



August 3rd Issue

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The **deadline** for the next MPHA Enews is **Thursday, August 16th** the August 17th issue. **There will be no MPHA Enews Friday, August 10th.**

Please contact Michelle Caliandro with content or questions about this publication at mcaliandro@mainelung.org or 1-800-499-5864 x 103.

Learning Opportunities

Extending the Reach of Oral Health to Young Children: What YOU Need to Know About Caries Risk Assessment and Behavior Management in the General Dental Practice

Saturday, October 27, 2007 -- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (registration 8:15)
Bangor, ME

Who Should Attend: Dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants who work with children in general dental practice settings

About the Course:

This one-day continuing education program emphasizes knowledge and skills needed by all staff in general dentistry practices to expand their comfort level and capacity to provide care for young children, with a focus on those age 5 and younger. By refining their skills in caries risk assessment and behavior management, dental professionals can expand their practices to include younger children and have a significant impact on oral health outcomes. This course will also include a session on managing traumatic injuries to teeth and recognizing signs of child abuse and neglect.

Faculty: Drs. Howard Needleman, Man Wai Ng and Stephen Shusterman, Children's Hospital, Boston and Harvard School of Dental Medicine.

Information

ALAME Announces Slate of Awardees for the 2007 Annual Meeting

Please hold Friday September 28th for the American Lung Association of Maine Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon at the South Portland Marriott. Our guest of honor will be Senator George J. Mitchell who will receive a **Lifetime Achievement Award** from our organization in recognition of his work in promoting healthy air.

In addition to Senator Mitchell, ALAME is pleased to announce the following 2007 Awardees:

- **Youth Advocacy**— Ignite, Oxford County, Rumford, TJ Williams, Abigail Bronish, Laura Murphy and Megan Arsenault
- **Healthy Air**—Representative Seth Berry and ALAME advocacy volunteers, Lynn Graham and Beth Thomas
- **Distinguished Service**—CD&M Communications, Bob Cott, President
- **Roselle Huddilston** — Dora Anne Mills, MD, MPH, Director, Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Space is limited. [Register on-line today!](#)

<http://www.mainelung.org/Events/annual-meeting.asp>

Good News and Bad in Oral Health Status

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released a study reporting that tooth decay in baby teeth has increased 15 percent among U.S. toddlers and preschoolers. The study also found that 74 percent of young children who have experienced tooth decay were in need of dental repair. The upturn in cavities among young children portends a new wave of increased tooth decay because early tooth decay is a predictor of future tooth decay.

The news wasn't all bad. Among the indicators of positive progress, the prevalence of tooth decay in permanent teeth decreased for children, teens, and adults. And more than one-third (38 percent) of children and teens aged 12 to 19 years had dental sealants.

To view the study go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/07newsreleases/oralhealth.htm>

From the July 2007 "Word of Mouth: A newsletter of the Maine Dental Access Coaliton", for more information contact sshed@mcd.org

Medical Claims Severities Increasing

Workers compensation medical claims severities have been increasing at a faster rate than would be expected based on medical inflation alone according to a research study conducted by the National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. The National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. manages the nation's largest database of workers compensation insurance information. NCCI analyzes industry trends, prepares workers compensation insurance rate recommendations, determines the cost of proposed legislation, and provides a variety of services and tools to maintain a healthy workers compensation system.

For more information on the study go to:

<http://www.ncci.com/NCCI/article.asp>

More Chemicals May Have to be Flagged as Risky

Some persistent organic pollutants (POPs) can reach high concentrations in humans and other air-breathing animals even though they don't bioaccumulate in fish, according to a study by Canadian researchers (Science 2007, Vol. 317, pg. 236). The observation suggests that the regulatory criteria now used to flag potential POPs may need revision.

From [Rachel's Democracy & Health News #916](#) go to:

http://www.rachel.org/home_eng.htm

Residential Exposure to Traffic is Associated with Coronary Atherosclerosis

Long-term exposure to air pollution from a nearby freeway or busy road can raise the risk of hardening of the arteries, which can lead to heart disease and stroke.

For more information see [July 31, 2007 issue of Circulation](#).

<http://circ.ahajournals.org/>

Safer Highways

Working with other leading safety groups such as Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety and Public Citizen, the Truck Safety Coalition (TSC) has focused on making progress to keep highways safe.

Safety groups won the Hours of Service (HOS) lawsuit regarding the rule issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The federal appeals court struck down the regulation that increased the number of hours that truck drivers are permitted to drive without rest. Public Citizen was TSC's legal counsel. The ruling states ".....we grant Public Citizen's petition and vacate those portions of the 2005 Rule that increase the daily driving limit from 10 to 11 hours, and that permit an off-duty period of 34 hours to restart the weekly on-duty limits." Both day and week limits were major points made in the lawsuit and important to the goal of reducing the number of hours driven. For more info on truck safety and the roadways contact Jeff Lannen at jlannen@trucksafety.org

Career Opportunities

ACCESS Health Career Opportunity

ACCESS Health, the Healthy Maine Partnership serving Sagadahoc and Northern Cumberland Counties, seeks new staff member to implement environmental strategies to reduce tobacco use and exposure to ETS, improve healthy eating and physical activity, and integrate self management for chronic illness. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of a BS degree in Community Health Education or some other related health background. Full time, year-round, position at Mid Coast Hospital. Candidates can apply on line by visiting www.midcoasthealth.com

Supporting Our Membership

Nothing posted this issue.



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