



Community Based Dental Partnerships: Improving Access to Dental Care for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS

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Problem

- Oral health diseases are a major problem among persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Critical levels of unmet oral health care needs
 - Inadequate supply of dentists



CBDPP: Purpose

- Increase access to oral health care services for persons with HIV in areas that remain underserved, especially in communities without dental education programs
- Increase the number of dental providers capable of managing the oral health needs of patients with HIV, through collaborative academic community-based partnerships.



CBDPP

- First funded in FY 2002
- 12 CBDP Programs: accredited dental education programs
- Over 50 community based agencies involved as partners



Program Expectations

- Expand oral health services for individuals with HIV.
- Ensure education and hands-on training of students and residents to provide dental care for persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- Establish and manage clinical rotations for students and residents in community-based settings.
- Develop and coordinate multi-partner community-based collaborations among the dental education programs and community-based dentists and organizations.



Sources of Data

- Site Visits and Reports
- Clinical Dental Review Guides
- Annual Dental Service Reports

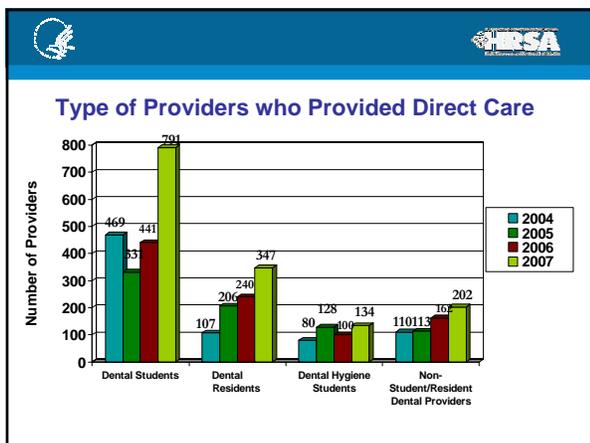
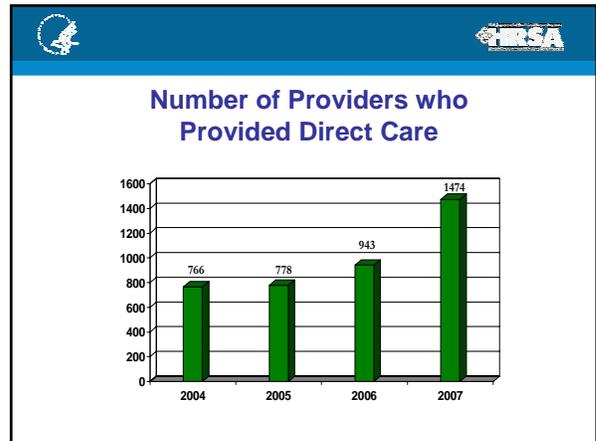
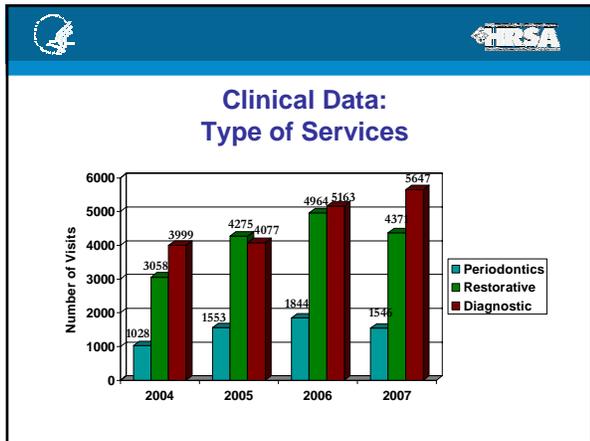
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Findings

Utilization

| | 2004 | 2007 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Number of HIV Patients | 3235 | 4745 |
| Sex | | |
| Male | 2469 (76.3%) | 3512 (74.0%) |
| Female | 760 (23.5%) | 1214 (25.6%) |
| Ethnicity | | |
| Hispanic | 463 (14.3%) | 953 (20.1%) |
| Non-Hispanic | 2772 (85.7%) | 3792 (79.9%) |
| Race | | |
| White | 1549 (47.9%) | 2584 (54.5%) |
| Black | 1004 (31.0%) | 1874 (39.5%) |
| Asian | 37 (1.1%) | 24 (.5%) |
| Other | 645 (20.0%) | 263 (5.5%) |
| # of visits for all types of services | 13,705 | 24,564 |
| Average number of visits per patient per year | 4.2 | 5.2 |

*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding and an unknown number of patients for some programs.



Consumer Reflections

*"People treat you as if they have known you their whole life."
 "They take care of my fear."
 "They are like a big family...they gave me my smile back."
 "I feel free, secure and welcomed by the staff."
 "I feel comfortable here...not treated as a HIV patient, but a person who needs dental care."
 "We're all so fortunate to get what we need."
 "Its affordable. It's a one stop shop."
 "This is the only game in town."*



Impact on Students

"I was a little nervous at the beginning, not anymore, I feel comfortable and really enjoy providing care to HIV patients."

"As a result of this experience, it opened my eyes on how so many people need dental care. This has been invaluable."

"This experience has changed me in that I am now interested in seeking out and serving patients who suffer from HIV and AIDS."



Partner Reflections

"1st opportunity for people with HIV in Mississippi to have access to quality dental care, other than getting extractions."

"When we have students we see more patients."

"It is worthwhile to train students and help them feel comfortable and confident in treating HIV patients. They are the future."



Lessons Learned

- Co location of dental care and primary care services
- Community outreach and education
- Extended clinical rotations



Challenges

- Building and sustaining partnerships
- Inadequate length of rotations
- Consumer involvement



Conclusion

- CBDPP has positively impacted:
 - Access to dental care for persons living with HIV.
 - Provider training and experience in the care and treatment of persons living with HIV.
- Challenges need to be addressed for the continued growth of the CBDPP.



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