



CHAMPS Summer 2004 Newsletter

CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall 2004 Primary Care Conference



***Solutions in Action:
Innovation, Change, Growth***

Mark your calendars for the CHAMPS/NWRPCA Primary Care Conference to be held **October 22-27, 2004** in Salt Lake City, UT.

The registration brochure will be available in August at www.champsonline.org/anconf.htm.

From Saturday, October 23rd through noon on Wednesday, October 27th, meet, greet and network with your colleagues from Regions VIII and X. This year's conference will highlight community health center Administrative, Board, Clinical, Dental, Fiscal, HR, and PCA/O issues. Hot topics that will be highlighted are behavioral health, frontier/rural health and development.

The conference hotel is the Salt Lake City Marriott City Center, located in the heart of the city's business and cultural district. Please phone (866) 961-8700 to make your sleeping room reservations. The conference code is "Primary Care Conference", and the room rate is \$119 for single/double occupancy. This rate will expire on Saturday, September 25, 2004, provided the CHAMPS/NWRPCA room block has not been filled. Otherwise, after September 25, 2004, reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis and the CHAMPS/NWRPCA room rate cannot be guaranteed.

Executive Directors and Medical Directors of CHAMPS Member CHCs and Executive Directors of CHAMPS Member PCAs are encouraged to attend the CHAMPS annual Board of Directors meeting on Sunday, October 24th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. The board meeting will be followed by a welcome reception.

CHAMPS continues to offer Continuing Dental Education (CDE), Continuing Medical Education (CME), Continuing Nursing Education (CNE), and Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit hours. CHAMPS will also reimburse Region VIII CHC clinicians who attend up to \$675 for travel expenses.

- **CHAMPS Live Webcast**

Diagnosis and Treatment of Common Oral Lesions Causing Pain



Photo courtesy of CDC

Tuesday, August 3, 2004
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM (MST)

Target participants: CHC clinical staff who provide patient exams.

Topics Covered: Oral and perioral exams overview, oral cancer overview, emphasis on pathology that requires a dental referral, case presentations, question and answer session.

Continuing Medical Education credits will be provided.

Visit www.champsonline.org/webcasts.htm for information on CHAMPS webcasts.

- **Report Finds High Need For Health Centers In Times of Economic Stress**

Federally-funded Community, Migrant and Homeless Health Centers provided care to 11.3 million patients in 2002, the vast majority of whom were either uninsured (39%) or covered by Medicaid (34%), and the need continues to grow, according to a new report by the Kaiser Commission On Medicaid and the Uninsured. The issue brief, "Economic Stress and the Safety Net: A Health Center Update," offers new information on the demographic of health center patients, and the revenue sources available to finance their care at time when the nation's economy is challenged. Among the findings of the report is that even the generous 7.3% increase in federal funding between 2002 and 2003 paled in comparison to the 11.4% increase in the number of uninsured health center patients over the same period. Yet, even with this rapid growth, for every one uninsured, low-income patient that a health center is able to treat, there are an average of four additional low-income, uninsured persons that are not able to access the care of a health center. For more information about this report, visit www.nachc.com/press/Reportstress.asp.

- **President's Signing of the Project BioShield Authorization Legislation**

With the signing of the BioShield legislation, President Bush has improved the nation's bio-preparedness in an important way. Community Health Centers will now be able to quickly purchase important medical countermeasures in the event of a threat to the country. This law also sends a clear signal that the U.S. government is prepared to be a full partner with the research community in the fight against bio-terrorism.

The \$6 billion investment over the next ten years will allow health centers to develop and make available modern, effective drugs and vaccines to protect against attack by biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological agents. From research scientists at the NIH to the pharmaceutical staff at FDA, Project BioShield will be able to better protect the health and safety of all Americans.

A fact sheet is available at www.hhs.gov/news/press/2004pres/20040721b.html.

Health Disparities Collaboratives (HDC) News

- **HDC 2005**

Applications for HDC 2005 became available online at www.healthdisparities.net on June 15, 2004 and were due on July 31, 2004. Several CHCs in Region VIII applied for the new cycle of collaboratives. Kickoff for HDC 2005 will be held February 2-5, 2005 in Nashville, TN.

- **WCC Collaborative Staff Changes**

Dan Martin (housed at CHAMPS) is now the Data Management and Technical Support Specialist in the West Central Cluster. Sarah Imig (housed at CHAMPS) is the State Collaborative Coordinator for Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Jessica Sanchez (housed at CCHN), is the Team Support Manager for the West Central Cluster. Richard Moore (housed at AUCH) is the Collaborative Coordinator for WY, UT, LA and OK, Christina Reaves-Powell (housed at AR PCA) is the Collaborative Coordinator for AR, Heather McNiel (housed at NM PCA) is the Collaborative Coordinator for NM, and Juanita Lambie (housed at TACHC) is the Collaborative Coordinator for TX. CHAMPS is in the process of hiring a Program Assistant/Data Management and Technical Support Specialist Assistant. CCHN is in the process of hiring a Health Disparities Collaborative Coordinator for CO. For contact information of West Central Cluster HDC staff link to www.champsonline.org/descrip.htm#cenclu and click West Central Cluster Contact List.

- **New Resources Available to Aid Patient Electronic Care System (PECS) Users**



FREE Computer Based PECS Training

Log in to the FREE online classroom and take a course on PECS 2.1 (Patient Electronic Care System). There are two types of lessons available. The tutorials are interactive lessons that require the user to perform a task before advancing. The reference lessons are self-paced screen walkthroughs of the modules in PECS. Most of the lessons are complete, a few are still in-progress, and new ones will continue to be added. To receive a login, go to the site, link to <http://classroom.tachc.org> and click on "Request an Account". Complete and send the electronic form to receive a user name and password, usually within 48 hours. For technical issues with the site, contact John Vaello at jvaello@tachc.org.

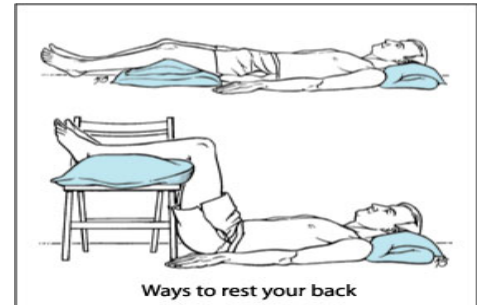
PECS Users Group and Website

The PECS Users Group (PUG) has become a valuable venue for the sharing of information between PECS Users. The PECS Users Group holds a face-to-face meeting about once a year, generally at the Phase 2 Summit, to discuss issues with PECS, future versions, and network with other users. To learn more about the PECS Users Group, join the PUG listserv by going to the website www.pecsusers.net, and clicking on the "PECSUsers Listserv" link to the left of the page. In addition to the listserv, visitors to [pecsusers.net](http://www.pecsusers.net) can find PECS Q&A, reports and reminders created and shared by other users, information about the Clinical Advisory Group (CAG), and a Data Dictionary. The Data Dictionary provides detailed information on the 500+ items in PECS including clinical definitions, and relation to the Health Disparities Collaborative. This wonderful resource created by the Clinical Advisory Group is now available from the PUG website and also from within the PECS Help System in the new 2.1 version.

Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) News

- **Patient Education Handouts Now Available Online**

New to the CHAMPS Website: patient education handouts that can be tailored to your health center. This is a great opportunity to educate clients and promote healthier living. Link to www.champsonline.org/patedtl.htm, select the handout(s) needed, insert your clinic contact information, print and hand to your patients. All forms are available in Spanish. Please check out all our patient education resources while on the CHAMPS website.



- **Evidence Based Clinical Guidelines**

CHAMPS has updated the clinical guidelines found on its website. Link to www.champsonline.org/ebcgls.htm for the most recent preventive care guidelines.

- **Cultural Competence Health Practitioner Assessment**

The Cultural Competence Health Practitioner Assessment (CCHPA) is an online provider self-assessment tool that has been developed by the National Center for Cultural Competence (NCCC). To learn more or to complete the assessment tool, link to <http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/nccc/pa.html>.

- **New Surgeon General's Report Expands List of Diseases Caused by Smoking**

Recently, U.S. Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona released a comprehensive report on smoking and health, revealing that smoking causes diseases in nearly every organ of the body, resulting in such diseases as leukemia, cataracts, pneumonia and cancers of the cervix, kidney, pancreas and stomach and periodontitis. The report discusses the health related and economic impact of tobacco use. The full report, *The Health Consequences of Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General*, and related materials are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/tobacco.

For the Medical Community - A new interactive scientific database allowing customized analysis, *The Health Consequences of Smoking*, is available at www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/smokingconsequences/.

For Patients - An animated easy-to-read resource, showing the hazards of smoking and the benefits of quitting can be found at www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/sgr_2004/sgranimation/flash/index.html.



On the CHAMPS Website - For additional tobacco cessation resources for providers and patients, log onto the CHAMPS website at www.champsonline.org/tobces.htm. Check out the Tobacco Cessation pocket cards that cue providers to ask about tobacco use, assess readiness to change and implement quit strategies. Links to online patient education resources and quitline information are also available via the CHAMPS website.

Recruitment and Retention News

- Region VIII PCAs have collaborated to create a regional recruitment and retention survey and a CHC salary survey. The recruitment and retention survey was created to identify and support best recruitment and retention practices in Region VIII Health Centers, results will be available this summer. The salary survey will provide a regional snapshot of CHC salary structures allowing for state and national comparisons, results will available this fall.
- Be sure to visit CHAMPS' Job Opportunities Bank (JOB), which lists clinical and non-clinical vacancies in Region VIII Community Health Centers www.champsonline.org/jobx.htm.

Mark Your Calendars

September

Thursday 9th –
Saturday 11th

HDC National Congress
Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville, TN
For more information,
click on link below:
[Health Disparities
Collaborative](#).

Saturday 18th –
Tuesday 21st

**NACHC Community Health
Institute**
San Francisco Marriott
San Francisco, CA
www.nachc.com

October

Saturday 23rd –
Wednesday 27th

8th Annual
**CHAMPS/NWRPCA
Conference**
Marriott City Center
Salt Lake City, UT
www.champsonline.org

November

Monday 8th –
Thursday 12th

Phase II Summit
**WCC Access & Redesign
Learning Session**
Dallas, TX
(Tentative -
Subject to Change)

Thursday 18th –
Saturday 20th

14th Annual
**Midwest Farmworker
Stream Forum**
Adam's Mark Hotel
Denver, CO
www.ncfh.org

Contact Us

- Julie Hulstein, Executive Director (Julie@champsonline.org / 303-861-5165 ext. 226).
- Gina Astorino, Clinical Programs Director (Gina@champsonline.org / 303-861-5165 ext. 225).
- Darci Martinez, Recruitment and Retention Program Coordinator (Darci@champsonline.org / 303-861-5165 ext. 285).
- Sarah Imig, Collaborative Coordinator (Sarah@champsonline.org / 303-861-5165 ext. 236).
- Dan Martin, Collaborative Data Management and Technical Support Specialist (Dan@champsonline.org / 303-861-5165 ext. 285).