Oral Health Matters!

Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice (OHNEP)

Fall Newsletter 2020

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Spotlight: Oral Health Effects of HPV-positive Oropharyngeal Cancers

A recent article from the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Voice, *Manage Late Effects from HPV-Positive Oropharyngeal Cancers*, highlights rising rates of HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancers (OPC) among middle-aged men in the U.S.

The article includes a comprehensive overview of how to educate patients on management of late effects from OPC. Many of the late effects occur in the mouth - dysphagia, lymphedema, mucositis, xerostomia and tooth decay, to name a few - and effective interprofessional collaboration by members of the oncology, dental, and primary care team, has the potential to prevent these problems.

Oncology nurses are well-positioned to provide oral health education and resources to patients recovering from OPC because oral health habits are vital components of effective long-term care of OPC.

Read the article here.

Oral Cancer Screening Initiative
OHNEP Oral Health Champion Colleen Palay

Colleen Palay, MPH, BSN, RN, OCN, CPHQ, an OHNEP Oral Health Champion, recently hosted a successful Oral Cancer screening event with her team at Cogswell Hall a temporary housing shelter for those experiencing homelessness in Cleveland, Ohio.

Hoping to target the most vulnerable population in Cleveland for oral cancer screening, the University Hospitals Community Outreach Coordinator worked with the Community Engagement Supervisor at the YWCA to identify an appropriate location for the program. With grant support from the American Head and Neck Society (AHNS), otolaryngology residents, faculty, nursing and administrative staff from University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center created a mobile clinic space with two exam rooms. Patients were screened upon entry by nursing staff for high risk behaviors including tobacco and alcohol abuse, lack of dental care, and/or presence of an oral lesion, along with a comprehensive health history and oral examination. Appropriate referrals and information were provided by the administrative team if patients required further care. All individuals were provided with American Head & Neck Cancer information pamphlets and oral care supplies provided by the AHNS grant. Efforts will be made to continue to bring this oral cancer screening mobile clinic to other locations through the greater Cleveland area.

OHNEP Innovative Virtual Resources Hub

Online learning has become the new normal across the country, with didactic courses taking place over video conferencing instead of in the classroom.

OHNEP and our oral health partners have a rich collection of interprofessional oral health integration teaching and learning resources to use for health professions education. These user-friendly and evidence-based resources can be used in the virtual classroom or can be completed by students on their own.

You can review and download these resources at the links below:

- OHNEP Interprofessional Oral Health Education for Nurse Practitioner and Midwifery Programs
- OrALL in the Family Interprofessional Care Across the Lifespan Case Study
- Oral Health Across the Lifespan Jeopardy
- Oral Health and Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Adults Narrated Video Slideshow
- Parkinson's Disease Oral Health Module: Interprofessional Coordination of Care
- Caring for Your Teeth During COVID-19 Oral Health Literacy
- Oral Health Patient Facts: Oral Health Literacy from OHNEP and the American College of Physicians (ACP)

Smiles for Life: New 4th Edition Coming Soon!

Smiles for Life
A national oral health curriculum

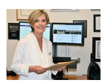
Smiles for Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum, the free online curriculum of 11 modules that address oral health issues across the lifespan, will be launching the exciting 4th edition of this innovative interprofessional resource that "puts the mouth back in the head". SFL provides health professionals, nurses, physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, social workers, community health workers, as well as members of dental teams, with up to 8 hours of free CE credit.

Smiles for Life has had over 2,000,000 site visits and 400,000 courses completed by registered users since 2005. In 2019, SFL had more than 71,011 completed modules, along with the largest number of new registered users in the website's history at 23,515. The SFL curriculum addresses vital topics of health equity, health care disparities, and the impact of social determinants on health and care delivery. Downloadable slideshow presentations, case studies, quizzes, are available for in-class or out-of-class use by faculty and students. Students and clinicians love having a SFL point of care (POC) app as a ready clinical reference.

Visit www.SmilesforLifeOralHealth.org to preview the 4th Edition.

Awards & Recognition

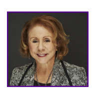
Dr. Erin Hartnett Selected as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing



OHNEP Program Director, Dr. Erin Hartnett, was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) for 2020! AAN Fellows are recognized for their accomplishments as nursing leaders in education, management, practice and research.

Dr. Hartnett is a leader in developing an innovative national interprofessional oral health nursing curriculum. She has pioneered implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of interprofessional oral health clinical education models that address significant population health issues that reflect oral and overall health disparities. We are thrilled to celebrate Dr. Hartnett's many contributions to the nursing profession and her unwavering commitment to interprofessional oral health integration across the lifespan!

Dr. Judith Haber Recipient of 2020 NYU Alumni Changemaker Award



We are thrilled to announce that OHNEP Executive Director Dr. Judith Haber was named an NYU Alumni Changemaker! Dr. Haber is recognized for her visionary accomplishments that help build a better world. Her innovative work in nursing education, her leadership in advocating for oral health integration, and her perseverance in impacting health disparities have had a major impact on population health.

View Dr. Haber's Changemaker profile and read more about her accomplishments.

Panel Presentation at National Dental Association's Virtual Annual Convention

OHNEP's Dr. Erin Hartnett participated in the interprofessional panel *New COVID -19 Infection Control Guidelines for Health Professionals* at the National Dental Association's Virtual Annual Convention "Refocusing our Vision for the Future" which highlighted the impact of COVID on the health professions. The National Dental Association promotes oral health equity among people of color by harnessing the collective power of its members, advocating for the needs of and mentoring dental students of color, and raising the profile of the profession in our communities. Learn more about the organization by visiting their website.

From left: Dr. Hartnett, Dr. Faye Grimsley, Dr. Kelli C. Mack, & Dr. Leslie S.T. Fang

Publications

Senior Oral Health: A Community-Based, Interprofessional Educational Experience For Nursing And Dental Students
Journal of Gerontological Nursing

This new article authored by OHNEP's Dr. Judith Haber, Dr. Erin Hartnett and Jessamin Cipollina, in collaboration with oral health champions Dr. Sherry Greenberg, Dr. Gary Berkowitz, Dr. Andrew Schenkel, Dr. Tara Cortes and Cynthia Chong is published online in the latest issue of JGN. The study reported on the effectiveness of a community- based interprofessional program using teams of nursing, nurse practitioner and dental students.

Access the article here.

Opportunities for Interprofessional Collaboration Between Physicians and Dentists in Treatment of Pediatric Patients
Practice Update

A new study from the AAPD Pediatric Dentistry Journal, Opportunities for Age-Specific Interprofessional Collaboration Between Physicians and Dentists in Pediatric Patients, examines collaborative care and interprofessional practice between dentists and physicians in improving children's oral health and overall health outcomes. OHNEP Executive Director Dr. Judith Haber's featured Commentary to accompany the article, describes the study's implications for "widening the lens" of services that dental and medical teams can provide to their pediatric patients nationwide.

Read the full commentary here.

No Longer "Business As Usual"
Compendium of Continuing Education in Dentistry

The coronovirus global pandemic has caused dental practices across the U.S. to close, changing business as usual to business as "unusual". The entire healthcare workforce - physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and more - are stretched thin during this public health crisis. OHNEP Directors Dr. Judith Haber and Dr. Erin Hartnett, along with Dr. Jack Dillenberg of Jack Dillenberg & Friends Health Services Consulting, discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants are well-positioned to contribute their skills and expertise during pandemics and other disaster response situations.

Read the full commentary here.

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In this issue...

◊ Spotlight on HPV-related Oral Cancers

◊ Resources for Virtual Oral Health Education

◊ New Publications from OHNEP and our Oral Health Champions

...and more!

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Check out our blog All 4 Oral Health!

Latest Articles:

It's Back to School for Everyone: Promoting Children's Oral Health in a Pandemic

Oral Health Home Habits for Healthy and Happy Smiles

Intimate Partner Violence Shocks the Head and Mind

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Upcoming Events

AACN Fall Faculty Forum
December 2020

ADEA Annual Session
March 2021

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Judith Haber, PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN, Editor

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Jessamin Cipollina, MA, Associate Editor

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