



PEDIATRICS INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

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Issue 13

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INFANT ORAL HEALTH RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved developed three oral health tool cards to assist the non-dental pediatric clinical team screen for early childhood caries and to provide anticipatory oral health guidance to high-risk parents and primary care givers of infants and toddlers. ACU partnered with the Children's Dental Health Project in Washington, D.C., to finalize these tools. To order, call 703 442-5318 or go to the publication section of the ACU website at <http://www.clinicians.org>.

THE INTERFACE BETWEEN MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY IN MEETING THE ORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

The Children's Dental Health Project recently produced a policy-oriented white paper, "The Interface Between Medicine and Dentistry in Meeting the Oral Health Needs of Young Children." The purpose of the paper is to

explicate policy issues that underlie the nexus between primary medical and dental care for young children for the advancement of their oral health, while examining issues related to the scope of dental and medical practice. To learn more, visit the Project's website at <http://www.cdhp.org>.

SOURCE: Clinician and Community, Vol. VII, issue 1, summer 2003

ORAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN

In May, the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement, **Oral Health Risk Assessment Timing and Establishment of the Dental Home**. Focused on the oral health of children, the policy statement provides background on the epidemiology and etiology of dental caries, preventive strategies, risk groups for caries, caries risk assessment strategies, establishing the dental home, and patient education recommendations. The statement recommends that children begin receiving oral health risk assessments by six months of age with referral of those at high risk of caries development to dental services. For a copy of the paper, visit <http://www.aap.org/policy/S040137.html>.

SOURCE: Oral Health Policy: New Resources Addressing Overall Health of Children and Adults by David Krol, MD, in Clinician and Community, Vol. VII, issue 1, summer 2003, page 6

SAMHSA'S CHILDREN'S PROGRAM KIT

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Children's Program Kit is designed to provide materials for substance abuse programs so they can initiate educational support programs for the children of their clients in substance abuse treatment. The curriculum will teach children problem solving, coping, social competence, autonomy, and a sense of purpose and future.

SAMHSA estimates that about 6 million children were living with at least one parent who abused or was dependent on alcohol or drugs in 2001, based on a new analysis of the data in the agency's 2001 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. The Children's Program Kit will help substance abuse treatment professionals design programs to help children of addicted parents cope with the effects of their parents' addiction.

The kit was developed by SAMHSA childhood mental health professionals and covers a wide variety of topics and practical teaching strategies for elementary, middle and upper school children, including stories and videos. The kit also contains information for therapists to distribute to their clients in order to help parents understand the needs of their children, as well as training materials for substance abuse treatment staff who plan to offer support groups for children.

To order a free copy of the Children's Program Kit (Inventory # CPKIT), contact SAMHSA's National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information at 800 729-6686 or go to <http://ncadi.samhsa.gov/order.aspx?ID=16569>

SOURCE: SAMHSANews@health.org

MEDICAID EPSDT MANUAL

Timely screening examinations and necessary medical treatment are needed to maintain and improve children's health. Children living in poverty (nearly 12 million children under age 18 in the United States, or 16.6 percent of U.S. children) are at particular risk for health problems. Thus, the Medicaid Act entitles them to comprehensive screening and treatment through a service called Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT). More than 20 percent of all children in the United States, one in five, are covered by Medicaid and thus entitled to EPSDT. Individuals who are working on behalf of children should be familiar with the EPSDT benefit.

"Toward a Healthy Future: Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services For Poor Children and Youth" is a comprehensive overview of Medicaid's EPSDT program prepared by Jane Perkins and Sarah Somers, with the National Health Law Program, Child Health Law and Policy Project, April 2003 (revised from 1995 edition). This 97 page manual provides comprehensive information about EPSDT and offers practical suggestions for working with and improving the EPSDT program. It is organized as follows:

Part I provides background information on the needs of children and youth

Part II gives a basic overview of the Medicaid program

Part III discusses the legal requirements for EPSDT

Part IV describes common barriers and offers examples of how these problems can be addressed.

"Toward a Healthy Future" is available for \$55.00 from NHeLP's Los Angeles' office. To order, call NHeLP at 310 204-6010 or send an e-mail request to nhelp@healthlaw.org. For more information, visit

<http://www.healthlaw.org/pubs/200305.towardahealthyfuture.html>

SOURCE: Brendan McTaggart, Communications Director, National Health Law Program

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BILL TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS & FOSTER CARE YOUTH

On September 16, Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Mike Devine (R-OH) introduced S.1619, "Improving Education for Homeless and Foster Children with Disabilities Act." The bill would expand the Individuals with Disabilities

Education Act to improve access to special education for children with disabilities who are homeless or in foster care. The provisions in the bill include steps to improve early evaluation and intervention, expedite access, and ensure continuity and stability in such services. For further details, see <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/ideaannounce.html>

SOURCE: National Alliance to End Homelessness, Online Newsletter, September 22, 2003

THE SCHOOLS OF GROUND ZERO

The Schools of Ground Zero: Early Lessons Learned in Children's Environmental Health, by Sarah Bartlett and John Petrarca, is the story of how public school districts in Lower Manhattan dealt with the events of September 11, 2001, and their aftermath. Drawing on interviews with parents, teachers, New York Board of Education officials and environmental consultants, the authors make practical recommendations for safeguarding the health and safety of school children in times of crisis. Available from the American Public Health Association, Publications Sales, online at www.apha.org or call 301 893-1984.

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PUBLICATIONS

Channing-Bete Company produces maternal and child health publications that are easy-to-read, easy-to-understand materials to help families raise healthy children. To learn more, visit www.channing-bete.com online or call 800 628-7733 for a free catalog.

FROM SIDRAN PRESS & THE SIDRAN FOUNDATION FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

Research & Measurement Tools

Adolescent Dissociative Experiences Scale. This version of the DES is developed specifically for adolescents ages 10 - 21. The packet includes five copies, a user's manual and reference lists. Price: \$12

CROPS/PROPS (Child Report of Posttraumatic Symptoms/Parent Report of Posttraumatic Symptoms). These instruments provide a quick, easy, and convenient way to screen for children's posttraumatic symptoms without identified trauma. For children ages 6 - 18 and their parents or guardians. Price \$12

LITE (Lifetime Incidence of Traumatic Events). This instrument covers a broad range of potential trauma and loss events and help estimate the emotional impact, both at the time of occurrence and the present. For children grades 3 and up and their parents or guardians. Price \$12. Purchase both sets of PTSD screening forms for parents and children--CROPS/PROPS and LITE--for \$20.

Children's Books

A Little Elephant Finds His Courage: A Wonderful Tale of Discovery.

Written to help children cope with loss, the book explores the most traumatic childhood experience: a parent's death. Includes a list of recommended art projects and a separate Discussion Guide. Price: \$19.95

Something Bad Happened: A Series of Six Creative Books for Healing Posttraumatic Stress.

Creative coloring books designed for children ages 4 - 10 who are in treatment and recovery from stress due to violence, crime, abuse and/or trauma. Children will find these books reassuring and will be able to express themselves through the art exercises. Set of six; price: \$25

The Way I Feel: Creative Books for Healing from Posttraumatic Stress.

Designed for teens ages 11 - 17 who have been directly or secondary victims of trauma. Each book includes a guide for parents, teachers or counselors. Set of six; price: \$25

In the Silver Boat: A Fantasy Journey Helps Children Heal.

A beautifully illustrated fairy tale that describes the journey we must take in order to leave our pain behind. Price: \$12.95

Great books from favorite authors...

Greenwald Relates Childhood Trauma to Conduct Disorder.

Addresses key topics including how trauma relates to conduct disorder; therapeutic interventions for juvenile delinquents; ways to assess PTSD in adolescents; the trauma histories of incarcerated girls and the problems they have adjusting to life within the juvenile justice system; and how to develop group therapy services for incarcerated male juvenile offenders with PTSD. Price: \$34.95

Videos

Complex PTSD in Children. Two video set. Part one: **Etiology, assessment, advocacy.** Learn child trauma symptoms and specialized assessment. Part two: **Therapeutic interventions.** Child safety grounding techniques and useful therapeutic modalities including play, talk, art and group therapy. Set \$225.

To order: online at www.sidran.org or call toll-free 1 888 825-8249

FAMILIES IN SOCIETY: JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY HUMAN SERVICES

Dear Colleague,

I found this web resource as I was searching for an article. It is Families In Society, The Journal of Contemporary Human Services. The site features interesting articles, many of which can be downloaded and printed for your personal use at no cost. Recent topics include assessing outcomes in agencies and ethical dilemmas in daily practice. Visit

http://www.alliance1.org/Publications/fis/opening_FIS_features.htm#assess

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NEW WEBSITE DELIVERS EXTENSIVE DATA ON CHILD WELFARE

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's new system, CLIKS: County, City, Community-Level Information on Kids, has expanded the reach of the foundation's KIDS COUNT initiative in the form of a new online tool for community leaders, policy makers, service providers, parents and others concerned with the lives of children and families.

CLIKS, located at <http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/cliks/>, allows users to access state-specific inventories of local data on children from sources that include health departments, human services agencies, and schools. With tools such as community profiles and color-coded maps and graphs, users can create a snapshot of their town, city, or county. CLIKS' ranking system compares communities within states, charting data on child well being over time. Examples of the localized information available on CLIKS include:

the number of children who are victims of child abuse;
the number or percent of children who receive TANF, Medicaid, food stamps, free or reduced-price lunches; and
the number of juvenile arrests and detentions.

SOURCE: National Alliance to End Homelessness, Online Newsletter, April 11, 2003

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Dear Colleagues,

The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) is pleased to announce that we have given our website a facelift. You may visit us at <http://www.naehcy.org>. We invite you to send us information, photos, announcements, and other items of interest regarding homelessness and homeless education so that we might post it for you. Please visit often as we will be updating it regularly--this is just the beginning. And please, if you have suggestions or if you have difficulty navigating the site, let us know. Please forward this message to others who might be interested.

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