



INTRODUCTION:

We hope you are enjoying the Oral Health Program newsletter which is published quarterly by the Oral Health Program (OHP) at the Indiana State Department of Health. There are three main sections to the newsletter: the first section ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM covers activities of the OHP; ORAL HEALTH TOPIC covers various topics that might be of interest to the general public; and the third section (REMINDERS) seeks suggestions for other topics you're interested in and explains how to access past newsletters.

ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM:

Presentations to district dental societies

The OHP is currently scheduling presentations to various Indiana Dental Association district dental societies throughout the state during 2016. There will be no cost associated with these presentations. If you are interested in the OHP giving a presentation to your district dental society, please contact us.

Continuing Education courses

The OHP is in the final stages of creating online CE courses. A course entitled, "Infection Control in Dental Facilities in Indiana" should be available soon. This course provides general information about infection control for dental facilities in Indiana, and is designed to supplement, but not replace, required annual OSHA/IOSHA training in bloodborne pathogens. You may check the OHP website periodically for online CE course availability.

Other activities at the ISDH

The OHP is collaborating with the ISDH Division of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) on a new state program to provide oral health education to WIC clients. One goal of this program is to increase the number of infants visiting a dentist before their first birthday.

The State Oral Health Director is collaborating on an initiative by the Indiana Dental Association to foster awareness about oral health risks of consuming soft drinks.

ORAL HEALTH TOPIC:

Oral Health and overall health – Infective Endocarditis

Various authorities and organizations in the United States provide guidelines for the use of antibiotics to mitigate the risk of the development of endocarditis subsequent to dental procedures. The guidelines are based on considerations of the type of pre-existing health condition a patient might have and the type of dental procedure that is planned.

It is important that the treating clinician is knowledgeable in this area, so the clinician can provide antibiotics when appropriate. It is also important that the patient is familiar with these guidelines, so the patient can apprise the clinician of any relevant pre-existing health condition and be aware of any need for the use of antibiotics before having certain types of dental procedures.

We have included a few online links to information on this subject that can be used as a review for clinicians, and may be useful as a source of information for patients.

WebMD

<http://www.webmd.com/oral-health/endocarditis-prevention>

American Dental Association

<http://www.ada.org/en/member-center/oral-health-topics/antibiotic-prophylaxis>

Delta Dental

https://www.deltadentalins.com/oral_health/antibiotics.html

REMINDERS:

- The **Oral Health Topic** section of the newsletter is suitable for the general public, and may be shared with your patients or people in your community interested in oral health. We welcome any suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in this section. Suggestions may be made to Linda Hillers at LHillers@isdh.IN.gov.
- These newsletters are archived on the OHP website at: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/18695.htm> under the section entitled **Newsletters**. This website contains other information about oral health that may be of interest to you.

Note: If you do not want to receive this newsletter in the future, please contact Linda Hillers at LHillers@isdh.IN.gov or Patty Morris at PMorris@isdh.IN.gov.

Disclaimer: The materials provided in the Oral Health Topic's section are for informational purposes only. Individuals should see an oral health professional to discuss any specific oral health issues.