

Dr. Ensy Atarod Named Texas Medicaid-CHIP Dental Director

Recently Texas Dentists for Medicaid Reform (TDMR) reached out to Texas HHS to find out if a new dental director had been hired for the Medicaid CHIP program and Dr. Ensy Atarod responded back with an introductory email, which she approved TDMR share.

[Read the full article including Dr. Atarod's email here.](#)



TMHP Telehealth Benefit Updates for Texas Medicaid Effective November 1, 2023

The Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) recently published new Telehealth Benefit Updates. These changes include the implementation of a new

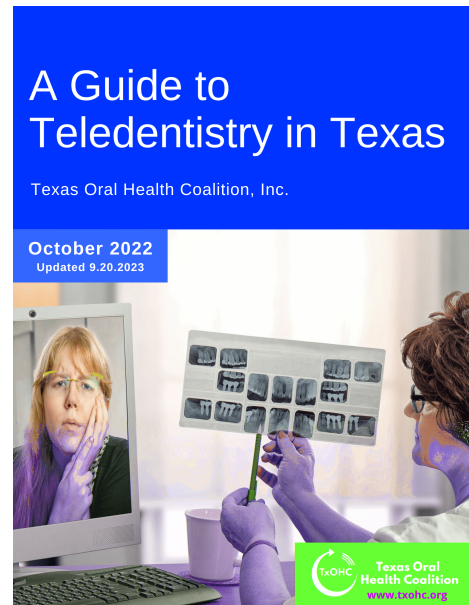
telehealth patient site facility fee benefit for federally qualified health center (FQHC) and rural health clinic (RHC) providers and clarification of current guidelines.

Note: Telehealth includes teledentistry services.

To read about these updates effective November 1, 2023, please visit [Telemedicine and Telehealth Benefit Updates for Texas Medicaid Effective November 1, 2023](#).

TxOHC has updated the Texas Teledentistry Guide to include these updates and other TMHP Telehealth benefit information.

Texas Teledentistry Guide: <https://bit.ly/TX-Teledentistry-Guide>



National Mobile and Teledentistry Conference

TxOHC members receive \$100 discount on registration

Dear Colleague,

You're cordially invited!

The [National Mobile & Teledentistry Conference](#) is taking place in your backyard in Frisco on March 1-2, 2024, and we'd love to see you there! See below for a special discount. (Note: Faculty and students are always free - contact us to learn more).

Due to changes in teledentistry legislation in Texas, we're working hard to help you better understand how you and your patients can benefit from offering virtual

services. Teledentistry is a great way to reactivate inactive patients, bring in new patients and create a more efficient clinical schedule. As a side note, if you are understaffed right now, know that utilizing virtual appointments is an easy way to maximize the staff that you do have.

Admission includes two full days of accredited educational courses, all networking events and workshops, as well as complimentary admission to [The Denobi Awards](#) red-carpet gala on our closing night. Ten individual and one team award will be given during the gala, and we invite you to nominate your colleagues and your favorite dental teams! Nominations run October 1 thru December 31. The gala is open to the public and you are welcome to bring your significant others and friends! Seating is limited. To purchase tickets and nominate someone, visit www.denobiawards.com.

To register for your discounted conference ticket, visit www.nmdconference.com and enter promo code NMTC100 to receive \$100 off. Bringing your team? Group discounts are available.

If you have questions or would like to register as a group, faculty or student, please contact us as info@nmdconference.com.

We can't wait to see you there!
Melissa Turner & Sonya Dunbar
Co-founders



New Brief on How Telehealth and Mobile Dentistry can Aid School-based Dental Services

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) and the American Mobile & Teledentistry Alliance (AMTA) wrote a brief entitled, "Mobile and Portable School-Based/School-Linked Oral Health Programs: Delivery Models to Expand Care for Children and Adolescents," intended to provide guidance on issues to consider in developing and implementing a school-based or school-linked mobile or portable oral health program."

[Read the full brief here.](#)

Using Teledentistry to Provide Care for Children

This brief for Head Start staff shares basic information about how teledentistry works, using teledentistry in public health settings, the benefits of using it in Head Start programs, and tips for getting started.

[Read the Head Start full brief here.](#)

Upcoming TxOHC Webinars

TxOHC Monthly Webinar | [Register here](#) | October 13, 2023 | 12:00 PM CDT
The Healthy Smiles Project: Increasing HPV Vaccination through Interprofessional Partnerships with Dental Hygienists

Presented by: Stacey Griner, PhD, MPH, RDH

The presentation focuses on the role that oral health providers, such as dental hygienists, may have as alternative providers of HPV vaccine recommendations. We discuss their ability to reduce missed HPV vaccine opportunities and present information about HPV vaccine uptake and oral health providers in Texas. We then discuss an ongoing project with two goals: 1) to educate dental hygienists about advocating for the HPV vaccine, and 2) increase HPV vaccine implementation into the dental setting through community-based immunization events.

Please visit <https://txohc.org/education/framing-hpv/> to learn more about this course.



TEXAS ORAL HEALTH COALITION

The Healthy Smiles Project: Increasing HPV Vaccination through Interprofessional Partnerships with Dental Hygienists

For more information on the speaker, course description and objectives, please visit <https://txohc.org/education/framing-hpv/>.
Pre-registration is required for all attendees. Your registration email will contain the webinar link and password to use.

Speaker
Stacey Griner, PhD, MPH, RDH

October 13, 2023
12:00 PM-1:00 PM CT

Register at
<https://bit.ly/Reg-101323>

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Texas Oral Health Coalition
Nationally Approved PACE Program Provider for
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by any regulatory authority or AGD endorsement.
7/1/2021 to 6/30/2024. Provider ID# 346144

Caring for the Oral Health of Children Experiencing Homelessness

Explore the oral health issues faced by children experiencing homelessness and ways Head Start staff can partner with these children's families to find and use oral health care.

[Read the Head Start Brief Here.](#)

Community Resource Guides

TxOHC's Regional Oral Health Coalitions have developed Community Resource Guides for five different target populations (perinatal, children, adult, older adult, and individuals with disabilities) in five geographic areas (Austin, Coastal Bend, San Antonio, Tyler, and Houston) to date.

Resources to address social determinants of health factors include services for food pantries, transportation, housing, dental care, financial assistance, WIC Support, and older adult resources in specific communities listed above.

Find your local Community Resource Guide at <https://bit.ly/Tx-CRG>.

New Resource on Social Determinants of Health and Older Adults

To celebrate Healthy Aging Month in September the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) launched a new Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and Older Adults resource.

Healthy People 2030 groups SDOH into 5 domains economic stability, social and community context, education access and quality, health care access and quality, and neighborhood and built environment. This resource uses sample scenarios and solutions to discuss how the SDOH domains may affect older adults.

[Read this new resource here.](#)

Gerontological Society of America: Oral Health Interest Group Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm ET.

Agenda:

- American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research “Meeting within a Meeting” on Aging and Oral Health Research: Fall 2023 Update - Jane A. Weintraub, Department of Pediatric and Public Health, Adams School of Dentistry, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Chapel Hill, NC, Immediate Past President of the AADOCR
- Update on Expanding Medicare Coverage for Medically Necessary Oral Treatment - Patricia M. D'Antonio, BSPHarm, MS, MBA, BCGP, GSA Vice President, Policy and Professional affairs and Michèle J. Saunders, DMD, MS, MPH, Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Texas Health Science Center

- Activities Planned at The GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting - Stephen Shuman, DDS, MS, FGSA (chair), Professor and Director, Oral Health Services for Older Adults Program, Department of Developmental & Surgical Sciences, School of Dentistry University of Minnesota

Register

at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMscuCoqT4rH9BSAy352tnXr-8UsoIdHbcV>. After registering, Zoom will send an email that includes the link to the meeting. The program will be recorded and available on the GSA oral health initiative page on www.geron.org.

-- *ASTDD*

New Resources from the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC)

- **Promoting Oral Health in Schools: A Resource Guide**

<https://www.mchoralhealth.org/announcements/promoting-oral-in-schools-2023.php>

Schools are ideal settings in which to reach children and adolescents and, through these children and adolescents, their families. OHRC produced this guide to provide information about materials for promoting oral health in schools. The guide features materials on data and surveillance; policy; professional education, tools, and training; program development; and public education. Selected materials include a toolkit to help improve the quality of school meals, best practice reports about school-based dental sealant programs and about use of fluoride in schools, and a curriculum for students in kindergarten through grades 10. OHRC would like to thank Deborah Teixeira and Debra Trybom for assistance in the development of the guide.

- **Snapshot of the U.S. Jurisdictions' Activities Addressing Title V National Performance Measure 13 (Oral Health) During Fiscal Year 2022**

<https://www.mchoralhealth.org/announcements/npm13-snapshot-fy-22-jurisdictions.php>

This report highlights activities conducted by American Samoa, Guam, the Marshall Islands, Palau, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The report

presents a snapshot of jurisdictions' experiences with implementing strategies to promote preventive dental visit for pregnant women, children, and adolescents. Challenges, accomplishments, and technical assistance needs related to each jurisdiction are discussed. The report was produced by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, partners in the Consortium for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement.

-- Sarah Kolo, National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center

TxOHC Member Spotlight

TxOHC Member Announcement

We are pleased to welcome the following new members since August 24, 2023.

Individual Members:

- Rebekah Sculley, RDH
Assistant Professor/Clinical, UT Health San Antonio
San Antonio, TX
- Fathimath Shamna, BDS
Student, University of Texas Health Science Center UTHouston School
of Public Health, Epidemiology
Houston, TX
- Jessica Weaver
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
San Antonio, TX
- Steven Bristow
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
San Antonio, TX

North Central Texas Regional Alert

Free Donated Digital Pano Machine Being Offered to Nonprofit

If anyone has a nonprofit organization that is interested in receiving a free donated digital pano machine, please contact Dr. Tonya Fuqua

at Tonya.Fuqua@cookchildrens.org at your earliest convenience.

It is an older Pano/CBCT PlanMecca ProMax 3D machine. The CBCT portion of the machine is not working properly and cannot be repaired, but they would like to donate the machine for a nonprofit to have a Pano machine.

If you are interested or know of an organization in the DFW area that could use a Pano machine, please have them contact Dr. Tonya Fuqua directly.

**With much appreciation and sincerest gratitude,
we wish to thank our 2023 Coalition Partners!**



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CookChildren's

Center for Community Health

TxOHC CDE Opportunities

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

- **HPV - Healthy Smiles - *NEW***
 - Framing HPV Immunization Education for Maximum Patient Acceptance
- **Teledentistry**
 - Teledentistry in Texas: Opportunities to Increase Access to Care
 - Selection of Teledentistry Platforms and Utilization in Alternative Care Settings
 - *Available for edification only* – Taking the Mystery Out of Billing for Virtual Visits
- **Treating Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (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
- **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
- **Prenatal**
 - Maternal Depression: Signs, Facts & Resources
 - Who Do You Call: Making the Referral Connection
 - Do No Harm: The Ethics, Myths & Business of Caring for Pregnant People
- **Oral Pathology**
 - Oral Cancer Update
 - Oral Manifestations of Systemic Diseases and Conditions
 - Common Lesions of the Oral Cavity, from Diagnosis to Treatment

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

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.

Many thanks to our Organizational Members for your support and collaboration!



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

Your Contribution Matters

Your contribution is essential to our continued efforts and will make a positive impact on the lives of millions of your neighbors. No matter how small your contribution may seem, it is an integral piece of the larger puzzle leading to meaningful change. **Please join in the advancement of our vision to make optimal health a reality for all Texans.** Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your participation in our community to continue this forward momentum.