

DATE

July 25-27, 2018

VENUE

JJ Pickle Commons Learning Center
10100 Burnet Rd., Bldg. 137 Austin, TX 78758

**Older Adult Oral Health Symposium:
Act Local, Think National
(3.0 CEU)**

Presented by:

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Sarah Dirks, DDS
Donna Warren Morris, RDH, MEd

Course Description

Learn the tools to leverage opportunities to affect change for older adults during this informative and interactive symposium. While improvements in oral health across the lifespan have been observed in the last half century, long-term concern is warranted for the 10,000 older adults retiring each day. According to the 2010 US Census an expected 7.7 million adults aged 65+ will be living in Texas by 2030. Currently, 55 million Americans access healthcare services through Medicare; however, Medicare does not cover routine or preventive dental services. Despite cost concerns, 93% of older adults claim dental coverage is a top priority compared with other non-covered services such as long-term care, vision, and hearing.

Presenters will discuss the history and current progress of the inclusion of dental benefits in Medicare, as well as review other federal legislation that addresses oral health. They will describe opportunities to improve access to older adults in your community by utilizing benefits authorized by the Older Americans Act and by the VA voucher system.

Patients residing in nursing facilities enrolled in Texas Medicaid are able to access necessary dental services not covered by Medicaid through the Incurred Medicaid Expenses (IME) program. Learn how the IME process works and what updates could affect the way you provide care and receive reimbursement for this underserved population.

As hypo-salivation or dry mouth become more prevalent from poly-pharmacy and systemic related conditions found in our aging population, patients and caregivers are seeking assistance to alleviate the discomfort caused by this problem. Dry mouth often causes speech difficulties, diminished ability to taste, increased tooth decay and periodontal disease and difficulty swallowing. Attendees will learn how to assess a patient for diminished salivary flow and how patients and caregivers can address dry mouth.

Learning Objectives:

1. Learners will be able to describe various efforts to include dental benefits in Medicare
2. Learners will be able to describe the IME process and identify who may be eligible for IME deductions
3. Learners will be able to describe "medically necessary oral care" and long-term care.
4. Learners will be able to describe how to assess for hypo-salivation and how to evaluate products to alleviate oral dryness and oral diseases associated with hypo-salivation.

A Joint Meeting Hosted By



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