Implementing Blood Pressure Screening in the Dental Setting

Part 1: MDHHS Perspective

Michele Kawabe, MPH, RD, CDCES
Team-Based Care Lead Consultant
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Unit
MDHHS HDSP Unit
Reduce risks, complications, and barriers to prevention and control of cardiovascular disease

- Track and monitor clinical measures
- Create and support community-clinical linkages
- Implement team-based care interventions
Why Should Dental Providers Check Blood Pressure?

- Provides information to guide treatment decisions
- Multiple professional organizations recommend
- Opportunity to screen for hypertension and link to primary care
Oral health professionals surveyed

Guidance Document developed

Pilot conceptualized and launched

Project Genesis
Benefits to Piloting

- Real-world testing of screening and referral processes
- Inform optimal workflow processes
- Uncover barriers and devise workarounds
- Provide data to advocate for payor reimbursement
BP Screening and Referral Pilots

- Piloted in 2 clinics FY21
- Expanded to 3 clinics FY22

- Piloted in 3 clinics FY22
- 2 of 3 sites co-located within FQHC