



ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM (OHP):

Activities of the Oral Health Program

The OHP is continuing to work on a 2nd IN-TRAIN online pain management course for acute pain in dentistry. Also, work continues on a pediatricians' course on screening children for their oral health status. Upon completion and approval, this course will be on the OHP website.

Continuing Education Courses Available Through IN-TRAIN

The OHP currently has one CE course using IN-TRAIN. Instructions for taking this course can be found by following the link provided on the OHP website:

<http://www.in.gov/isdh/26868.htm>. If you have any questions about completing this course, please contact Linda Hillers at LHillers@isdh.IN.gov.

Upcoming Events

The next Indiana Oral Health Coalition (IOHC) meeting will be held at the Indiana State Department of Health, 5th floor conference room 5T, from 10 a.m. to noon on March 9, 2018.

Health Awareness Months as They Pertain to Dental Care

January is Thyroid Awareness Month. We may not think that a visit to the dentist has anything to do with our thyroid health, but there are actually four areas where a crucial connection exists between dental tests, treatments, and products and your thyroid health. For more information on this, please visit the following website:

<https://www.verywell.com/thyroid-patients-at-dentist-3232661>

January is
National
Thyroid
Awareness
Month



February is Prenatal Infection Prevention Month. Good oral health and hygiene protects not only the pregnant woman's health, but also her baby during her pregnancy. For more information, please visit the following website from the American Dental Association:

<http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/pregnancy-slideshow>

March is Multiple Sclerosis Education Month. A tendency to focus on MS-related needs may divert people's attention from appropriate dental care. People with significant fatigue and/or mobility impairment may find office visits beyond those required for their MS care to be particularly difficult to manage. For more information, please visit the following website:

<https://www.verywell.com/multiple-sclerosis-and-dental-work-3972549>



ORAL HEALTH TOPIC:

Dentures and Implants

Dentures are removable replacements for missing teeth and surrounding tissues. Two types of dentures are available—complete and partial dentures. Complete dentures are used when all the teeth are missing, while partial dentures are used when some natural teeth remain.¹

Dental implants are replacement tooth roots. Implants provide a strong foundation for fixed (permanent) or removable replacement teeth that are made to match your natural teeth.²

More information for this topic can be found at the links below:



✓ **Types of Dentures**
<http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/az-topics/d/dentures>



✓ **Full Mouth Dental Implants**
<https://www.perio.org/consumer/full-mouth-implants>

✓ **Implants vs. Dentures**
<http://www.dentistry.net/dental-treatments/implants-vs-dentures>

REFERENCES:

1. **Dental Health and Dentures.** WebMD. Retrieved 8/30/2016
2. **Dental Implants.** WebMD. Retrieved 8/30/2016

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 can 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 titled **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.