

APRIL

2024



ORAL CANCER

A W A R E N E S S M O N T H

Oral Cancer Awareness Month emphasizes the importance of understanding oral and oropharyngeal cancers, which affect parts like the mouth, head, and neck. Here are some key points:

Incidence:

- Around 54,000 new cases of oral cancer are expected in the US this year, affecting various parts of the mouth, head, and neck.
- Every day in the US, approximately 145 new individuals are diagnosed with mouth cancer, and one person dies from oral cancer every hour.

Risk Factors:

- Tobacco and Alcohol: Long-standing significant risk factors for oral cancer.
- HPV-16 Virus: Since 1999, HPV-16 has emerged as another cause, responsible for most cervical cancers in women.
- Some cases (about 10%) have no identified cause yet and are possibly linked to genetic factors or other shared risk factors.

Impact:

- High Mortality: Despite being relatively rare, oral cancers have significant mortality rates.
- Late Diagnosis: Most cases are diagnosed at late stages, leading to a 43% five-year death rate. Early detection is crucial for better outcomes.
- Lack of Awareness: Late-stage diagnosis often results from a lack of public awareness and the absence of a national screening program.

Take Action:

- Screenings: Encourage high-risk adults to participate in free screenings for oral, head, and neck cancer.
- Education: Spread awareness about risk factors, symptoms, and the importance of early detection.
- Support Organizations: Organizations like The Oral Cancer Foundation play a vital role in prevention, education, research, and patient support activities.



Community Spotlight

TARA VANDERPOOL, BSN, RN, RCSN EDCOE NURSING SERVICES COORDINATOR



On a personal note...

I have two children ages 18 and 20. I love to travel and experience other cultures, food, and festivals. In my free time you can find me outside gardening or hiking.



How long have you been with EDCOE and served in your position?

I started at EDCOE in September of 2021. I work as a nursing services coordinator alongside Tammy VanWarmerdam.

What are your duties within the program?

I support six school districts as well as assist with EDCOE programs and charters as needed.

What is your professional passion?

I grew up in El Dorado County, and I love our community. We have grown so much! I feel really passionate about getting students and their families connected and thriving by connecting to community through their student's schools, health agencies and other local programs.

What are some of the challenges you are facing in your position and work?

El Dorado County has challenges with access to medical, dental and vision services. I work with many different local agencies to get families connected to services that they need.

Any news you would like to share about your program?

I want parents to know that they have a resource in their school nurse. Reach out, as school nurses we have broad experience with student life. We can assist with many portions of your students physical, mental, and emotional health needs.

CHECK OUT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!



WELL DORADO



ORAL HEALTH



SCHOOL BASED SCREENINGS

KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS



The implementation of our new Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA) screening program in El Dorado County has been a great success. The team has completed screenings at four of the twelve schools scheduled. The deadline for screenings to be completed is May 31, 2024.

To date, 210 students have been screened and it was determined that 6 students needed urgent treatment, 52 students had treatment needs that fall into the “early stages” category, and 152 students had no significant dental issues.

Having the ability to provide these screening to students while at school helps many families meet the State KOHA requirements. Barriers such as lack of transportation, and access to dental care make completing this requirement very difficult for some. Students that require further treatment will be referred to a local dental provider.

DENTAL VAN

APPLICATION ENGLISH



Enroll Now!

El Dorado Children's Dental Van

APLICACIÓN ESPAÑOL



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OUTREACH

KIDS EXPO - PLACERVILLE

Saturday April 27th, 2024

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

El Dorado County Fairgrounds

Games, facepainting, giveaways, community resources, and more!



Catalyst community

FREE EVENT

TEDDY BEAR PARADE - ALPINE COUNTY

MARKLEEVILLE

04/27/2024

BEAR VALLEY

05/09/2024

