with different topics and presenters on the second Friday of each month during the noon hour, 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT.



If you are interested in sharing your research or expertise, please complete and submit the linked documents below for consideration.

[Financial Disclosure and Bio Speaker Proposal Submission](#)

TxOHC Thanks our Organizational Members



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER,
EL PASO

Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine



Texas A&M
Dental Public Health
Residency Program

Texas Woman's University
Student Chapter of
American Dental
Hygienists' Association



Join [here](#) if your organization is interested in joining our efforts to improve the oral healthcare system in Texas.

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



Your Contribution Matters

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

TxOHC is also raising funds with Planet Green Recycle through our ink cartridges recycling fundraiser. [Click here](#) to request your FREE USPS shipping label to recycle your inks. Be sure to type in our Program ID Code: 32140 when completing the shipping form.

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.** Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to you joining our efforts to continue this forward momentum.

DONATE