Pregnancy & Oral Health in the ACA Era: How Are Expectant Moms Faring?

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES
(In order of appearance on the program)

KATHRYN SANTORO, MA is Director of Policy and Development at the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization whose mission is to promote improvements in health care access, management and quality. Ms. Santoro currently leads NIHCM’s Driving Value webinar series and directs the organization’s maternal and child health programs. Under these projects, she conducts research and analysis on health policy issues in support of improving practices used by health care decision makers and industry leaders.

Ms. Santoro joined NIHCM Foundation in September 2004 after receiving her Master’s degree in Public Policy from the George Washington University with a focus on women’s health policy. Ms. Santoro previously served as a Project Consultant for Women in Government where she was responsible for compiling a state-by-state report card on access to cervical cancer screening. While pursuing her Master’s degree, Ms. Santoro was a Communications Assistant for a health policy consulting firm and a Graduate Intern for a Washington, D.C. based women’s and children’s policy research organization. Ms. Santoro attended Villanova University in Villanova, PA and graduated with a BA cum laude in Political Science.

EMILY ECKERT is a reproductive and maternal health policy and program implementation specialist. In her current role as an analyst on the health reform implementation team at the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP), Emily manages subcontract work and technical assistance to states focused on improving continuity of coverage and care for pregnant women and children. Prior to joining AMCHP, Emily worked as a community organizer and certified health insurance navigator for the Pennsylvania Health Access Network. She received degrees in Women’s Studies and English from Allegheny College in May of 2014.
KATRINA HOLT serves as director for the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center at Georgetown University. In this role, she assists the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Office of Head Start to enhance the quality of oral health services for pregnant women, especially those from disadvantaged and underserved populations. The resource center collaborates with governmental agencies, professionals associations, and other organizations to gather, develop, and share high-quality information and materials to support the work of health professionals serving the MCH population. Prior to joining Georgetown University, Katrina worked in a variety of settings, including local health departments, prenatal clinics, refugee clinics, and other community programs.

ILISE D. MARRAZZO, RN, BSN, MPH is currently the Director of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In this role, she provides statewide leadership to improve the health and well-being of Maryland women, men, infants, children, adolescents and their families. The goal of the programs that are implemented within the Maternal and Child Health Bureau is to help individuals achieve optimal health through the elimination of health inequities and address the social determinants of health that are often the cause of poor health and wellness. Other leadership roles she has held at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene include being the Chief of Family Planning and Reproductive Health and the Director of the Office of Oral Health. In addition, she continues to practice pediatric emergency medicine at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Ms. Marrazzo received her Master’s in Public Health from the George Washington University in Maternal and Child Health, a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from the University of Maryland Baltimore and a Bachelors in Science in Health Policy and Administration from Penn State University.

KATY BATTANI, RDH, MS received her bachelor’s degree in dental hygiene from the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Dentistry and her Master of Science degree from the University of Maryland, Baltimore Graduate School. She currently leads Maryland’s Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement program, which focuses on improving oral health for pregnant women and infants at high risk for oral disease. She also serves as Dental Outreach Coordinator for the Harford County Health Department’s Dental Program, overseeing school-based and community oral health programs. Katy is currently President of the Maryland Oral Health Association and is a member of the Maryland PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) Steering Committee.

Katy previously worked as Health Education Coordinator for the Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) whose mission is to develop and maintain a statewide partnership of individuals committed to improved health among all Marylanders.
through increased oral health promotion, disease prevention, education, advocacy and access to dental care. Prior to her position with MDAC, she was a dental hygiene faculty member at the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Dentistry and served for four years as Graduate Program Director of the Master of Science in Dental Hygiene Program.

In 2015, Katy received the Champions for Children and Youth Award which recognizes professionals, volunteers, and youth in the community who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help children. Also in 2015, Katy was recognized nationally as one of six “Dental Hygienists You Want to Know” by the Dimensions of Dental Hygiene journal.

Katy currently lives in Harford County, Maryland with her husband and three children, Ella (7), Lucy (5), and Sam (2).

**JOANN WELLS, BSHS, RDH** is the HRSA Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Expansion (PIOHQIE) Grant Consultant in the Dental Health Program at the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Prevention/Health Promotion. JoAnn oversees the Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Expansion Grant, focusing on strengthening and developing internal and external interdisciplinary partnerships to support the oral health of pregnant women and infants.

JoAnn is a licensed and registered dental hygienist. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene/Health Sciences and in Dental Auxiliary Teacher(s) Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Certificate in the Virginia Leadership/Education Neurodevelopmental Program from Virginia Commonwealth University- School of Education.

JoAnn has worked in public health since 1979, and has extensive experience in coordinating prevention programs and several years of experience managing grant projects. She is knowledgeable and skilled in educational theory, project management, quality improvement, and developing goals and evaluating progress. Her work with the MADRES project (coordinating and providing dental services for pregnant women), developing the Bright Smiles for Babies Fluoride Varnish Program, as well as working as a dental hygienist in WIC clinics has given her valuable insight into serving the perinatal and infant populations and the unique challenges regarding dental care in this population.

In her spare time, JoAnn enjoys Yoga and hiking. She is a volunteer for Family Readiness with the United States Marine Corps and has 5 grown children along with 3 grandchildren who live in Rota, Spain.
TIMOTHY J. CUSTER, D.D.S. is the Dental Director for the Dental Network of America. Dr. Timothy Custer has over 25 years experience within the dental industry and began his career with Dental Network of America in April 1995. As Dental Director, Dr. Custer oversees the Professional Review and Utilization Management of claims within all lines of business. In addition, Dr. Custer provides professional opinion and clinical oversight to various departments within the organization, including Operations, Network Development and Special Investigations. Prior to joining Dental Network of America, Dr. Custer held positions as the State Dental Director for the Wisconsin Dental Plan Regional Manager and Senior Dental Consultant for the Midwest Panel of Dental Insurance Consultants, Inc. Dr. Custer received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Loyola University School of Dentistry in 1983, and MBA from Benedictine University in 2001. Dr. Custer is a member of the American Dental Association, the Illinois State Dental Society, the Chicago Dental Society and the American Association of Dental Consultants.

ANGELA HASTINGS, BSN, RN, CCM is the Director of EHCM Exchange Products Ops, Retail Exchange Affected Market at the Health Care Service Corporation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas. Ms. Hastings has twenty-seven years of experience in the healthcare arena, the majority of which has been in the hospital or acute care settings. She spent five plus years as an Emergency Room/Medical-Surgical/Charge/Staff Nurse, and fourteen years as a Case Manager (Board-certified since 2004) within the following disciplines: Managed Care, Health Plan, and Medical Home arenas, supporting and educating individuals and families to become empowered to achieve an optimal level of health and wellness. Ms. Hastings has additional Clinical, Utilization Review/Case Management, and Travel Nurse Case Management experience in the following acute inpatient settings: Medical-Surgical, Neuro, ICU, CCU, Thoracic Surgery, Hematology/Oncology, Pediatric/Hematology-Oncology, Pulmonary, and Cardiology service areas, with a primary focus on Care Coordination, Utilization Management, and Discharge Planning.