Connecticut Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Project Update

Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council
Women and Children’s Health Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000, Hartford, CT

Monday, June 10 2019

Presenter: Luis Miguel Ayala
Dental Health Care Specialist – Greater Hartford Region
Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Project

• Before 2009, dental utilization by perinatal women and infants in the HUSKY Health (Medicaid/CHIP) program in Connecticut was low.

• Increase the dental utilization of perinatal women

• Increase the dental utilization of infants

• Increase the number of children < four years who receive an oral assessment and/or an application of fluoride varnish by a pediatric health care provider

• Establish and maintain a Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Work Group as an advisory committee to the Project
Project Activities

• Develop materials for perinatal women, parents of infants, Obstetricians and Gynecologists (OB/GYN), pediatric Primary Care Physicians (PCP) and community agency staff
• Ensure the adequacy of the dental network for perinatal women
• Outreach to OB/GYNs
• Outreach to Pediatric PCPs
• Outreach to community agencies
• Measurement of outcomes using claims and enrollment data
• Coordination of perinatal and infant oral health stakeholders
Timeline

- CTDHP began as the HUSKY Health dental program in August 2008
- Work on perinatal and infant outreach began in late 2009
- Fluoride varnish became a billable service in 2009
- A pilot test and intensive community outreach model was conducted in 2011
- Outreach to OB/GYN and pediatric primary care physicians began in 2012
- In September 2013, DSS and CTDHP were awarded a Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement grant for a four-year period (extended until March 2018)
Collaborative Partners

Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Work Group

- Connecticut Oral Health Initiative
- CT Chapter, American Academy Pediatrics
- CT Department of Public Health, MCH
- Milford Board of Health
- Branford Early Childhood Collaborative
- The Maria Seymour Brooker Memorial
- CT DPH, Office of Oral Health
- Hartford Hospital
- Southwestern AHEC Inc.
- March of Dimes
- Community Health Center, Inc. Medical Dept.
- Center for Women’s Health and Midwifery
- UCONN Health
- Stamford Hospital
- Greater Hartford Legal Aid
- Staywell Health Center
- Southwest Community Health Center, Inc.
- Mansfield OB/GYN Associates
- Connecticut State Dental Association
Outreach Activities

• Variety of outreach materials have been developed

• Oral Health Kit – contain a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss & an educational flyer – envelope with CTDHP contact information

• Several versions –
  • Perinatal women
  • Caregivers of infants
Outreach Activities

• Infant oral health kits are distributed at pediatric PCP offices
• Community agency sites
• OB/GYN offices
• Referral Pad-
  • Designed to look like a prescription pad
  • Intended for use by medical providers
Provider Outreach

• In 2011, DHCS began outreach to all of the approximately one thousand dental offices enrolled in HUSKY Health.
• In 2012 CTDHP in its annual survey of dental offices, included questions regarding care provided to prenatal patients.
• DHCS regularly visit about 180 OB/GYN offices to encourage them to talk to their patients about oral health.
• DHCS regularly visit about 250 pediatric PCP offices
  • They encourage the office to participate in the ABC Program, the oral assessment and fluoride varnish application initiative.
Dental Network for Children

American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute Medicaid Provider Access Study

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF MEDICAID DENTISTS

15-MINUTE TRAVEL TIME TO MEDICAID OFFICE

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH PUBLIC INSURANCE
- 0-10%
- 10.1-20%
- 20.1-30%
- 30.1-40%
- 40.1-50%
- 50.1-60%
- >60%
Measurement of Outcomes

• CTDHP developed claims and enrollment analyses to measure project activities and outcomes.

• Activities, outreach and material distribution are recorded by DHCS in a proprietary software system developed by CTDHP.

• Project goals are measured through dental claims, client enrollment data and provider enrollment data.
Program Activity Outputs

2017, DHCS distributed:

- 9,572 perinatal oral health kits
- 8,699 infant oral health kits
- 379 Rx referral pads
- 1,063 pregnancy brochures, English
- 810 pregnancy brochures, Spanish
- A total of 71,991 materials including the above

2017, DHCS performed outreach to:

- 63 Family Medicine Offices
- 186 OB/GYN Offices
- 290 Pediatrician Offices
- 18 Community Action Agencies
- 58 Head Start Locations
- 4 Healthy Start Locations
- 10 Nurturing Families Locations
- 8 Basic Needs Agencies
- 34 Family Services Agencies
- 63 WIC Offices
- 29 Schools
- A total of 994 contacts including the above.
Dental Utilization of HUSKY Health Perinatal Women

**Dental Services for Mothers in the Perinatal Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Any dental</th>
<th>Preventive</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>58.4%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dental Utilization of HUSKY Health Infants

Dental Care for Very Young Children in the CT HUSKY Health Program: 2009-2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Any dental care</th>
<th>Preventive care</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>44.1%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuously enrolled children under age 3 (as of 12/31) in HUSKY A, B, C or D. Over the 8-year period, changes in program policy and procedures for determining new eligibility and renewal may have affected the number of children continuously enrolled from year to year. By definition, continuously enrolled infants were born in January. Source: Analysis by CT DHP for PIOHQIP evaluation, September 2017.
HUSKY Health Children – ABC Program

Access To Baby Care (ABC) Program

Oral Assessments & Fluoride Varnish Applications

Source: CTDHP Internal Report
Addressing Challenges

• Convincing people that oral health is important
  • Policy makers, medical professionals, clients, general public

• In 2015, a work group under Connecticut Coalition for Oral Health evolved and continues to present. While there have been regular meetings, it is a challenge to keep a wide array of stakeholders involved.

• More work needs to be done to maintain the work group.
• Plan for sustainability - discussion
Recommendations & Suggestions

• Barriers as a work group
• Feedback
• We welcome suggestions from the Committee

Thank you!
Contact Information

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