

Aspect

A QUARTERLY NEWS BULLETIN

Great Health Starts Here[®]

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Welcome to Aspect, PrimeCare Benefits' quarterly news bulletin, through which we offer contemporary news information on oral health, the dental industry, the latest research and advice for providers.

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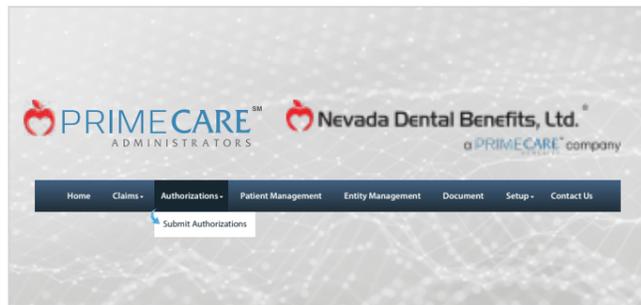
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PERMANENT MOLARS ERUPT EARLIER AMONG CHILDREN FACING STRESS

Allyson Mackey | Dentistry Today

Allyson Mackey is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology in the School of Arts & Sciences. She runs The Changing Brain Lab and is a researcher in MindCORE.

Children from lower-income backgrounds and who experience greater adverse childhood experiences get their first permanent molars earlier, according to researchers from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Neuroscientist and assistant professor Allyson Mackey, PhD, of Penn's Department of Psychology began the study by asking whether the arrival of these teeth might indicate early maturation in children.

"I've long been concerned that if kids grow up too fast, their brains will mature too fast and will lose plasticity at an earlier age. Then they'll go into school and have trouble learning at the same rate as their peers," said Mackey, who studies brain development. "Of course, not every kid who experiences stress or [is] low income will show this pattern of accelerated development."

Mackey then thought that a scalable, objective way such as a physical manifestation could indicate how children embodied and responded to stresses in their world. Eruption timing of the first permanent molars proved to be just that, the researchers said.

Generated initially from a small study and replicated using a nationally representative dataset, the study's findings align with a broader pattern of accelerated development often seen under conditions of early life stress, the researchers said.

"It's really important for us to understand how to detect early maturation sooner," said Mackey. "Right now, we're relying on seeing when kids hit puberty, which might be too late for some meaningful interventions. If we can inexpensively see that a child is experiencing this maturation earlier, we might be able to direct more intervention resources toward them."

Broadly speaking, the University of Pennsylvania said, Mackey's lab studies how the brain changes and grows as people learn. It has been well established that stress during childhood accelerates maturation and that children who hit puberty earlier are at greater risk for both physical and mental health problems in adulthood, the university continued.

Beyond that, in studies across primate species, molar eruption has been used to measure childhood length and correlates with a number of other developmental events, the university said. Similarly, for human beings, the timing of dental events often plays a role in estimating biological age.

"That all made molar eruption a compelling developmental indicator," said Penn doctoral student Cassidy McDermott, who is training to be a clinical psychologist.

It helped that more than a hundred children between the ages of 4 and 7 had been participating in two Penn brain development studies that included structural and functional MRI scans.

"There's one type of MRI scan called a T2 weighted scan where you can visualize the morphology of the tooth pretty well," said McDermott.

These scans, which typically are used to look at the brain, showed the researchers just how close these molars were to breaking through the gumline. Once Mackey and McDermott realized this, they partnered with Penn Dental Medicine student Katherine Hilton and Department of Oral Medicine professor Muralidhar Mupparapu, DMD, MDS, to develop a novel scale to precisely rate each tooth's position.

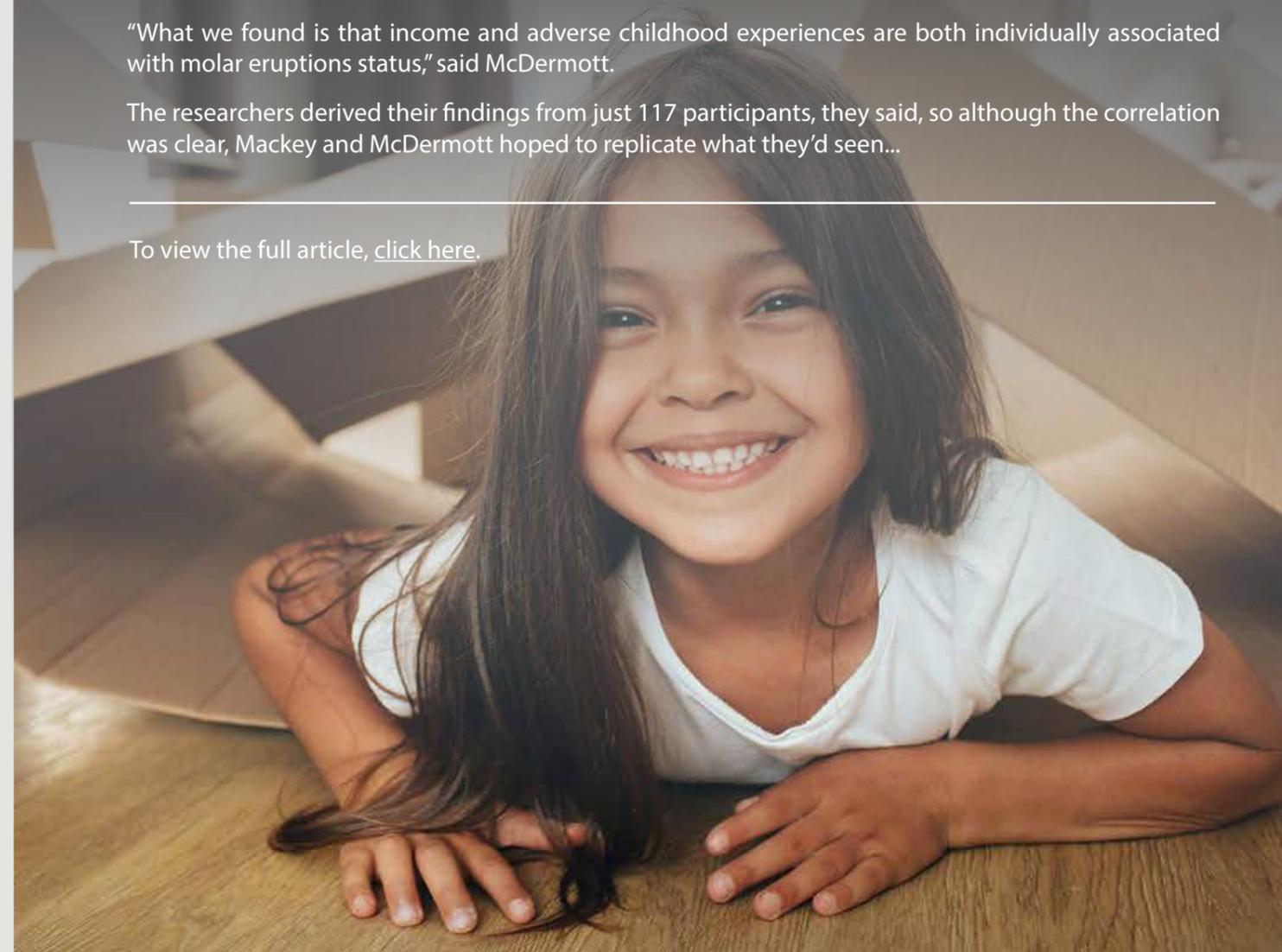
"The scale ranges from one to four," said McDermott. "At the low end of the scale is one, which is before the tooth has really developed at all. As the tooth emerges, there are intermediate stages, and the highest rating, a four, is when the tooth is fully in the mouth and parallel with the other teeth."

Four molars each received a score, which then got averaged, leaving a single score per individual. Controlling for factors like age and gender, the researchers then looked for associations between early environment and molar eruption.

"What we found is that income and adverse childhood experiences are both individually associated with molar eruptions status," said McDermott.

The researchers derived their findings from just 117 participants, they said, so although the correlation was clear, Mackey and McDermott hoped to replicate what they'd seen...

To view the full article, [click here](#).





DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION DIVERSION CONTROL DIVISION GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Title : Use of a Home Address as a Principal Place of Business or Professional Practice by an Individual Practitioner

Summary : This guidance document addresses issues pertaining to an individual practitioner's use of their home address as a principal place of business or professional practice and the home address becoming controlled premises subject to unannounced inspections and administrative warrants under existing Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations.

Activity: Using a Home Address as the Principal Place of Business or Professional Practice

To Whom It Applies: DEA-Registered Individual Practitioners

Question: Can an individual practitioner use their home address as the principal place of business or professional practice?

Answer: Yes. An individual practitioner is a physician, dentist, veterinarian, or other individual licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted, by the United States or the jurisdiction in which he/she practices, to dispense a controlled substance in the course of professional practice, but does not include a pharmacist, a pharmacy, institutional practitioner, or mid-level practitioner. See 21 CFR 1300.01(b). In addition, individual practitioners must also be in compliance with applicable State, local or tribal laws...

To view the entire message online, [click here](#).

ANY COVID-19 INFECTION RAISES ODDS FOR LINGERING SYMPTOMS, STUDY FINDS

Steven Reinberg | HealthDay

Serious cases of "long-haul COVID-19" are rare in patients who were not hospitalized after their infection, but these patients still report more doctor or health care visits after recovery, Danish researchers report.

The new six-month study found that COVID patients who were not hospitalized had small increased risks of blood clots and breathing difficulties. They were also more likely to start medicines for breathing difficulties and migraines than those who weren't infected.

These former COVID patients visited their primary care provider and outpatient hospital care more often than people who weren't infected, researchers said.

For the study, published May 10 in the journal *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, the researchers compared data from nearly 9,000 Danes who tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus to more than 80,000 people without COVID.

"The majority of people with COVID-19 are not admitted to the hospital," said lead author Anton Pottegard, a clinical pharmacist at the University of Southern Denmark. "Our study finds a very low risk of severe delayed effects from COVID-19 in people

who didn't require hospitalization for the infection."

But the new study provided evidence for some long-term effects of COVID that did not require hospitalization or use of new medicines. That resulted in higher use of primary care health services after infection, Pottegard said.

"This highlights the need to ensure clinicians have the resources and support to manage any potential long-term conditions," he said in a journal news release.

Compared to others, those who tested positive for COVID were at an increased risk of taking medications to widen the airways (1.8% compared with 1.5%), and to treat migraines (0.4% compared with 0.3%).

They also had greater odds for breathing difficulties (1.2% compared with 0.7%) and blood clots in the veins (0.2% compared with 0.1%).

Also, people who tested positive visited their general practitioners around 20% more often than others and visited outpatient clinics 10% more often. There was no difference in visits to emergency rooms or hospitalizations.

To read the online article, [click here](#).





PERIODONTAL DISEASE LINKED TO KIDNEY FUNCTION DECLINE IN HISPANIC, LATINO PATIENTS

Melissa J. Webb, MA | Healio.com

Specific markers of periodontal disease were associated with eGFR decline during a 6-year period, according to a study of Hispanic and Latino patients who underwent full dental examination at sites across the United States.

“In this large, prospective community-based cohort study of Hispanics/Latinos, we did not find consistent associations between periodontal disease and kidney disease outcomes. However, select periodontal measures (including >30% sites with probing depth 4 mm and absence of functional dentition) were associated with increased risk for incident low eGFR,” Stephanie M. Toth-Manikowski, MD, of the University of Illinois at Chicago, and colleagues wrote. “To our knowledge, this represents the first study in the U.S. to evaluate this association in a large and diverse cohort of Hispanics/Latinos.”

For the investigation, Toth-Manikowski and colleagues assessed data related to 7,732 participants in the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos who did not have chronic kidney disease at baseline (mean age was 41.5 years; 45.2% were men).

All participants were required to complete a full periodontal examination, during which researchers noted the percentage of sites with clinical attachment loss of at least 3 mm, the percentage of sites with probing depth of at least 4 mm, the percentage of sites with bleeding on probing and functional dentition (considered absent if patients had less than 21 permanent teeth)...

To view the entire online article, [click here](#)



This quarter, we’re excited to introduce Dr. Bryan Bui, Pediatric Dentist from Cavity Busters. Bui graduated from dental school at Temple University, followed by a pediatric residency at the Cleveland Clinic MetroHealth Hospital in Ohio. After school he moved to Las Vegas to practice dentistry and has lived here for 20 years now. Let’s find out a little more about Dr. Bui:

PCB: Why did you choose to move to Las Vegas of all cities?

BB: We initially moved here for job opportunities, but since then have enjoyed the community and small town feel. Oh, and the amazing food scene in Vegas! We are big foodies and are so fortunate to enjoy some of the best local restaurants that beat out the big cities like New York and Los Angeles. There’s also a large tennis community here in Las Vegas. Our whole family plays, and my wife and I are on several league teams.

PCB: What inspired you to become a dentist?

BB: I’ve always known I wanted to pursue a career in the health field because I wanted to help others, but just didn’t know which particular one. When I had some terrible toothaches as a teenager, that was the deciding point. It was finals testing the following week and I couldn’t even stay still because the pain was throbbing so much. We were quite poor then, and my parents felt overwhelmed! They called around to many dentists and finally found a lady who was willing to help us out. She said to just come on in and we will take care of the problem and figure something out on the financial side. It turned out that I needed two molar root canals! She took care of it and allowed my parents to make payments. I had heard that root canals would hurt and even afterwards but to my surprise I felt great!!! This dentist was awesome! I was completely relieved and so thankful. I thought “wow,” a dentist can actually make a big difference in people’s lives! I decided to volunteer with her office and learn more about this field and since then have been happily able to pay it forward and help others with their dental needs.



If you know of a dentist that might like to be featured in one of our upcoming news bulletins, please let us know. Email Crystal Robbins at crobbins@primecarebenefits.com



Dr. Bui & Team, Halloween 2020

A NEW WAY TO SUBMIT NON-URGENT PRE-AUTHS

Nevada Dental Benefits and PrimeCare Administrators are now accepting non-urgent requests for pre-authorization through our Provide Web Portal.

Along with submitting claims, verifying eligibility and other administrative tools to support your office, you can now also submit your requests for pre-authorization for Nevada Dental Benefits, Ltd. and PrimeCare Administrators, Inc. through our Provider Web Portal (PWP). Requests for pre-authorization are received instantly, eliminating mail delays, postage and reducing the overall turnaround time. See the screenshot below with the updated tool bar and drop down feature to get you started on your way to sending your requests for authorization faster and more efficiently.



Do not send urgent requests through the PWP. For urgent requests, please fax to (702) 333-9140. If after our office hours, please call our office the next business day at (702) 478-2014 to ensure your request is processed to allow the date treatment was rendered is posted.

If you are not already registered with our PWP, go to www.nevadadentalbenefits.com or www.primecareadministrators.com and click the DENTISTS page to register. From there you will click the LOGIN button and be prompted to register. For questions or assistance with this, please contact us at (702) 478-2014.

Back-to-School Organization Ideas

Marisa Lascala & Monique Valeris | GoodHousekeeping.com

Plan Dinners in Advance

Busy families can save major time and money by preparing their dinners on Sundays instead of resorting to takeout. Plus, knowing what's for dinner will leave you one less thing to worry about during those crucial, post-school hours.

Use an Over-the-Door Organizer

Over-the-door organizers aren't just for shoes. They're versatile enough to contain your kid's art supplies, small toys and bath products.

Make a Muffin Tin Work as an Organizer

It's never fun dodging items like thumbtacks or paper clips on the floor. Encourage your student to keep their small school supplies in a good ole muffin tin.

DIY a Mudroom

Keep everything you need to fly out the door by the door, so you can avoid running around the house when it's time to go. Hang coats and backpacks on hooks and keep shoes (and clean socks!) below.

To view the full list of organization ideas, [click here](#).





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