

Healthy Smile
Happy Child
(HSHC)
Activity &
Highlights

January—March
2014



*Healthy Smile
Happy Child*

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The MB Partnership for the Prevention of Early Childhood Tooth Decay

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (formerly Interlake RHA and North Eastman Health Authority)

- ◆ In January a combined pre and postnatal presentation was provided for the Blue Water Mobile Prenatal program in Pine Falls.
- ◆ One of the community workers attended “Springfield Coming Together” on March 14 & 15, which took place in Oakbank and Anola, with a display booth and information on Healthy Smile Happy Child (HSHC). Over 200 people attended this event.
- ◆ Staff are also gearing up for our annual Early Years Wellness Fairs. The first one was held in Whitemouth on March 19. Interactive HSHC stations will also be part of this event in Beausejour, Lac du Bonnet, Pine Falls, St-Georges (French) and Oakbank; approximately 300 children and their caregivers are reached through these events.

Southern Health / Santé Sud (formerly RHA-Central Manitoba and South Eastman Health)

- ◆ A media message plan for Oral Health month in April has been developed for Southern Health-Santé Sud. The plan included: a news release for radio and newspaper, a radio spot for the RHA’s monthly minute feature, an article for staff newsletter, and community display boards. The message content was taken from the CDA’s Oral Health Good for Life media templates.
- ◆ A draft of the regional policy recommendation for oral health at Preschool Wellness Fairs was been submitted to senior management for review.
- ◆ Preliminary discussions with a community organization are occurring around input from mothers towards improving oral health policies.



Prairie Mountain Health

(formerly Brandon, Assiniboine & Parkland RHAs)

- ◆ Wellness Fairs for preschoolers were held in 8 communities in February and March. A dental screening area was held at each site, with 2 sites (Dauphin and Roblin), having a dental hygienist this year. Public health nurses performed the screenings for the remainder of the sites. Families received a “brain building bag”, which contained a toothbrush. The healthy snack at the sites was healthy and supported good oral health consisting of apples, cheese and white milk. Preliminary results: 32 children were screened in Dauphin: 65% had plaque, 34% of the children were put to bed with a bottle containing a sugary drink, and 31% had more than 3 between meal snacks containing snacks or beverages per day. About 13% of the children had not been to the dentist for their first visit. 63% were considered to be at low risk for dental caries. Specific groups appeared to have more oral health challenges, including Aboriginal children and Hutterite children. The research article “Early childhood caries among Hutterite preschool children in Manitoba, Canada” was sent to the public health manager and the dental hygienists.
- ◆ An updated list of communities with fluoridated water supplies as of April 1, 2012 and the report “Community Water Fluoridation in Canada – Trends, Benefits, and Risks”, was shared with the public health manager.
- ◆ The April issue of the Health Promotion E-News included an article for Oral Health Month with information on toothbrushing tips, toothpaste use, lift the lip, healthy snacks, foods that damage teeth and how to prevent early childhood tooth decay.

Northern Regional Health Authority

(formerly NOR-MAN and Burntwood RHAs)

- ◆ The Public Health Nurse (PHN) from Thompson, contacted HSHC looking for guidance on oral health recommendations for young children. The PHN was particularly interested in establishing the correct amount of toothpaste to use. The PHN also inquired as to whether there were any HSHC resources that targeted the needs of communities at high risk for tooth decay. She was specifically looking for a poster on the correct amount of toothpaste for a high-risk community. HSHC is still trying to find an applicable resource on her behalf.



Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

(Winnipeg & Churchill RHAs have merged)

- ◆ One of Churchill Dental Clinic's dentists visited the Churchill elementary school to teach children about oral health.
- ◆ The HSHC posters are posted in the community. The HSHC pamphlets are available for the public and are available in the pre/postnatal folders.
- ◆ Oral health care is also discussed by Churchill staff during the well child clinics.
- ◆ The Churchill HSHC contact will also be writing an article for the next CHC newsletter using the HSHC resources.
- ◆ Contact was made with a staff member at Children's Hospital/Health Sciences Centre, Children's Day Surgery to investigate whether possible distribution of Pediatric Dental Surgery Support & Information for Families.
- ◆ Winnipeg Housing Marlene Street Parenting Group contacted HSHC coordinator to present to their group.

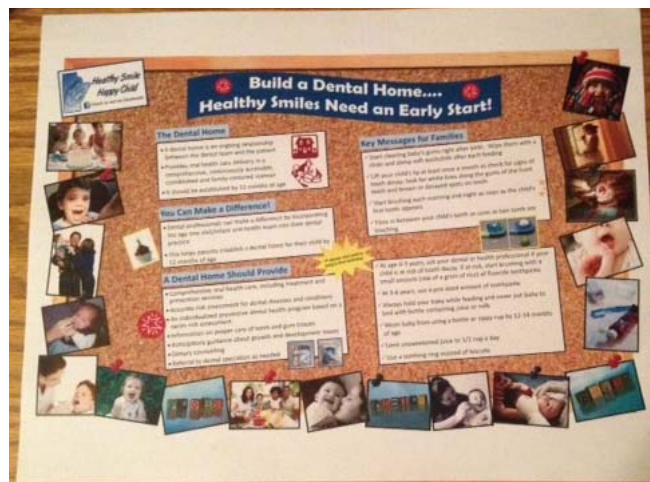
Other Provinces/North America

- ◆ A dental hygienist working for a Health Unit in Stratford, Ontario contacted HSHC in February. The individual was on the HSHC website and requested and received our permission to use HSHC resources for Oral Health Month.
- ◆ A Postdoctoral Fellow in Psychology at University of British Columbia came across the health promotion evaluation study on HSHC that was published in the Circumpolar Health Supplement in 2010. She wanted to know if there was an update to this study. The corresponding author sent her web links to more recent articles: "Diversity considerations for promoting early childhood oral health: a pilot study" and "Dentists' Views on a Province-Wide Campaign Promoting Early Dental Visits for Young Children".



Provincial HSHC Partnership Activities

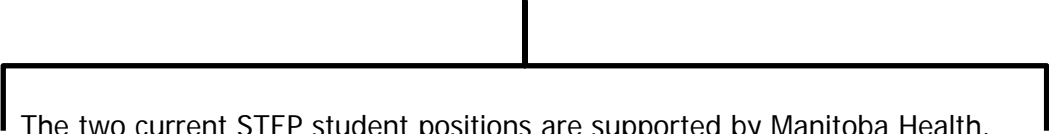
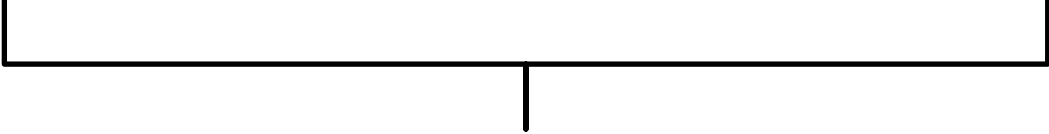
- ◆ Research and layout/design continues for the pictorial oral health resource for Newcomers. Presentation and feedback of the draft layout/design was presented to a newcomers group of 16 women and men at IRCOM (grade 2 level of English). The feedback provided insight to level of understanding and reading ability. Also what appealed to the learner, photos, sketches, clip art.
- ◆ HSHC's display "Build a Dental Home...Healthy Smiles Need an Early Start!" at the Manitoba Dental Association annual dental conference on January 24-25, 2014 was well received and many dental professionals came to view the display and resources.
- ◆ HSHC completed oral health screening and fluoride varnish at the request of Andrews Street Aboriginal Head Start program for 22 children and parents on February 13, 2014. Families were provided information about their child's oral screening, the *Where to Go for Dental Care in the Community* quick reference guide and HSHC brochures.
- ◆ HSHC has had a number of requests from various communities to take part in upcoming wellness fairs and Teddy Bears Picnics for the summer of 2014. Planning for these events has started.
- ◆ HSHC wanted to post the document "Treatment of Preventable Dental Cavities in Preschoolers: A Focus on Day Surgery Under General Anesthesia" from the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) on the HSHC Facebook site. In turn CIHI also posted the HSHC web link on their Facebook site.
- ◆ Follow-up presentation with Northern Program Family Medicine residents occurred which provided additional information on applying fluoride varnish and a hands-on demonstration. A volunteer child was used to demo the proper application of fluoride varnish.



Picture: poster size replica of the *Build a Dental Home...Health Smiles Need an Early Start!* Display



STEP Student Contributions

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- ◆ The two current STEP student positions are supported by Manitoba Health. Their activities focus on:
 - ◆ Updating and promoting the HSHC Facebook page; the goal is to have weekly messaging and updates.
 - ◆ Continuing to deliver “Pearly Whites”, the oral hygiene packages to the different wards at the Winnipeg Children’s Hospital.
 - ◆ Worked at the HSHC display, “*Build a Dental Home...Healthy Smiles Need An Early Start!*” during the Manitoba Dental Association annual dental conference on January 24-25, 2014.
 - ◆ Developed a PowerPoint presentation focused on revisions to the HSHC Resource & Toolkit.
 - ◆ Continuing to work on current focus group papers: Free First Visit Dentists Perspectives and Parents Perspectives, Telehealth.
 - ◆ Completed the participating Free First Visit dentists reference sheet with 3 RHAs; working on completing the remaining 2 lists.
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Feedback/Evaluation/Research:

Journal Publications:

Published:

- ◆ Schroth RJ, Yaffe AB, Edwards JM, Hai-Santiago K, Ellis M, Manitoba Dental Association, Moffatt MEK. Dentists' views on a province-wide campaign promoting early dental visits for young children. *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association* 2014 Feb;79:d138. PMID: 24598319. (This is available online and the public can access for free).
- ◆ Prowse S, Schroth RJ, Wilson A, Edwards JM, Sarson J, Moffatt MEK. Diversity considerations for early childhood oral health: a pilot study. *Int J Dent*. 2014;2014:175084. doi: 10.1155/2014/175084. Epub 2014 Jan 30. PMID: 24624141. (This is available online and the public can access for free).

In Press / Accepted For Publication:

- ◆ Schroth RJ, Lavelle CL, Tate R, Bruce S, Billings RJ, Moffatt MEK. Prenatal vitamin D and caries in infants. *Pediatrics* 2014. PMID: 24753535.
- ◆ Schroth RJ, Pang J, Levi J, Martens P, Brownell M. Trends in pediatric dental day surgery for Severe Early Childhood Caries in Manitoba, Canada. *Journal of Canadian Dental Association* 2014.

Submitted and Under Review:

- ◆ Schroth RJ, Boparai G, Boparai M, Zhang L, Svitlica M, Jacob L, Stein L, Lekic C on behalf of the Manitoba Dental Association. "Tracking Early Visits to the Dentist: a look at the first 3 years of the Manitoba Dental Association's Free First Visit Program" was submitted to the *Journal Canadian Dental Association*.
- ◆ Schroth RJ, Wilson A, Prowse S, Edwards J, Gojda J, Sarson J, Harms L, Hai-Santiago K, Moffatt ME. "A qualitative exploration of early childhood oral health promotion in Manitoba", was recently submitted to the *Canadian Journal of Dental Hygiene*.

Planning for Next Quarter (April - June 2014):

- ◆ Continue to complete the work on the pictorial oral health resource for newcomers.
- ◆ Continue to promote HSHC and early childhood oral health through Facebook.
- ◆ Continue to work with MB Telehealth. This includes plans to increase use of Telehealth to rural and remote areas to disseminate information, resources and/or training. The 7th Telehealth session is set for April 7, 2014 on "Findings from the MB Dental Association's Free First Visit Program".
- ◆ One of the STEP students is continuing work on a one-pager "Did You Know" factsheet that highlights the Free First Visit Survey and focus groups findings.
- ◆ Progress work on postal code mapping of dental surgery project with WRHA research and evaluation unit.
- ◆ Initial planning for upcoming Spring and Summer health fairs; new promotion for HSHC "Facebook Challenge".
- ◆ An oral screening and fluoride varnish day at Four Feathers Aboriginal Head Start program.
- ◆ Healthy Smile Happy Child will create a poster to address high risk populations' use of toothpaste.



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