

IPHCA™ Monthly April 2025

All the latest news and resources - distributed to IPHCA members



also this month ...

Oral Cancer Awareness Month

page 12



Navigator Monday is coming! page 8 & 9



Meet our members!























































































Letter from Sean ...



Welcome to the April Edition!

Spring is a season of renewal, growth, and change—much like the evolving landscape of health care funding. As policies shift and new opportunities emerge, we remain committed to adapting and ensuring access to quality care for our communities.

This month, we're highlighting two key initiatives, both providing continuing education credits for attendees:

Navigator Monday (page 8), which continues to provide essential guidance on insurance and health care access, and our Maternal and Child Health Symposium (page 7), emphasizing the importance of comprehensive care for mothers and children. These efforts reflect our ongoing dedication to strengthening support systems and quality of life for individuals and families.

Save the Date! We are excited to announce that our Annual Conference, appropriately focusing on our mission of being "The Heart of Health Care," will occur the week of October 6th in Terre Haute, IN. Stay tuned for more details on this important gathering, where we'll come together to share insights, strategies, and innovations in health care. Call for speakers, registration, and award nomination information coming soon! (see page 30)

Thank you for being so committed to our mission. Together, we grow, adapt, and thrive.

Enjoy this issue!

Sean

Sean Herbold, IPHCA CFO

Contact Sean

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>>> Clickable links are provided throughout this newsletter - please notify us of any missing or incorrect links.

Any comments or suggestions please contact **Sean Herbold**, IPHCA CFO.

If you have not done so already, please follow us on Facebook!



Also *visit* our website to find links to *previous issues*, an events calendar, our *resource* center and more!

Indiana Primary Health Care Association 150 West Market Street, Suite 520 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Phone: 317.630.0845 info@indianapca.org

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Magazine design & production by John Fordham Design

PointCare



CoverageCare monitors

Medicaid & uninsured patients, and detects which patients are uncovered.

CoverageCare texts, calls & emails the uncovered patients, assisting them in enrollment.

CoverageCare

provides a dashboard for you to view who and how many received coverage.

Patients use

CoverageCare's online

enrollment to quickly
apply and submit directly
to Medicaid.

Key Features + Benefits

- We work on your behalf!
- Quick implementation with low learning curve
- 100%+ ROI achieved within first 90 days (avg ROI = 221%)
- Removes guesswork around redetermination
- Eliminates enrollment paperwork
- Provides visibility of application and engagement status
- · Gets patients covered before their next visit

- Ensures enrollments continue through any staff turnover
- Expands your clinics' patient communication
- Provides patients confidence in their Medicaid status
- · Positions you as a patient-first organization
- Gives you a real-time view of your Medicaid population



UPDATES & NEWS

Our **Resource Center** is your first stop for all learning, news, webinars and updates - everything our community health center membership needs.



To contribute resources, or if you have any questions or updates, please contact **Sean Herbold** or call: 317.630.0845

Reminder:

Our Resource Center and Events Calendar are now member only pages, so you need to log in to our site to view them. But it couldn't be simpler to log-in - just enter your member organization email address when prompted to get your six digit log in code. Easy peasy!



INDIANA UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS ECHO CENTER





Indiana Rural Opioid Consortium Peer Support ECHO

Join, Network, Learn Best Practices, and Earn Continuing Education Credits.

Join our virtual sessions centered on addressing substance use disorder and mental health in rural communities



The InROC Peer Support ECHO aims to enhance availability and access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and harm reduction strategies for substance use disorders (SUDs). This ECHO is open to individuals working in peer support and peer recovery services across the state of Indiana.

These sessions meet virtually via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2:00-3:30 p.m. ET.

Upcoming didactic topics:

- April 3 Class and Poverty
- April 17 Engaging Carceral Systems Well: Active Bystander Training,
 Negotiating with Emergency Personnel, Advocating with Police
- May 1 Harm and Building Community
- May 15 Substance Use Facts: Drugs, The Body, The Brain

The InROC Peer Support ECHO is hosted in by the IU Indianapolis ECHO Center, the Indiana Rural Health Association's Indiana Rural Opioid Consortium for Medication-Assisted Treatment (InROC-MAT), and Lifespring Health Systems.

To register, *click this link* or email Norelimane Bouzar, Program Management Specialist at *nbouzar@iu.edu* with any questions.

Project ECHO is a movement to demonopolize knowledge and amplify the capacity to provide best-practice care and improve health for people all over the world.

Health and Human Services Administration Statement

This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$2,349,984 with 0% percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.



Empowering Patient Accessibility with the Midmark 626

At CHCollective, we understand the importance of creating inclusive and accessible healthcare environments for all patients. This March, we're spotlighting the Midmark 626 Barrier-Free® Examination Chair, a solution designed to improve accessibility and support compliance with the latest guidelines. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates accessibility requirements, while the US Access Board (USAB) establishes the standard that medical equipment must follow.

The Midmark 626 is more than just an exam chair—it's a step toward equitable care. With its advanced design and features, it helps health centers enhance patient comfort, support US Access Board compliance, and improve workflow efficiency.

What Makes the Midmark 626 Compliant:

- Seat Height: 15 1/2" low 37" wide (the lowest on the market)
- Transfer Surface: 28" or 32" wide x 19 1/2" deep
- Base Clearance: 23 1/2"
- Transfer Supports: Compliant to the US Access Board Standard
- Leg Supports: Compliant to the US Access Board Standard

Contact Alex Vactor for more information

Alex Vactor 412.612.0593



www.chcollective.com





realize and revitalize:

Embracing
Maternal & Child Health



Wednesday June 25, 2025 / 8 am - 4:30 pm JW Marriott - Downtown Indianapolis

Realize and Revitalize: Embracing Maternal and Child Health brings together providers and stakeholders from across the state to identify strategies to improve the quality-of-care women and infants receive through an integrated care lens.

This collaborative effort encompasses the perspectives from medical, dental, behavioral health/substance use, and nutritional experts in the field to foster holistic treatment approaches. Health outcomes for current and future generations will be impacted by this promotion of high-quality care.

This event is provided **free** to participants.

This event provides four (4) hours of CME credit. Limited to the first 200 registrants. Registration closes one week prior to the event.

>>> Click here for info / registration







The Indiana Primary Health Care Association proudly presents

Our 3rd Annual Navigator Monday

on May 5th, 2025, at *Founders Lodge*, 7201 Girl Scout Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46214

One of the cornerstones of navigator training in the state of Indiana, Navigator Monday provides the most thorough training for community health center navigators and all those working in the Medicaid arena.

Topics we plan to cover:

- Economic Stability
- Neighborhood and Physical Environment
- Education

- Housing Insecurity
- Community, Safety & Social Context
- Health Care System

>>> Click here for full details and to register

Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are provided, with networking opportunities and continuing education credit!

Get your tickets today. Space is limited.

For questions / details please contact Jenny Walden



Nominate your Navigator of the Year!

This award recognizes Indiana's Navigators who exemplify the best skills in patient-centered healthcare navigation.

The winner will be announced at our upcoming Navigator Monday on May 5th, and recognised at our Annual Conference.

These are testimonials from patients* and colleagues to give you an idea of the qualities we are looking for.

- "She was very kind, courteous, and super knowledgeable. She walked us through the process and I was able to get temporary coverage to address an issue that I was faced with. She ensured that all our needs were met and shared options available to us beyond her scope. I really appreciate her and all she has done"
- "Beyond her professional responsibilities, she demonstrates remarkable care and consideration for our patients. She collaborates with them to explore all available options and ensures they have access to resources that enhance their quality of life. Her compassion and empathy shine through, particularly in her interactions with our most vulnerable patients.



>>> Click here to view / download / complete your nomination form!

■ IPHCA[®]

* Nominations by patients are weighted higher than co-worker nominations, but all nominations are welcome! Please **share this form** with anyone who you think might want to nominate.



NEWS & UPDATES



For help, to give feedback or provide resources for the O&E section of this newsletter please contact:

Jenny Walden or call: 317.630.0845



>>> Visit our Outreach and Enrollment pages



Webinar

Meet Step UP - April 10/2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EDT

Step-Up, Inc. was founded in 2003 by two community members who saw the effects of HIV on their family, friends, and neighbors and decided to do something about it.

Step-Up is focused on improving the health of the underserved and marginalized communities by meeting our clients where they are at, opposing inequity and stigma, and empowering individuals. Step-Up, Inc. expanded from a two-person operation into a robust agency that provides prevention, education, care coordination, medical case management, and counseling to a wide array of vulnerable members in our community.

Participants will learn about Step-Up's programs and resources.

Click here to register

CMS.gov

2025 Marketplace Integrity and Affordability Proposed Rule

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued the "Marketplace Integrity and Affordability Proposed Rule" that proposes standards for the Health Insurance Marketplaces, as well as for health insurance issuers, brokers, and agents who connect millions of consumers to Affordable Care Act (ACA) coverage. The rule proposes additional safeguards to protect consumers from improper enrollments and changes to their health care coverage, as well as establish standards to ensure the integrity of the Marketplaces.

Key proposals include revised standards relating to strengthening income verification processes; modifying eligibility redetermination procedures; removing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients from the definition of "lawfully present" for eligibility and enrollment in Marketplace and Basic Health Program (BHP) coverage; and adopting pre-enrollment verification for special enrollment periods (SEPs), aimed at reducing improper enrollments and improving the risk pool.

>>> Read more here

Indiana Medicaid Eligibility Guide

The new 2025 Federal Poverty Levels have been updated on the FSSA website.



This information is only a guide and is intended to show basic eligibility rules for several typical Medicaid member groups.

You must apply for coverage to know for sure whether you qualify.

>>> Click here to find out more





Housing Navigation Service Training Don't miss out - just a few places left.

Prosperity Indiana (PI), a statewide membership group of economic, housing and community development organizations is developing Housing Navigation Services training for community health workers and other healthcare professionals.

The course will include instructions on the following topics:

- Types of subsidized housing programs and the eligibility requirements to qualify
- Fair Market Value concepts
- Housing to Income Ratios
- Tenant Rights and Fair Housing Laws
- Landlord Engagement
- Identifying resources to keep patients safely housed
- Goal Setting Techniques to teach patients
- Financial Management tools to teach patients.

The course consists of five (5) - 90 minute virtual sessions with a live instructor at 10 - 11.30 am on:

- Session One Monday, April 14th
- Session Two Wednesday, April 16th
- Session Three Monday, April 21st
- Session Four Wednesday, April 23rd
- Session Five Friday, April 25th

There will be homework assignments between the sessions. A minimal, non-refundable fee of \$25 will be charged to ensure participation.

Sign up today! >>> Register here







To give feedback or provide resources for this section please contact **Nicole Stilianos** or call: 317.630.0845

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month: **Get Screened, Save Lives!**



Oral Cancer Awareness Month is here, and Indiana's Community Health Centers are joining the fight to end oral cancer! The Oral Cancer Foundation (OCF) invites you to take part in a nationwide screening campaign to promote early detection and save lives.

Why Awareness Matters

Oral cancer is on the rise, yet public awareness remains low. This year alone, an estimated 58,500 Americans will be diagnosed. That's 132 new cases every day, and tragically, one life lost every hour to this disease.

Who Is at Risk?

- Tobacco and alcohol use remain major risk factors.
- However, the fastest-growing group of oral cancer patients are young, healthy, nonsmoking individuals due to HPV-related infections.

How You Can Help

- Get screened! Early detection is key to saving lives.
- Spread the word! Encourage friends, family, and your community to learn about oral cancer risks.
- Support local screenings. Many Indiana Community Health Centers offer free or low-cost oral cancer screenings this month.

Together, we can make a difference. Take action today to raise awareness, promote early detection, and help save lives.

For more information visit https://oralcancerfoundation.org/



The Oral Cancer Foundation's mission is to contribute to the reduction of suffering, permanent physical damage and disfigurement, and death caused by oral cancers.

>>> Click here for more

April is **Alcohol Awareness Month:** Support, Educate, and Empower

Alcohol use and misuse impact millions of lives, and Indiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers are here to help. April is Alcohol Awareness Month, a time to increase understanding, provide resources, and support those struggling with alcohol-related challenges.

Why Awareness Matters

Alcohol misuse is a major public health concern. It can lead to serious health conditions, including liver disease, mental health disorders, and an increased risk of accidents and injuries.

Did you know?

- Excessive alcohol use contributes to over 140.000 deaths in the U.S. each year.
- 1 in 10 deaths among working-age adults is linked to alcohol-related causes.



• Alcohol misuse doesn't just affect individuals it impacts families, workplaces, and entire communities.

How You Can Help

- Educate yourself and others about the risks of alcohol misuse.
- Check in on loved ones who may be struggling.
- Know where to find support. Indiana CHCs offer confidential resources, counseling, and treatment options.

>>> Click here for resources

Managing Stress for Better Health: Indiana FQHCs Support You During

Stress Awareness Month

April is Stress Awareness Month, a time to recognize the impact stress has on our mental and physical health. Stress can affect our mood, sleep, immune system, and overall well-being, making it important to find ways to manage it effectively. At Indiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), we are committed to helping our patients reduce stress and improve their overall health through accessible care, resources, and support.

How Stress Affects Your Health

Chronic stress can lead to:

- · Anxiety and depression
- High blood pressure and heart disease
- Weakened immune function



- Sleep disturbances
- Digestive issues

Understanding stress and learning healthy coping strategies can improve both your mental and physical health.

Healthy Ways to Manage Stress

- Stay Active Regular exercise can help reduce stress hormones and boost mood.
- Eat Well A balanced diet supports brain function and helps regulate emotions ...

>>> Click here to read more





National Public Health Week

During the first full week of

April each year, APHA brings together communities across the United States to observe National Public Health Week as a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation's health.

Explore APHA's resources, events and other ways to get involved during National Public Health Week, because public health is all of us—and it starts here.

>>> It Starts Here!
Click for resources and
events





Together We Act, United We Change: Indiana FQHCs Commit to Safer Communities

At Indiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), we believe that everyone deserves to live in a safe and supportive environment—free from sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. The "Together We Act, United We Change" campaign highlights the importance of collective action in preventing sexual violence, supporting survivors, and fostering a culture of safety and respect in our communities.

Empowering Change Through Education

Addressing sexual violence begins with understanding it. By educating ourselves and others, we can challenge harmful myths, reshape conversations, and create a future where safety and respect are the norm.

- Supporting Survivors with Compassion By listening, believing, and advocating, we uplift the voices of those affected by sexual violence, ensuring they receive the care and support they deserve.
- Fostering Trauma-Informed Care At Indiana FQHCs, we are committed
 to trauma-informed care, ensuring that survivors receive medical, dental,
 and behavioral health services in a safe, understanding, and empowering
 environment.
- Building Safer Communities Together Change happens when workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods unite to create respectful and supportive spaces. When we act together, we build a culture where prevention, intervention, and healing thrive.

Our Commitment to Action

Indiana FQHCs stand as trusted community health providers, offering resources, education, and support to survivors and families. Through collaboration, advocacy, and compassionate care, we help break cycles of violence and build healthier, safer communities for all.

Together, we act with purpose.
United, we change the world for the better.

>>> Click here for resources







Together, We Can Make a Difference

By working together, we can support families, protect children, and create a brighter future for our communities. Let's do things differently—moving beyond the challenge and embracing change to prevent child abuse and neglect.

For more information and resources, visit:

- Prevent Child Abuse America
- Indiana Department of Child Services
- National Child Abuse Hotline:
 or call 1-800-4-A-CHILD

or call 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453)

Doing Things Differently: Moving from the Challenge to the Change

We Support National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Every child deserves a safe, loving, and supportive environment to grow and thrive. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to recognize the vital role that families, communities, and organizations play in preventing child abuse and neglect. We support efforts to strengthen families, promote awareness, and ensure children have the safety and care they need to flourish.

From Challenge to Change: Prevention Through Support

Preventing child abuse and neglect requires a community-wide effort. When families have access to education, resources, and compassionate care, they are better equipped to provide safe and nurturing homes for their children.

- Strengthening Families Providing parents and caregivers with healthcare, mental health support, parenting resources, and financial assistance helps create stable, supportive environments.
- Recognizing the Signs Understanding the warning signs of abuse and neglect can prevent harm. These may include unexplained injuries, withdrawal, sudden changes in behavior, or reluctance to go home.
- Empowering Communities Preventing child abuse starts with all of us. Whether it's checking in on a struggling parent, offering support to a family in need, or reporting concerns to child welfare professionals, every action makes a difference.

Resources for Families and Communities

We support families by providing:

- Pediatric and Family Healthcare Access to medical, dental, and behavioral health services for children and caregivers.
- Parenting Support Education on child development, positive parenting strategies, and family wellness.
- Mental Health and Counseling Services Helping children and families navigate trauma, stress, and emotional challenges.
- **Community Resource Referrals** Connecting families with housing, food assistance, financial support, and child welfare services.

>>> Click here for all resources







>>>Click here for all resources



World Immunization Week 2025:

Immunization for All is Humanly Possible

From April 24–30, we celebrate *World Immunization Week*, highlighting the life-saving power of vaccines. Since 1974, immunization has saved 154 million lives, reduced infant deaths by 40%, and continues to protect people of all ages from vaccine-preventable diseases like measles, malaria, HPV, and more.

Why Vaccination Matters

- Prevents deadly diseases and saves lives
- Expands access to health for all communities
- Strengthens public health and future generations

Yet, millions still miss out on essential vaccines each year. We support accessible, affordable immunizations to protect our communities.

Take Action

- Check your vaccinations with a healthcare provider
- Advocate for stronger immunization programs
- Share the facts to combat misinformation

For more information, visit:

- WHO World Immunization Week
- CDC Vaccination Info

Find more actionable strategies, resources, and data to support getting all Americans back on-schedule with their routine immunizations to protect everyone from vaccine-preventable disease and disability, with CDC's RISE campaign

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW)

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), observed annually in April, is a joint initiative by the CDC and the AAP to highlight the importance of protecting children under two years old from vaccine-preventable diseases, with the 2025 observance taking place April 21-28.

This year, NIIW emphasizes the importance of ensuring families stay on track with

their children's routine well-child visits and recommended vaccinations, especially after disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

>>> Get more info here

Resources:

 The AAP also provides information and resources on immunization schedules and best practices.

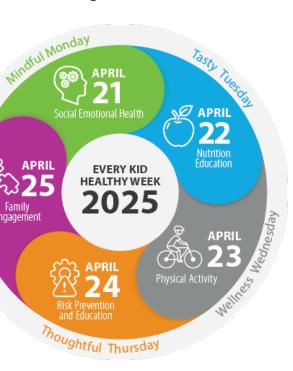
>>> Click here



ACTION FOR HEALTHY

Want more ideas for having a super healthy week? Check out this resource page here.

Let's work together to keep Indiana's kids happy, healthy, and thriving!



Click here to view all Clinical resources in our Resource Center

More dates for April



Every Kid Healthy Week 2025:

Building a Healthier Future for Indiana's Children

From April 21–25, 2025, we celebrate Every Kid Healthy Week, a nationwide effort to promote healthy eating, physical activity, and overall well-being for children. A healthy childhood lays the foundation for lifelong wellness, and we support families, schools, and communities in creating environments where every child can thrive.

How to Support Kids' Health

- Eat Well Provide balanced meals and snacks.
- Stay Active Encourage daily play and exercise.
- Prioritize Mental Health Foster a supportive environment.
- Schedule Checkups Ensure kids get regular medical and dental care.

Indiana Resources for Families

- Indiana Department of Health Children's Health:
 in.gov/health/cshcs/
- Action for Healthy Kids Every Kid Healthy Week:
 actionforhealthykids.org/every-kid-healthy-week/
- Indiana WIC Program (Nutrition Assistance for Families):
 in.gov/health/wic/
- Indiana Family and Social Services Administration –
 Mental Health Support: in.gov/fssa/dmha/

>>> Click here for all links





WEBINARS & TRAINING

All event times shown are Eastern

Check out these Training & Events from NACHC

National Training: Financial Operations Management 2: Innovative Financial Strategies & Operational Synergy for Health Center Success*

April 2 - 3 | 11 am to 5:30 pm Virtual | CPEs & CEUs Available

This intermediate to advanced-level national training is designed to provide mid-career level health center finance managers insight and understanding of the core qualities needed to approach the business aspects of financial operations, management, and service delivery.

>>> Click here for details

Elevate National Learning Forum: Workforce & Trauma Informed Culture**

April 8 | 1 to 2 pm | Virtual | Free

NACHC's Elevate program has a new and improved process for accessing monthly learning forums! Click the link above to receive 2025 Elevate calendar invites. Join us for our next forum as we begin our 'health center hot topic' series with workforce & trauma informed culture.

>>> Click here for details

 Access previous session slides, recordings, audience FAQs and more, in the *Elevate Community* eJournal.

National Training: 2025 Cultivating Health Center Operations Training*

April 15 - 16 | 8 am to 4:45 pm Charlotte, NC | Hybrid | 15.6 CPEs, 13 CEUs & 13 ACHE

This comprehensive national training focuses on equipping participants with strategies to align the right people, processes, and technologies to support efficiency, adaptability, and innovation in today's ever-changing healthcare environment.

>>> Click here for details

Training for New Clinical Directors*

April 22 - 23 | 7:30 am to 5 pm Atlanta, GA | 10.25 Continuing Medical Education Credits & 10.25 Continuing Dental Education Credits Available

The Georgia Primary Care Association and the NACHC are working together to create a training program designed to help new clinical directors develop their leadership skills. The program aims to provide a strong foundation for career development for health center clinical directors, leaders, and emerging managers.

>>> Click here for details

National Training: Financial Operations Management
3: Effective Leadership and Management Practices for
Community Health Center Leaders*

May 21 - 22 | 11 am to 5 pm Virtual | CPEs & CEUs Available

FOM 3 is designed to provide established CEOs, CFOs, COOs, Controllers, Finance Managers, and accountants with high-level approaches to concepts of management and leadership, leveraging data for decision-making, creating high performing teams, and defining the principles of an effective compliance program for health centers.

>>> Click here for details



WEBINARS & TRAINING

All event times shown are Eastern

Visit our **Clinical Integration** page



Webinar:

Parent and Teen Insights on Adolescent Vaccination

April 9, 2025 / 3 pm to 4 pm



Join Judy Klein, Co-Founder and President of Unity Consortium, as she discusses the results of a recent survey of parent and teen perceptions regarding adolescent vaccines. Judy will also share provider resources for promoting adolescent vaccination.

CNE offered for live view.

>>> Register here

HPV Conference

In-person meeting:

Inaugural National HPV Conference

April 15-17, 2025 / Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis

The Indiana Immunization Coalition is hosting the inaugural National HPV Conference and you can register for it now!

The goal of this conference is to bring together U.S. professionals working in the HPV space to learn and share. While many conferences strive to include HPV as one of many topics, this conference seeks to make HPV the main topic.

Attendees will enjoy learning and connecting with peers while forming new ideas and partnerships to strengthen their HPV-related efforts.

For more information visit National HPV Conference





IPHCA is committed to supporting Oral Healthcare provision across all community health care settings for our membership and throughout Indiana.



For help, to give feedback or provide resources for this section contact:

Karla Marin Muskus or call: 317.630.0845

Click here to browse

Oral Health resources



Educating Patients about Oral and Overall Health

Looking for a quick and engaging way to educate patients about the research linking a healthy mouth to a healthy body?

Check out the "Oral-Systemic"

Connection Across the

Lifespan," a 52-second video — ideal for waiting rooms — that shows critical connection points as we age



The Role of Dental Providers in Oral Cancer Awareness Month:

Prevention Through Early Detection & HPV Education

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month, a time to highlight the critical role dental providers play in early detection, prevention, and education. Oral cancer affects thousands of Americans each year, and one of the leading causes is the human papillomavirus (HPV). As trusted healthcare providers, dentists are key in screening for oral cancer, educating patients about risk factors, and promoting HPV vaccination as a powerful tool for prevention.

Oral Cancer & HPV: The Connection

HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection and a major cause of oropharyngeal cancers, which affect the back of the throat, base of the tongue, and tonsils. The good news? The HPV vaccine is highly effective in preventing HPV-related cancers.

How Dental Providers Can Help

- **Perform Routine Oral Cancer Screenings** Early detection significantly improves survival rates.
- Educate Patients About the HPV Vaccine The CDC recommends HPV vaccination starting at age 9–12 to prevent future HPV-related cancers.
- Raise Awareness Inform patients and families about risk factors like HPV, tobacco, alcohol, and poor oral hygiene.
- Collaborate with Medical Providers Dentists can refer patients for HPV vaccination, which is available in many healthcare settings—including some dental clinics in Indiana.

Indiana Resources for Oral Cancer & HPV Prevention

- Indiana Department of Health HPV Vaccine Info
- Oral Cancer Foundation Education, research, and patient support.
- Indiana Immunization Coalition HPV vaccine for Adults.

Protecting Health, Preventing Cancer

Dentists are on the front lines of cancer prevention—detecting early signs of oral cancer and advocating for HPV vaccination. By combining screenings, education, and preventive care, we can help protect Hoosiers from oral and oropharyngeal cancers.

>>> Get all links here







American
Association
of Oral and
Maxillofacial
Surgeons



>>> Click here for all resources

Protect Your Smile This Spring Celebrate National Facial Protection Month

As Hoosiers welcome warmer weather, it's time to enjoy outdoor activities—whether it's soccer, baseball, biking, or simply playing outside. But with all the fun comes an increased risk of head, mouth, and facial injuries. Each spring, emergency rooms and dental clinics see a surge of patients suffering from preventable sports-related accidents. That's why Indiana's Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) dental clinics are reminding both children and adults: protect your face and head this season!

April is **National Facial Protection Month**, a campaign dedicated to raising awareness about sports safety. Sponsored by





Many dental and facial injuries can be avoided by taking simple precautions:

- Wear a mouthguard Custom-fitted or over-the-counter mouthguards can protect teeth, lips, and jaws from injury.
- Use a helmet Helmets reduce the risk of concussions and skull fractures in high-impact sports.
- Wear protective eyewear Sports goggles help prevent eye injuries.
- Play it safe Follow the rules of the game and use proper equipment.

Indiana FQHC Dental Clinics: Your Partner in Oral Health

Indiana's FQHC dental clinics are committed to keeping families healthy and safe. Whether you need a custom mouthguard, emergency care for a dental injury, or guidance on protecting your child's smile, our clinics are here to help.

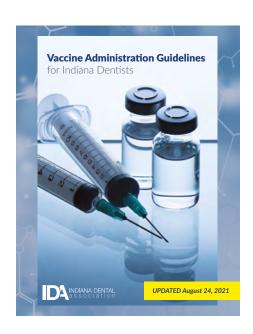
Click here for more information, downloadable resources, and expert tips on preventing and treating facial injuries.

Spread the word! Let's make this spring season fun and safe for everyone.





>>> See all resources here



Indiana FQHC Dental Providers Support World Immunization Week 2025

From April 24–30, we recognize *World Immunization Week*, celebrating the power of vaccines in preventing disease and saving lives. While dental care focuses on oral health, we know that overall health begins with prevention—including immunization. That's why we support efforts to ensure patients of all ages receive life-saving vaccinations.

Oral Health & Immunization: A Shared Commitment to Prevention

Vaccines protect against serious infections that can impact oral health, including:

- **HPV** A leading cause of oral and throat cancers.
- Measles Can cause oral complications like tooth enamel defects.
- Tetanus Affects jaw muscles, leading to difficulty eating and speaking.

By promoting preventive care, both dental providers and immunization programs help keep communities healthy.

How Dental Providers Can Support Immunization

- Educate patients on the link between vaccines and oral health.
- Encourage parents to keep up with children's immunization schedules.
- Collaborate with medical providers in Medical-Dental Integration
 Strategies to improve and promote whole-body wellness.
- Administer eligible vaccines to improve access and prevention

Indiana Resources for Vaccination & Oral Health





- Indiana Dental Association IDA Vaccine Administration Guidelines
- Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA)
 - FQHC dental and medical services.

Prevention Starts Here

By combining oral health care with immunization awareness, we help protect Hoosiers from preventable diseases. Together, we can ensure less disease, and more life—because immunization for all is humanly possible!





Report

What is the Oral Health Landscape in Indiana?

Indiana Dental Health Workforce In Context



Indiana faces dental workforce shortages, with 68% of its counties designated as Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). This shortage impacts access to essential oral health services for many residents.

>> Click here for resources

The Bowen Center for Health Workforce reviewed the current state of dental health professionals in Indiana, comparing it with neighboring states, and examines the potential of the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact to address these workforce shortages. Discover how interstate compacts could enhance mobility and reduce regulatory barriers for dental professionals.

BOWEN POLICY SNAPSHOT Indiana Dental Workforce in Context THE WORKFORCE A <u>dentist</u> is a healthcare professional who takes care of your mouth, teeth, and gums. They check for problems, diagnose issues, and treat them, whether it involves simple procedures like cleanings or more complex ones like surgeries. Dentists are simple procedures like cleanings or more complex ones like surgeries. Dentists are trained and educated to do this work ethicially and legally, is snuring your oral health is in good hands. A dental hygienist is a healthcare professional who helps keep your mouth healthy. They check your teeth and gums, figure out if there are arry prob-lems, plan and carry out treatments to prevent or fix issues, and keep records of your care. Their main goal is to prevent and control oral diseases. **DOES INDIANA HAVE A DENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE** SHORTAGE? The <u>Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA)</u> is a federal agency that supports health infrastructure through a variety of programs including health professionals training, providing financial support to health care providers, and supporting the advancement of telehealth. In addition to these efforts, HRSA designates Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) which indicate there is a shortage of specific types of healthcare providers. These shortages can be identified for a certain geographic location, a specific population group, or within a healthcare facility. Dengeorgiaphic location's a specime bypotation group, in whilm a healuracter carrier, some trail Health is one of three health focus areas of the HPSA designations. The other two are Primary Care and Mental Health. Dental Health HPSAs are based on the number of dentists working in a particular area or serving a specific population, <u>Out of Indi-</u> ana's 92 counties, 63 (68%) are designated as a Dental HPSA by HRSA. **HOW DOES INDIANA COMPARE TO CONTIGUOUS STATES** IN THEIR DENTAL HPSAs? Among its immediate neighbors, Indiana has the lowest percentage 80 of counties with dental health shortage designations 85 INDIANA COUNTIES WITH A DENTAL HPSA 108 COUNTIES WITHOUT A DENTAL HPSA **BOWEN CENTER INDIANA UNIVERSITY** Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy | www.bowenportal.org | @IUBowenCtr | 317.278.4818

>>> Click here to read the full report and learn more about the dental health workforce in Indiana.

- Bowen Health Indiana's dental workforce includes 2,532 dentists and 3,825 dental hygienists as of 2024. However, 68% of Indiana's counties are designated as Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) by the Health Resource & Services Administration (HRSA).
- HB1031 aims to establish the Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact. The Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact is currently enacted in 10 states and pending in 16 others, including Indiana. If implemented, the compact may support mobility of dentists and dental hygienists in into practice in Indiana.

Click image to view / download the infographic



WEBINARS & TRAINING

All event times shown are Eastern



On-Demand recordings from the 2025

ADS Dental Infection Control

Boot Camp are available for purchase through Friday, April 11!



ADS Dental Infection Control Boot Camp™

Boot Camp is a fast-paced, foundational-level educational covering all the basics of dental infection prevention and patient safety. The content is perfect for those new to dental infection prevention and safety seeking an introductory understanding or for those early in their career, making a career shift, or who want a refresher. Course content includes:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Legal Aspects of Infection Control and Prevention
- Operatory Preparation: Environmental Infection Control and Managing Waste
- Dental Water Quality Assurance
- Sterilization and Disinfection of Patient Care Items And more!

>>> Find out more here



Online course

The Connection Between Sleep and Oral Health

How can dental professionals help detect and manage sleep-related disorders?

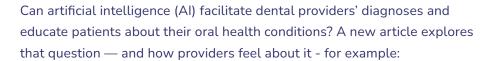
CareQuest Institute's newest
60-minute, self-paced course
provides practical guidance on
identifying sleep health concerns
during oral evaluations. Emphasizing
a whole-person, patient-centered
care approach, the course also
explores common sleep disorders
— such as sleep apnea — that can
impact oral and overall health.

Earn 1 free ADA CERP credit.

>>> Explore Course

Articles

The Benefits of Artificial Intelligence in Oral Health Care



- Dentists and dental therapists noted that the software facilitated their diagnostic process and helped them better educate their patients about their oral health conditions.
- Dental hygienists and assistants noted that the AI software added time to their workflow to open the software individually for each patient.

>>> Click here to read more

Creating a Safe Space for Patients in the Dental Chair

How can oral health providers help patients who have experienced trauma feel safe in the dental chair? In our latest blog post, experts from a CareQuest Institute webinar on trauma-informed care give recommendations on how to reduce patient anxiety and improve workplace culture.

>>> Read more here





WEBINARS & TRAINING

Learning opportunities

CareSource Project ECHO series



where Oral Health will be the featured topic in July.

Dr. Isaac Zeckel will be presenting on July 22nd on Oral Health Considerations for Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

These are great opportunities for continuing education and professional growth. For questions please email Dr. Kimberly Koch DDS Dental Director, Indiana Market of CareSource at Kimberly.kochsims@caresource.com

















PREVENTING CANCER: THE ROLE OF DENTAL **PROFESSIONALS**



April 10, 2025



6:00pm-7:30pm



Zoom Meeting



REGISTER HERE https://bit.ly/3EQoal

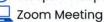
PREVENTING CANCER: THE ROLE OF DENTAL **PROFESSIONALS**



m April 24, 2025



(6:00pm-7:30pm



REGISTER HERE https://bit.ly/4k5SIIh

SPEAKERS

Alessandro Villa, DDS, MPH, PhD Issac Zeckel, DDS, MS

SPEAKERS

Parul Dua Makka, BSc, DDS, FACD Deborah Buckles, CPAHA, NCNTT Natalie Rivich, MA





Webinar:

Having Better Conversations on Fluoridation

Thursday, April 10 / 7-8 p.m. ET

Community water fluoridation is a hot topic — and as dental professionals, it's essential to address inquiries from patients about this topic with evidence-based communication that empowers them to make informed decisions. Join CareQuest Institute for a webinar where experts will present the latest research on community water fluoridation and provide practical, patient-centered strategies for discussing this topic effectively.

This webinar is eligible for 1 free CE credit.

Click here for info / registration



IQIN is a constituent network of community health centers within IPHCA, who work together to improve the quality and value of care provided to Indiana's most vulnerable residents.

By using health information technology and data, health centers are able to change the way they deliver care to produce better health outcomes for their patients.



For further help or to give feedback or provide resources for IQIN please contact:

Laura Totten or call: 317.630.0845

Quality Improvement resources for:

Black Maternal Health Week



Improving Quality In Pregnancy and Postpartum Care:

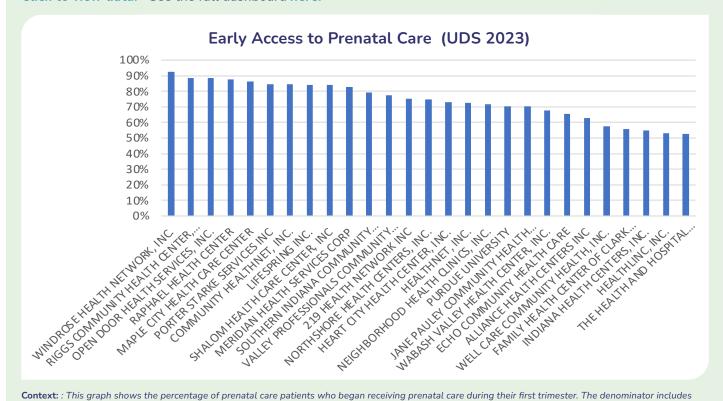
This guide provides actionable strategies for Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCNs) and high-performing health centers to use electronic clinical data systems to enhance maternal health care and reduce maternal mortality. It outlines essential steps for equitable and accessible family planning, prenatal care, primary care transitions, and postpartum care.

>>> Read more here



UDS Data Spotlights: Early Entry into Prenatal Care

For Black Maternal Health Month we are highlighting data on the importance of Early Entry into Prenatal Care. *Click to view data.* See the full dashboard *here.*



Context: : This graph shows the percentage of prenatal care patients who began receiving prenatal care during their first trimester. The denominator includes all patients who received a prenatal care, either directly at a health center or via a referral, regardless of trimester, in 2023. The numerator only includes those patients who began prenatal care at a health center or via a referral in their first trimester of pregnancy.



>>> Click here to view all IQIN / QI resources



>>> Click here to see upcoming events

Past Events:

February 2025 Health IT User Group:

- >>Recording
- >>Interoperability Slides

February 2025
Focus on Quality

>>Recording

Telehealth

Plan Your Telehealth Workflow

This tip sheet provides health centers with a 5-step process to get started on implementing telehealth services.

>>> Read the report

Artificial Intelligence

AMA 🕏

How AI is Leading to More Prior Authorization Denials:

This American Medical Association article explores the evolving landscape of prior authorization processes with insurance companies and the impact of AI on approval decisions.

>>> Find out more

SAFER Guides

2025 SAFER-1 High Priority Practices:



for multidisciplinary teams, this High Priority Guide is specifically tailored for front-line clinicians.

>>> Click here to view / download







American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

#HealthHub:

Social Media Content for Your Community

Celebrate National Infant Immunization Week! Use the infographics and videos created by the *American Academy of Pediatrics* to raise awareness of the importance of immunization on your social media profiles.

>>> Click here to get the resources



The KLAS Corner

Register using your community health center's provided email address, and you will have access to all the resources KLAS provides.

>>> Click here for more

EHR Implementations 2025 - Arch Report

EHR implementations are complex, high-stakes projects with major financial and operational impacts on healthcare organizations, staff, and patient care. This report highlights the growing challenges post-COVID-19, the decline in satisfaction rates, and the critical need to invest in the human aspects of implementation. It also explores common pitfalls, clinician impacts, and strategies used by successful organizations, along with insights from KLAS on improving stakeholder alignment.

>>> Read more here





Integrate VisualDx Into Your Live Telemedicine Visits



Use VisualDx just as you would during a clinic visit to show patients images and share information. Harness the power of the VisualDx software to answer patient concerns, even when your patient consultation is asynchronous and when video is not available.







Physicians have live video and audio interactions with the patient.



Physicians can share the screen of VisualDx photos, improving and building patient confidence



Doctor emails VisualDx condition summary and treatment options, speeding interaction. More than 300 handouts in both English and Spanish can be emailed directly from VisualDx.

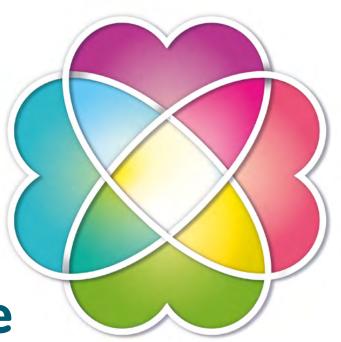






Coming soon!





Save the Date!

We are excited to announce our Annual Conference,

The Heart of Health Care during the week of October 6 in Terre Haute, IN.

Call for speakers, registration, & award nomination information coming soon!