



children's
Dental Health Project

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June 16, 2009



Who are we?

Children's Dental Health Project (CDHP) is a national non-profit organization working since 1997 to advance policies that improve children's access to oral health

Commitment to:

- ✓ Engaging policymakers
- ✓ Promoting policy solutions
- ✓ Equity in children's oral health

Focus Areas:

- ✓ Financing
- ✓ Workforce
- ✓ Safety-net
- ✓ Prevention



Getting Started...1997

- CDHP Founder, Dr. Burton Edelstein, served as a Congressional Fellow during creation of CHIP
 - No substantial advocacy for children's oral health during original CHIP debate
 - CHIP established dental services "optional"
- CDHP created in 1997
 - Serve as the voice of children and their oral health
 - Assist in the design and implementation of programs to improve access to dental care



What do we do?

We work to...

- Represent the **voice of children** and their oral health
- **Eliminate barriers** to preventing and managing dental disease
- Design and advance **research-driven policies** and **innovative solutions**
- **Engage partners** from dental and non-dental organizations in our work



CDHP's Strategy for Innovation is to start *Upstream*....



Upstream Perspective: Prevention & Disease Management

CDHP focuses on “turning off” the spigot of dental disease by advancing policies that:

- ✓ Prevent disease and manage disease when acquired
- ✓ Improve access to high quality treatment for those with the greatest need
- ✓ Create cost efficiencies in dental care
- ✓ Eliminate health disparities
- ✓ Improve health outcomes





How do we work?

CDHP serves as an “broker” and “translator” of information through...

- Program Management
- Advocacy
- Technical Assistance

...to work with our partners, policymakers, providers, and payers

- including HHS, ADA, child advocates, public health community, insurance industry



Program Management

CDHP serves as the national program office –

- National Oral Health Policy Center
- Improving Perinatal and Infant Oral Health
- Promoting Progressive State Oral Health Policies
- Global Children’s Dental Task Force
(U.S. Beacon Center)



Advocacy

State and Federal policy activity on:

- Healthcare Reform
- Medicaid & CHIP
- Prevention/Disease Management
- Quality of Dental Care
- Emerging Issues in Oral Health



Technical Assistance

State Policy

- Implementation of CHIP
- State legislative proposals
- Regulatory guidelines
- Coalition/consensus building on policy priorities

Federal Policy

- Congressional
- Regulatory
- Collaboration with national organizations

Parties of Interest

- medical, dental and allied health provider engagement
- payer/insurer engagement and education
- parent/provider education in child focused settings



Opportunities

CHIP Reauthorization

Health Care Reform



Dental Coalition CHIP Priorities

1. Establish a Federal Guarantee for Dental Coverage in SCHIP
2. Develop a Dental Wrap-Around Benefit in SCHIP
3. Support Ongoing Outreach Efforts to Enroll All Eligible Children in SCHIP
4. Enact Mechanisms to Ensure Reliable Data Reporting on Dental Care in SCHIP

Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Association for Dental Research
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
American Student Dental Association

Association of State and
Territorial Dental Directors
Children's Dental Health Project
Hispanic Dental Association
Medicaid/SCHIP Dental Association
National Dental Association



CHIP Dental Provisions

- Dental coverage guarantee
- Dental wrap-around option
- Mandatory performance reporting
- New parent education
- Allowance for public-private contracting
- Mandatory information for beneficiaries
- Quality assurance
- GAO study on dental access and providers



Dental Benefit

Definition of dental coverage ---

“necessary to prevent disease and promote oral health, restore oral structures to health and function, and treat emergency conditions.”

Benchmark Plans

- FEHBP most frequently for dependent dental coverage over previous 2 years
- State employee dependent dental coverage that is selected most frequently in the previous 2 years, or
- Commercial dental insurance with the largest non-Medicaid enrollment of dependents

Implementation: October 1, 2009



Dental Wrap

Dental "Wrap" ---

State option to provide dental coverage for CHIP with private medical but no dental insurance

Knowing: for every 1 child without medical insurance there are nearly 3 without dental insurance = opportunities to expand access to care

Implementation: April 1, 2009



Performance Reporting

Performance Measures —

Establishes a requirement that states report on CHIP dental program performances.

Measures include:

- Same as CMS Medicaid 416 report (*children who receive any, preventive, or restorative dental care*)
- Number of children (8 years of age) who have received sealants on at least one permanent tooth.

The law further requires information from MCOs and other vendors who administer CHIP programs.

Implementation: annually after 2010



New Parent Education

Dental Education for Parents of Newborns ---

Establishes a requirement that parents of newborns be informed of risks for early childhood caries and its prevention.

Clarifies materials provided:

- through entities that fund or provide perinatal care services
- to inform new parents about risks for/and prevention of early childhood caries
- the need for a dental visit within their newborn's first year of life

Implementation: no date provided in legislation



Public-Private Contracting

Contracting with FQHC's ---

Clarification that federally qualified health centers may contract with private dentists in order to expand their capacity to deliver dental services to their clients,

Clarification:

"the State will not prevent a Federally-qualified health center from entering into contractual relationships with private practice dental providers in the provision of Federally-qualified health center services."

Implementation: January 1, 2009



Information for Beneficiaries

Informing Medicaid & CHIP Beneficiaries ---

Requires that enrollees have access to information on dental providers and dental benefits contained in their insurance

Information on Insure Kids Now Website and Hotline*:

- an accurate list of all dentists & providers within each State that provide dental services to children enrolled in the Medicaid or CHIP – update quarterly
- a description of the dental services provided under Medicaid and CHIP – updated annually

Implementation: by August 2009

*www.insurekidsnow.gov and 1-877-KIDS-NOW



Quality Assurance

Quality of Children's Health Care ---

Requires federal reports on the quality of children's health care under Medicaid & CHIP

Dental Specific:

- specifies inclusion of information on the "*status of efforts to improve dental care*" and,
- dental professionals, including pediatric dental professionals, are to be involved in quality assurance programs

Implementation: January 1, 2011



GAO Study

Government Accountability Office examination of ---

- access to dental services by children in underserved areas
- children's access to oral health care, including
 - willingness of dental providers to treat children in Medicaid & CHIP;
 - children's access to networks of care, including such networks that serve special needs children
 - geographic availability of oral health care in Medicaid & CHIP
- feasibility and appropriateness of using qualified mid-level dental health providers, in coordination with dentists, to improve access

Implementation: completion by August 2010



Opportunities

- Health Care Reform**





CDHP Core Principles

- **Health reform must guarantee all children and pregnant women coverage for dental services** necessary to prevent disease and promote oral health, restore oral structure to health and function and treat emergency conditions.
- Any entity established to make recommendations on coverage, quality, prevention, or access must make recommendations on oral health for children and pregnant women.



Health reform on Capitol Hill

Senate: Two distinct bills coming from two Committees - HELP and Finance

Health, Education and Labor (Sen. Kennedy)
Released bill on June 9th, committee consideration expected to begin June 18th

Finance

Bill will be released following week, with committee consideration 48 hours later

Floor consideration in July



Health reform on Capitol Hill

House: One bill, with public health pieces moving separately

Three Committees - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce; Education and Labor

Committee consideration in mid July with floor action by August Congressional recess



CDHP working with a coalition of child and maternal health groups:

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- National Association of Children's Hospitals
- Children's Defense Fund
- First Focus
- March of Dimes
- Family Voices
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- National Assembly of School-Based Health Centers
- The Children's Health Fund
- The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
- Voices for America's Children



Consensus Principles of Kid's Groups

- Access to quality health care coverage for all children, youth & pregnant women
- No one should lose coverage as a result of health reform
- All children & youth must have access to age-appropriate health care (including oral health)
- Recognize the essential role of pediatric providers and strong public health infrastructure
- Inclusion of provisions to address health disparities and improve health outcomes
- Support for clinical and community prevention and promotion services
- Access to affordable maternity coverage



Support for Dental Coverage

- Finance Cmte coverage concept doc lacked mention of oral health/dental services. Support for inclusion includes...

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Public Health Dentistry
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
Child and Family Policy Center, Iowa
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Dental Health Project
Connecticut Health Foundation
DentaQuest Foundation
Endowment for Health
First Focus
FORBA
Kool Smiles
Maine Health Access Foundation

Medicaid/SCHIP Dental Association
National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
National Assembly of School-Based Health Care
National Association of Children's Hospitals
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)
Oral Health America
Pew Center on the States
The Access Project
The Dental Health Foundation
The REACH Healthcare Foundation
United Methodist Health Ministry Fund
United Way of America
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Washington Dental Service Foundation



Senate HELP Proposal

Six dental provisions included:

1. Coverage for pediatric oral health
2. Prevention
3. Surveillance
4. Workforce improvements
5. Safety net improvements
6. Public Health Infrastructure improvements



What's Next?

Still seeking...

1. Dental coverage for pregnant women
2. Incentives for preventive services
3. Broad support!!





Questions?



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