



Did You Know?

Michigan passed a law to ensure kids entering their first year of school have a dental health assessment prior to starting their first year of school.

What Can Your Practice Do To Help?

Michigan's new dental health assessment is important since poor oral health can affect a child's attendance, grades and overall performance in school. The dental health assessment helps ensure each student is healthy and ready to succeed! The primary goal of this program is to identify children who need further examination and establish a dental home for each child.

Your practice may receive calls for more information, or have parents bring the MDHHS Dental Health Assessment form into appointments. If the child is already a patient-of-record and has had an examination within the last 9 months, the results of that exam will satisfy the assessment requirements. The only additional part of the visit is your completion of MDHHS Dental Health Assessment form.

The dental health assessment is not intended to alter your usual office protocol. Your office may want to develop a process for parents who ask if you will complete the form based on the child's record from the last exam.

How to complete the assessment

The assessment can either be completed as a full examination performed by a dentist, including a treatment plan, or it can be a brief assessment performed by a dentist or dental hygienist, which only identifies any signs of dental problems.

How to complete the form

Your office may download the MDHHS Dental Health Assessment form using the QR code below or by visiting miottawa.org/dental. Complete the form, and provide the form and findings back to the parent or guardian. They will provide the form to the school.

The Ottawa County Department of Public Health will provide free dental health assessments between April and August in Grand Haven, Hudsonville and Holland, and through special events such as health fairs and Kindergarten Roundups. Our combined efforts will create effective systems for assessment, triage and referral for children with dental needs whose families may experience barriers to dental care.

Questions?

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MDHHS Dental Health Assessment Form

