



“Pregnant Patients, Oral Health, and X-Rays. What Does the Evidence Say?”

Melanie E. Mayberry, D.D.S., M.S.-HCM

Dr. Melanie E. Mayberry is currently a Clinical Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Practice Essentials and Interprofessional Education at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. Previously, she was the Director of the Pre-Doctoral Patient Care Clinic, a 42 chair dental clinic at the University Health Center on the Detroit Medical Center Campus. Dr. Mayberry is a member of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Perinatal Oral Health Education Taskforce and the Interprofessional Education Taskforce. She is also a member of the State of Michigan Infant Mortality Advisory Council and is the co-developer of a grant funded teaching, training, and education program that integrates oral health into OB (obstetrics) practice. Dr. Mayberry received Fellowship status from the Academy of General Dentistry and was recently inducted into the Pierre Fauchard International Honor Dental Academy. She maintains a part-time private practice and has a strong interest in interprofessional education and collaborative care. Dr. Mayberry is a graduate of Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry. She completed a General Practice Residency in Hospital Dentistry at the University of Michigan Medical Center, and received her Master’s Degree in Health Care Management from Harvard.

Background: Studies indicate a correlation to maternal oral health and early childhood caries. Studies also indicate a link to oral disease and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Proper attention to maternal oral health needs reduces childhood caries and the potential negative impact on pregnancy and birth outcomes. According to the Institute of Medicine, low birth weight / preterm birth are the number one reasons for infant mortality. Worldwide preterm birth is the second most common cause of death in children younger than five years old. Both preterm birth and low birth weight have been associated with maternal periodontitis with statistically significant associations.

Despite national recommendations, many dentists’ are reluctant to treat pregnant patients, prescribe medications, and take x-rays. A delay in dental care due to pregnancy may worsen dental outcomes and the long-term dental health of the mother and child. Dentists play a significant role in whether pregnant patients receive dental treatment. Disrupting traditional practice patterns of care and evolution of knowledge, attitudes, and practice begins with learning current evidence- based practice guidelines and recommendations.

Course Description: Many dental offices refuse to treat pregnant patients. This interactive, lecture course will present evidence-based oral health practice guidelines for the dental professional and the negative impact that poor oral health has on pregnancy outcomes. Participants will learn the latest national consensus recommendations, radiographic guidelines, and what medications are safe to use in the management of pregnant patients. Participants from this session will leave equipped to make evidence-based treatment decisions in the management of pregnant patients.

Objectives: After attending this session participants will be able to:

- * describe radiographic guidelines for pregnant patients
- * describe evidence-based oral health care practice guidelines for pregnant patients
- * describe evidence-based studies supporting receipt of oral health care for pregnant patients

**Fee: American Dental Assistants Association Member \$20 & All other Non-Members \$40
Dental assisting, hygiene and dental student \$10 with proof of enrollment
Registration Deadline is June 15, 2021. No refunds after June 15, 2021.**

To register by mail: Please send your name, address, phone number and email you will be using with the Zoom program and enclose with the appropriate registration fee. Make checks or money orders payable to GDDAS. Mail to: GDDAS C/O Lori Barnhart, PO Box 108, Lennon, MI 48449 Questions ? Contact Lori Barnhart at SLSBARN@LENTEL.COM (810) 515-6317. Once you have registered with Lori you will be sent a ZOOM registration link to register again online after which you will receive your link to enter the class. Failure to do this ZOOM registration means you cannot enter the course.

GDDAS can register you over the phone and process your credit card through our SQUARE account. Please contact Lori above to do this.