


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Giese</i>	DATE <i>7/6/11</i>
--------------------	-----------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000011</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action		

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Health Resources and Services Administration

Dear Colleague:

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) at Georgetown University are pleased to provide you with a copy of *Medical Providers and Head Start: What You Should Know About Oral Health and How You Can Help*. The tip sheet was designed to assist medical providers (e.g., physicians, nurse practitioners) in identifying approaches they can take to improve the oral health of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start.

Medical providers can play an important role in improving the oral health of young children, including those enrolled in Head Start programs. Increasingly, states and territories are encouraging medical providers to participate in the prevention of oral disease by conducting oral health screenings and risk assessments, applying fluoride varnish, providing anticipatory guidance, and referring children to dental homes during well-child and other health visits.

In addition, we've provided copies of two other tip sheets that focus on dentists and on dental hygienists. All health professionals play an important role in addressing the oral health needs of pregnant women, infants, and children enrolled in Head Start.

The tip sheets provide an overview of the Head Start program, the oral health status of children enrolled in Head Start and barriers to care, oral health services that Head Start provides, and promising approaches to providing care for Head Start participants. A list of practical suggestions for how health professionals (dentists, dental hygienists, medical providers) can get involved with Head Start, both as individuals and as members of their professional associations, is also included.

The tip sheets are available from OHRC's website at <http://www.mchoralhealth.org/materials/HS.html>. Single and multiple copies of the tip sheets can be ordered at <http://www.mchoralhealth.org/order/index.html>. Please allow 2 weeks to process your order.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Nehring

Mark E. Nehring, D.M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Dental Officer, Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Health Resources and Services Administration

Katrina Holt

Katrina Holt, M.P.H., M.S., R.D.
Director, National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center
Georgetown University

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2011

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR