



### ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM:

#### Activities of the Oral Health Program

The Oral Health Program (OHP) has added a topic on its website for non-certificate courses. The courses under this topic are meant to be used as additional resources for information related to dentistry. The courses available include: **1) Risk Assessment for Dental Caries among Infants and Children by Pediatricians** and **2) Dentistry and Basic Non-Opioid Prescribing in Pain**. These courses may be found online at: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/27761.htm>. (See **Non-CE Courses**.)

#### Continuing Education Courses Available Through IN-TRAIN

Dentistry and Basic Non-Opioid Prescribing in Pain is still available as a continuing education course using IN-Train. Dentists can earn three credit hours upon satisfactory course completion. Instructions for taking this course can be found by following the link provided on the OHP website: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/26868.htm>. (See **CE Courses**.) If you have any questions about completing this course, please email Linda Hillers at [LHillers@isdh.IN.gov](mailto:LHillers@isdh.IN.gov).

#### Upcoming Events

The next Indiana Oral Health Coalition (IOHC) meeting will be 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Sept. 7, at the Indiana State Department of Health, Fifth floor, Conference Room 5T.

#### Health Awareness Months As They Pertain To Dental Care

**July is National Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month.** Craniofacial is a medical term that relates to the bones of the skull and face. Craniofacial abnormalities are [birth defects](#) of the face or head. Some, like [cleft lip and palate](#), are among the most common of all birth defects. For more information on this subject visit: <https://medlineplus.gov/craniofacialabnormalities.html>



**August is National Immunization Month.** Immunizations are important for children and adults to prevent illness and remain healthy. There are several different factors that affect which immunizations are recommended for adults. For more information on adult immunizations, please visit the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adults/index.html>



**September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.** A cancer diagnosis is upsetting at any age, but especially so when the patient is a child. Treatment for cancer during childhood often increases the risk for dental problems. It is important for childhood cancer survivors to understand why dental care is essential, especially for those children that had radiation or chemotherapy at a young age. For more information on this subject please visit the following website from the Children's Oncology Group: <https://childrensoncologygroup.org/index.php/sensory/dentalhealth>



### ORAL HEALTH TOPIC:

#### Pregnancy & Dental Care

Getting a checkup during pregnancy is safe and important for dental health. Not only can the dentist take care of cleanings and procedures such as dental fillings before the baby is born, but dentists can help with any pregnancy-related dental symptoms.<sup>1</sup>

Physiologic changes during pregnancy may result in noticeable changes in the oral cavity. It is important to reassure expectant mothers about these various changes to the gums and teeth during pregnancy, which typically subside after pregnancy, and to reinforce good oral health habits to keep the gums and teeth healthy.<sup>2</sup>

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



✓ **Dental Care Safe During Pregnancy**

<http://www.ada.org/en/press-room/news-releases/2015-archive/august/new-study-shows-dental-treatment-during-pregnancy-is-safe>

✓ **Dental Care During Pregnancy**

<https://www.webmd.com/oral-health/dental-care-pregnancy>

✓ **Elective Dental Procedures During Pregnancy**

<http://americanpregnancy.org/pregnancy-health/dental-work-and-pregnancy>

#### REFERENCES:

1. [During Pregnancy](#): American Dental Association. Retrieved 5/30/2018
2. [Dental Health](#): American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Retrieved 5/30/2018

#### 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](mailto: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 email Linda Hillers at [LHillers@isdh.IN.gov](mailto:LHillers@isdh.IN.gov) or Patty Morris at [PMorris@isdh.IN.gov](mailto: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.