CE Course Handout

Working in Collaboration to Improve the Oral Health of Pregnant Women, Infants and Children in Head Start

Friday, June 19, 2015
2:30pm-5:30pm
Presentation Learning Objectives

- Discuss successful strategies for collaboration to improve the oral health of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Early Head Start/Head Start (EHS/HS)
- Discuss successful efforts to overcome challenges related to education, disease prevention, and access-to-care issues impacting EHS/HS participants.
- Describe materials produced by the National Center on Health (NCH) focused on oral health and the integration of oral health into overall health.
- Develop ways to interface with dental hygienist liaisons (DHLs) and HS programs in their own states.

National Center on Health
Dental Hygienist Liaisons

Michelle Landrum, R.D.H., M.Ed.
National Center on Health Consultant
American Dental Hygienists’ Association Session
Nashville, TN
June 19, 2015

National Center on Health
Priority Health Issues

- Healthy weight, nutrition, and physical activity
- Developmental and behavioral health
- Safety and Injury prevention
- Health literacy
- Oral health and dental homes
- Asthma prevention with special emphasis on tobacco exposure prevention

National Center on Health
Partners

- Project led by the American Academy of Pediatrics

Mission
Improve the health outcomes of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in EHS/HS
National Center on Health Goals

- Provide evidence- and practice-based information and materials to the EHS/HS community
- Work collaboratively with leaders in the health, early childhood, and child care fields to improve the health of EHS/HS children and their families
- Work with national, state, and local organizations and agencies to enhance the health care infrastructure that impacts and serves children enrolled in EHS/HS and their families

National Center on Health Oral Health Project

- Project lead:
  - National Oral Health Resource Center working in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD)
- Framework:
  - Disease Prevention and Management
  - Access to Care
  - Systems Integration

What Is the Role of State Dental Hygienist Liaisons?

- Provide a communication link between NCH and statewide oral health activities and programs
- Collaborate with state partners including state dental directors, HS state collaboration directors, and former Dental Home Initiative state leads to address access-to-care issues
- Assist in increasing preventive and educational services to HS statewide
- Share resources with HS and other partners to deliver consistent messages on oral health

Common Dental Hygienist Liaison Activities

- Share NCH oral health resources, including the monthly Brush Up on Oral Health newsletter, with HS programs in their state
- Attend local health advisory meetings
- Present oral health information at local, state, and regional HS meetings and conferences
- Link children to oral health professionals and services

Poll:

Do you know who the DHL is in your state?
Head Start Overview

Diane Flanagan, R.D.H.
National Center on Health
Wisconsin Dental Hygienist Liaison
American Dental Hygienists’ Association Session
Nashville, TN
June 19, 2015

What Is Early Head Start/Head Start?

• Federal programs
• Serves pregnant women and children from birth to age 5 from families with low incomes
• Promotes comprehensive child development, family support, and school readiness
• Supports children’s growth in the following domains:
  • language and literacy
  • cognition and general knowledge
  • physical development and health
  • social and emotional development
  • approaches to learning

Source: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/about

How to Find an Early Head Start/Head Start Program

EHS/HS Locator:
http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices

History of Head Start

• HS began in 1965 as part of Lyndon Johnson’s War on Poverty
• Administered by the Administration for Children and Families
• HS has served nearly 30 million children and serves over 1 million children annually
• In 2007 HS training and technical assistance system was redesigned to support programs through six national centers and a state-based system
• EHS began in 1994

Source: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/about/history

Early Head Start/Head Start Services

• EHS/HS programs provide comprehensive services to enrolled children and their families, which include:
  • education and cognitive development services
  • health, nutrition, social, and other services
• EHS/HS emphasizes the role of parents as teachers, and programs build relationships with families that support:
  • family well-being and positive parent-child relationships
  • families as learners and lifelong educators
  • family engagement in transitions
  • family connections to peers and community
  • families as advocates and leaders

Source: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/about

Early Head Start/Head Start

Service delivery models
• Center-based or school-based
• Family child care homes
• Home-based
• Combination of center-based and home-based

Source: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hs/about
Early Head Start/Head Start Program Performance Standards

- Provide a standard definition of quality services that all local EHS and HS grantees are required to follow
- Oral-health-related performance standards completed within first 90 days of enrollment and documented in Performance Information Report (PIR)
  - HS must determine whether each child has an ongoing source of continuous, accessible care ("dental home")
  - A health professional must determine if a child is up to date on preventive and primary oral health care according to state EPSDT (Medicaid) periodicity schedule

Head Start Performance Standards

- Dental follow-up and treatment must include topical fluoride treatments as recommended by a dental professional
- HS must establish ongoing communication with parents of children with identified dental needs to facilitate the implementation of the plan
- Education of HS staff, case-management systems, and documentation are vital to this process

Head Start Program Information Reports

- Provides data on services provided to children and their families. All grantees must submit self-reported data annually to the Office of Head Start.
- Data collected for children ages 3 and older:
  - # who received preventive oral health care
  - # who needed dental treatment
    - # who received treatment
    - Most common reason children did not receive dental treatment
  - # who are up to date on preventive and primary oral health care (requirement varies by state)
  - # of pregnant women who received an oral exam or treatment

Challenges for Access to Dental Care

- Finding dental providers who:
  - See young children
  - Treat pregnant women
  - Provide follow-up needed treatment
  - Accept Medicaid
  - Have extended hours
Dental Access Challenges for Parents
• Dental office staff are not friendly or welcoming
• Explanations and instructions are hard to understand
• Too technical
• Not in the language they speak
• Transportation is difficult or impossible
• Difficult to miss work for dental appointments
• Oral health care is too expensive

Challenges for Dental Providers
• Not feeling comfortable treating young children
• May not have received adequate education
• Concerns about safety of treating pregnant women
• May not have received adequate education
• Parents canceling or not keeping appointments
• Inadequate Medicaid reimbursement to cover services

Early Head Start/Head Start Staff
• Directors/supervisors
• Health coordinators/nurses
• Home visitors
• Child educators
• Family advocates
• Support staff

Poll:
Do you currently work with a HS program?

The Wisconsin Dental Hygienist Liaison Experience
Diane Flanagan, R.D.H.
National Center on Health
Wisconsin Dental Hygienist Liaison
American Dental Hygienists’ Association Session
Nashville, TN
June 19, 2015
Early Head Start: Home Visitation

Funded by the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership Program, a component of the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin endowment at the Medical College of Wisconsin

Dental Hygienist Liaison
National Activities

- Present at national meetings
- ADHA
- National Oral Health Conference
- National Primary Oral Health Conference
- Participate in webinars
- Resource to NCH

Dental Hygienist Liaison
Statewide Activities

- Annual conference
  - Exhibit
  - Present
- Health coordinators meetings
- Board of directors meetings
- Resource to HS state collaboration office
- Resource to dental hygienists

Local Activities

- Provide oral health information for newsletters
- Train HS staff
- Participate in family health events
- Perform oral screenings and apply fluoride varnish
- Serve on health advisory committees
- Connect HS centers to oral health services

Effective Messaging

Most health education materials are hard for parents to understand

Keys to Providing Oral Health Information

- Understand your audience
- Provide clear oral health messages
- Use effective visuals
- Include easy-to-use oral health tools and materials
Oral Health Education Tips to Share with HS Staff

- Be prepared to discuss family's oral health needs
- Ask for permission to discuss oral health
- Start the conversation with open-ended questions
- Assess parents' readiness for change
- Recognize parents' strengths and challenges
- Build parents' confidence
- Summarize the discussion and action plan

Setting Oral Health Goals

Adapted from Caries Management by Risk Assessment (CAMBRA)

Activity

Hands-on and visual oral health education materials

Getting a Head Start in Michigan

Susan Deming, R.D.H., R.D.A., B.S.
National Center on Health
Michigan Dental Hygienist Liaison
American Dental Hygienists' Association Session

Introductions

Jennifer VanWingen, R.D.H.
Collaborations

Capital Area Community Services Health Advisory Committee

Capital Area Community Services, Inc
Head Start and Early Childhood Programs

Michigan Head Start Health Advisory Committee

PA 161: Public Dental Prevention Program

“A dental hygienist may perform dental hygiene services under the supervision of a dentist as part of a program for dentally underserved populations in this state conducted by a local, state, or federal grantee health agency for patients who are not assigned by a dentist.”

PA 161: Public Dental Prevention Program

- Administered by Michigan Department of Community Health Oral Health Program
- Allows collaborative practice arrangement to deliver preventive care to unassigned and underserved populations in Michigan
- Non-profit agencies receive 2-year approval to provide care
- Two HS agencies are PA 161 grantees

DHL Activities:
- Encourage HS participation in PA 161 programs
- Provide direct services
- Educate HS staff and parents using standardized training program
- Promote use of oral health materials in HS programs
Michigan Oral Health Coalition and Clare County

Cavity Free Kids

Parent Education Days

Training Resources

National and State Perinatal Initiatives

Presentations

Getting a Head Start on Oral Health

Home Visiting

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Successes

• Joined Michigan HS Association
• Trained parents and staff
• Attended HS conferences
• Established collaborations
• Provided role modeling
• Utilized assessment codes
• Member of Michigan health advisory board

Challenges

• Making time for HS activities
• Dealing with administration restrictions and state-level collaborations
• Engaging parents, staff, and volunteers
• Finding funding sources

Activity

Hands-on and visual oral health education materials

Improving Oral Health in Head Start: A Kansas Story

Kathy Hunt, R.D.H., ECPII
National Center on Health
Kansas Dental Hygienist Liaison
American Dental Hygienists’ Association Session
Nashville, TN
June 19, 2015
Collaborations

- Oral Health Kansas
  (State Oral Health Coalition)
- Bureau of Oral Health
  (Kansas Department of Health and Environment)

Other Contacts: Kansas

- Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved
  (State Primary Care Association)
- Kansas Dental Hygiene Association
  (Chair for Community Dental Health Committee)
- Kansas Dental Association
  (Board Member, Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation)

Other Contacts: National

- National Center on Health
  (Office of Head Start)
- National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center
  (Georgetown University)
- Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
**Dental Hygienist Liaison Activities**

- Contact for early childhood oral health
- Disseminate information about
  - Changes in policy
  - Approved materials
  - Funding, training, and meeting opportunities
- Provide technical assistance

**On-Site Dental Services**

Screening and fluoride varnish in the classroom

**Staff Development**

**Family Education**

**Oral Health and Pregnancy**

**Challenges**

![Photo Source: MjZ Photography / Flickr / CC BY NC ND 2.0](https://example.com/photo-url)
Cavity Equation Activity

Germs + Carbohydrates = Acid

Acid + Tooth = Cavity

Resources

Resources for Head Start Staff, Health Professionals, and Families

- Resource guide
- Curricula
- Tip sheets
- Newsletter
- Booklet and poster
- Brochures
- Webinars
- Website

Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center

- HS program performance standards, policy clarifications, and program instructions
- Featured resources
- Additional resources (assessment, follow-up care and treatment, education, and policies and procedures)

http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family/relationship
http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/family/relationship
http://toothtalk.web.unc.edu/vide
What Does Motivational Interviewing Sound Like?

Poll:

Have you ever used any of these resources?

Small Group Participation

How to Engage Head Start Programs

Developing a Lesson Plan
Poll:

Do you plan to reach out to your local HS programs when you get back home?

National Center on Health Contact Information
Toll-Free: (888) 227-5125
E-mail: nchinfo@aap.org
Website: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/health/center

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