

MCH Annual Conference

Brad Whistler, DMD

Dental Officer, DHSS

DPH Section of Women's Children's and
Family Health

Oral Health - Preconception

Shared Risks with Other Disease

Avoid Tobacco

- Oral Cancer
- Periodontal Disease
- Dental Caries

HPV

- Oral Cancer

Soda and Sugared Beverages

- Dental Caries
- Tooth Erosion

Oral Health & Systemic Disease

Periodontal Disease

- Diabetes
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Birth Outcomes (pre-gestational – LBW)

Medications

- Sugar content
- Dry Mouth – Caries Risk

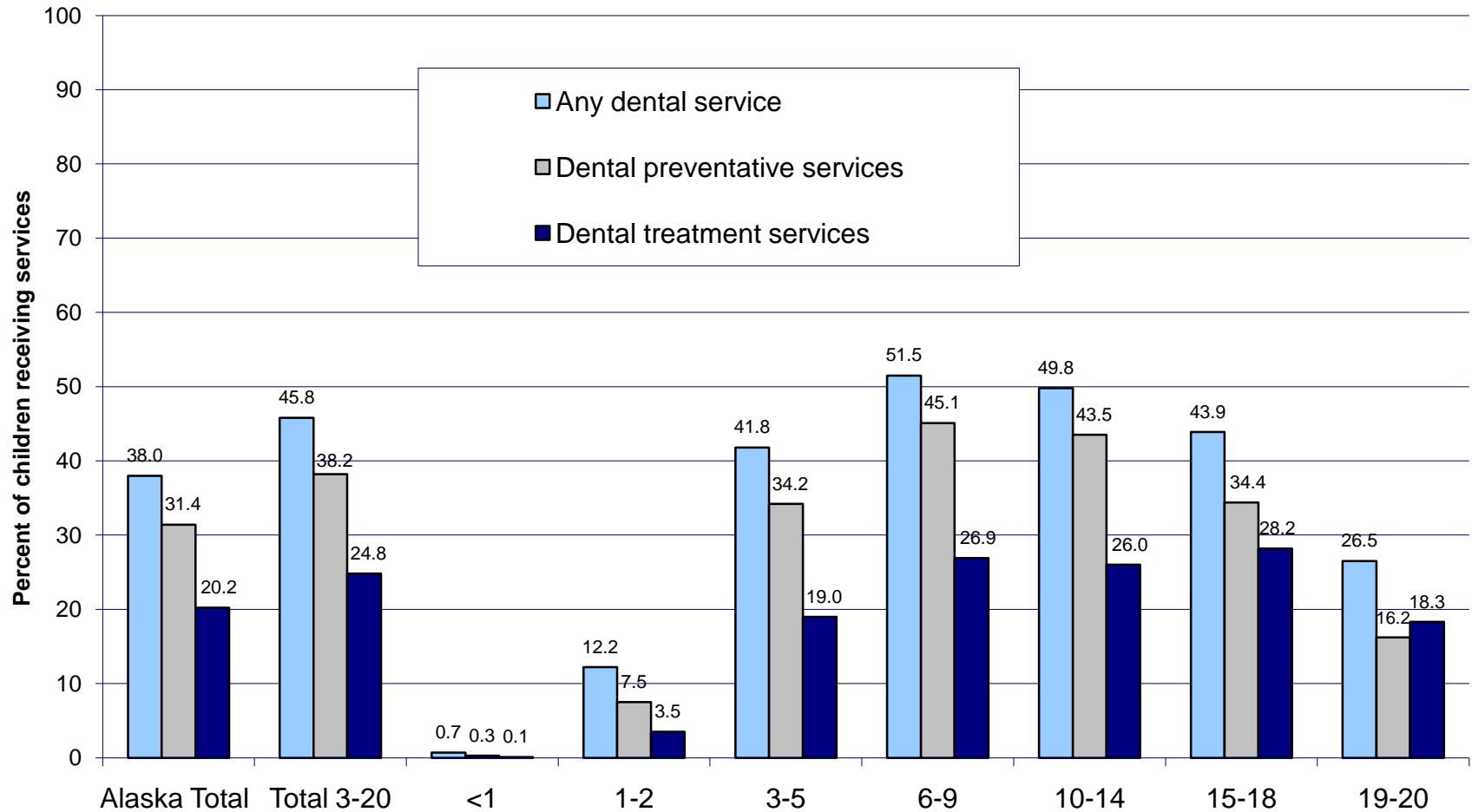
Dental Decay (Caries)

“Soft teeth run in my family”

- Caries – Infectious disease; bacteria (*S. mutans*) typically passed mother to child
- Caregiver’s caries activity as a risk for early childhood caries (formerly known as “baby bottle tooth decay”)
- Dental access for pregnant women (2008 PRAMS)
 - 44% saw a dentist during their pregnancy
 - 36% had their teeth cleaned during their pregnancy (increase from 28-29% in 2004-2006)

EPSDT Medicaid Utilization – FFY2008

Percent of children receiving dental services by age & type of service, FFY2008



Source: AK MMIS Form HCFA-416: Annual EPSDT Participation Report
3/20/2009

Medicaid Adult Dental

Added preventive and routine restorative dental services in April 2007

\$1,150 annual limit – emergent services don't count against that limit

Coverage for periodontal maintenance services

Thank You!

Email: bradley.whistler@alaska.gov

Phone: 907-465-8628