Statewide Expansion of Preventive Oral Health Services to Oregon's Pediatric Providers

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Background

Tooth decay has become a significant public health problem in Oregon, remaining the most common chronic disease of childhood. In spite of its high prevalence, tooth decay is preventable.

According to the 2007 Oregon Smile Survey of children in grades 1-3:

- 64% of children have already had at least one cavity nearly 2 of every 3 children
- 1 in 5 children have rampant decay decay in seven or more of their teeth
- 35% have untreated tooth decay and are in need of dental treatment When compared to the 2002 Oregon Smile Survey, in 2007 there was a:
- 38% increase in the number of children with decay in their permanent
- 49% increase in the number of children with untreated decay

Only 22.6% of Oregon communities have fluoridated water.

Project Overview

- In collaboration with the Oregon Oral Health Coalition's (OrOHC) Early Childhood Cavities Prevention Committee, the Oregon State Oral Health Program launched a three-year project called "First Tooth."
- The purpose of the project is to reduce childhood tooth decay in Oregon by increasing the number of medical and dental providers delivering evidence-based preventive oral health services to infants and toddlers under age 3.
- "First Tooth" moves beyond the clinical intervention of fluoride varnish by involving the entire staff, not just the providers, in integrating oral health preventive services into their practice.
- The project was funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) until August 31, 2012.

Specific Aims

- 1. Expand the oral health workforce in Oregon by utilizing medical care providers to deliver early childhood caries prevention services to at-risk children age birth to 3 years.
- 2. Develop and launch an online training and resource center.
- 3. Facilitate collaborative referral relationships between dentists and primary medical care providers so that Oregon children have a dental home.

Methods

Project Phase 1

Phase 1 of the project consisted of a needs assessment, curriculum development and pilot testing.

Needs Assessment

Used to develop curricula materials, training logistics and outreach strategies for both medical and dental providers

Focus Groups and Surveys

- Assessed provider's knowledge, attitudes, professional experience and current practices.
- Determined the support, resources and tools needed for implementation.
- Identified barriers to delivering oral health services.

Curriculum Development

- 4 training modules adapted from the Washington Dental Service Foundation:
- Prevalence and Impact of Oral Disease
- Risk Assessment
- Oral Health Education and Anticipatory Guidance
- Implementation and Workflow

Materials and Supplies

- Starter toolkits with fluoride varnish applications, toothbrushes and educational materials
- Provider pocket guide
- Oral health anticipatory guidance flip chart
- Implementation and workflow tips
- Billing procedures
- Posters
- Caregiver handouts
- Dental care referral resources

Pilot Testing

- Clackamas County Health Department both medical and dental
- Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center both medical and dental
- Multnomah County Health Department medical
- Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) Richmond Clinic medical

Project Phase 2

Phase 2 of the project was implementation of the in-person training statewide and launching a comprehensive, web-based oral health resource and training site.

In-Person Training

- Includes all staff, not just providers
- In-office CME/CE 1-1.5 hours
- Hands-on demonstrations
- Guidelines for referring to a dental home (medical training)
- Ongoing support and technical assistance
- Sites receive a free medical toolkit or dental kit

First Tooth Website

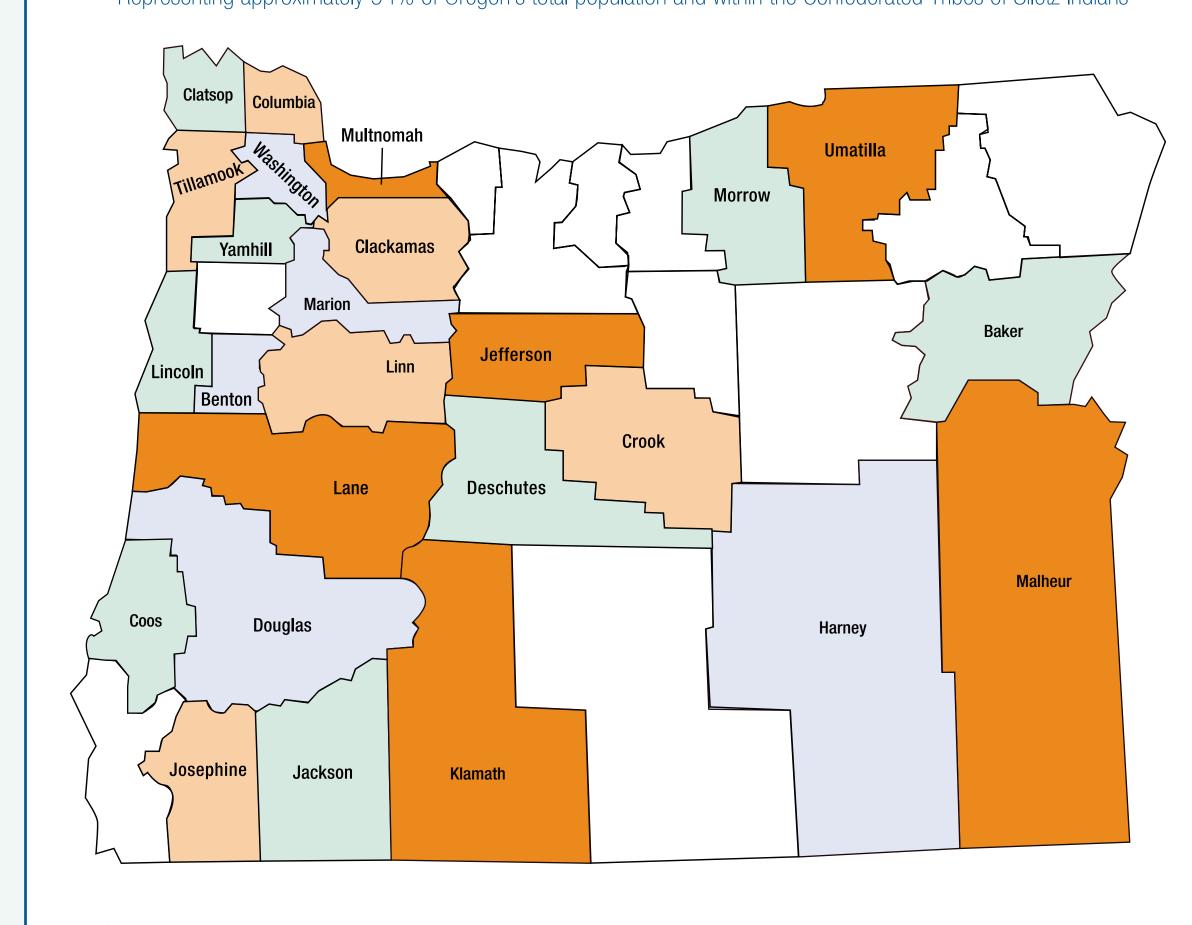
- Monthly newsletter
- Culturally-appropriate educational materials available for download
- Access to web-based training

Web-based Training

- Launched on September 28, 2012
- CME/CE 1-1.5 hours
- Separate trainings for medical and dental providers
- Includes evaluation
- Sites receive a free medical toolkit or dental kit
- Resources and materials available for download

Results

Trainings have occurred in 25 counties as of September 1, 2012



Number of trainings given and breakdown



Evaluation Outcome Measures

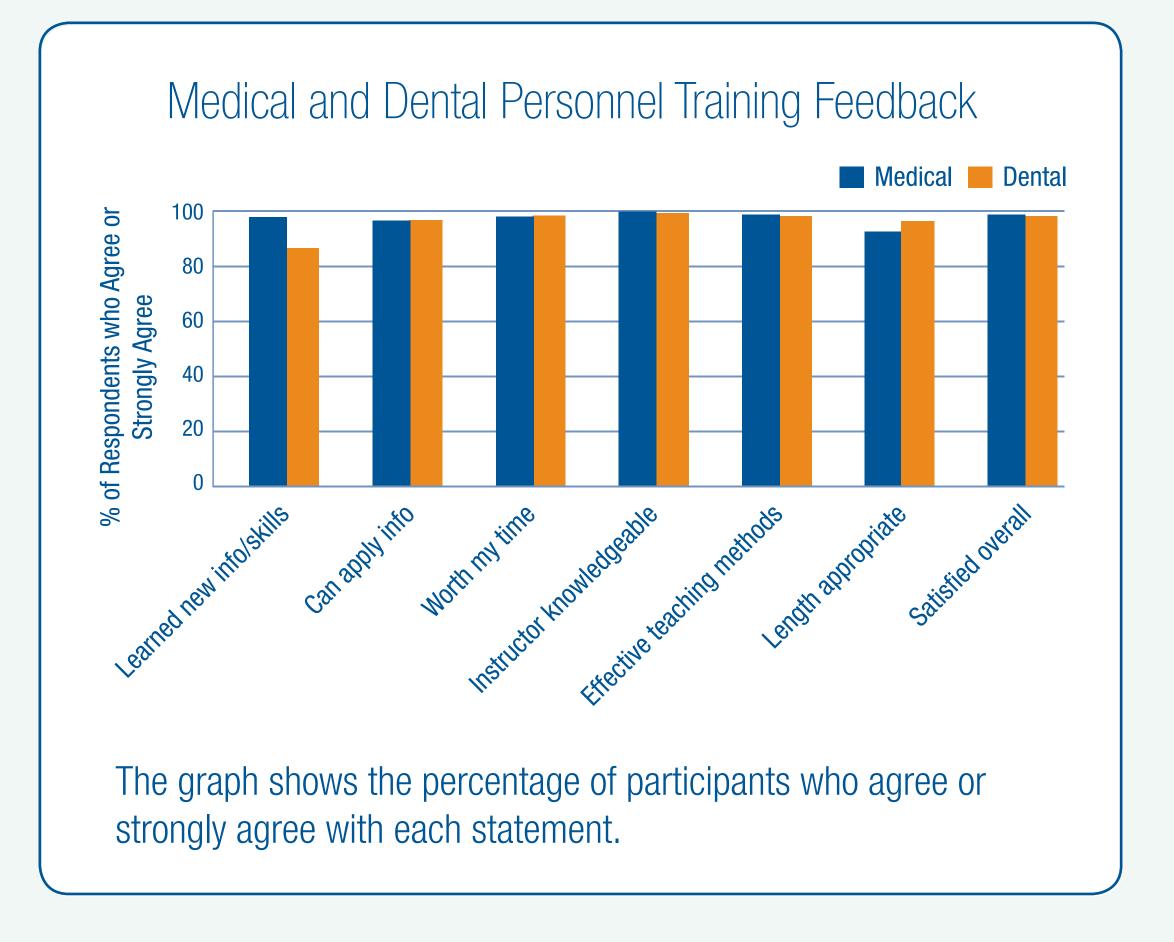
We will be using 2010 baseline data from the Oregon Health Authority Division of Medical Assistance Programs to evaluate the "First Tooth" project using these

Outcome Measure	Data Point	2010 Data	2011 Data
Fluoride varnish applications by a medical provider	5 of children ages 0-3 on Medicaid who receive fluoride varnish application(s) from a medical provider	1.5%	2.4%
Preventive oral health services by a dental provider	5 of children ages 0-3 on Medicaid who receive preventive dental services from a dental provider	17.2%	19.2%
Children with a dental home	% of children ages 0-3 on Medicaid with a dental home	16.1%	18.0%

Conclusions

Based on feedback provided from medical and dental personnel after participating in the in-person training:

- Almost all respondents felt that the instructor was knowledgeable about the topics and that they used effective teaching methods.
- Almost all respondents agreed that they can apply the information they learned and expressed satisfaction with the training overall.
- All medical providers and most dental providers felt that they learned new information.
- While almost all respondents agreed that the training length was appropriate, a small group of medical providers (around 7%) did specifically comment that they wish the training was longer.



Sustainability of "First Tooth"

- "First Tooth" was transferred to the Oregon Oral Health Coalition (OrOHC) on September 1, 2012.
- OrOHC has applied for funding to support "First Tooth" activities from the DentaQuest Foundation, Ford Family Foundation, and the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF).
- Continue to conduct outcome evaluation data collection and analysis.
- Disseminate and present evaluation report and results.
- The future of "First Tooth" is to have local communities, oral health coalitions and Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) take ownership and implement the program.
- It is envisioned that "First Tooth" will be a train-the-trainer program where trainers in local communities would be trained and certified to conduct face-to-face trainings and provide technical assistance to sites within their geographical area.
- "First Tooth" will be packaged to appeal to Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), Dental Care Organizations (DCOs) and local champions to provide early childhood caries prevention services:
 - Ready-to-go
 - Resources available to support implementation
 - Defined health indicators and measures to track health outcomes.



