



ORAL HEALTH IN MICHIGAN

SB 541: A New Tool to Provide Access

Restorative Care is Needed

HYGIENE and PREVENTION are the cornerstones of good oral health, but



DECAY

happens over time and many people require filling cavities or pulling primary or badly diseased teeth.

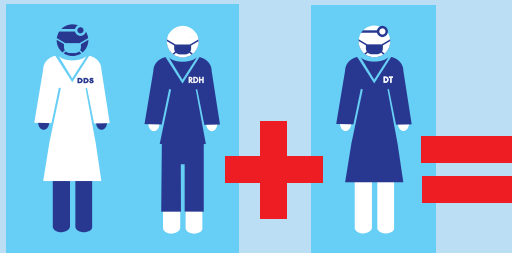


92% of MICHIGAN'S COUNTIES contain a federally designated dental shortage area

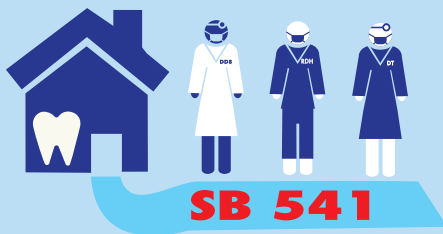


which means the area meets criteria that can include **WAIT LISTS** of at least **6 WEEKS** for **ROUTINE SERVICES**.

ADDING DENTAL THERAPISTS to the dental care team will help **REDUCE WAIT LISTS**.



CREATING A DENTAL HOME



SB 541 requires a **COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT** between a dental therapist and a dentist, **CREATING A TRUE DENTAL HOME** for patients needing complex dental care.

GUARANTEED TO HELP UNDERSERVED

SB 541 ensures – with detail in statute – that DTs will be targeted towards underserved communities and populations.

DTs will only be able to practice:

- in **SHORTAGE AREAS**; or
- in **SAFETY NET SETTINGS**, i.e. FQHCs; or
- see **50% MEDICAID/UNINSURED** patients



To learn more about how dental therapists can help provide access to care visit MIDentalAccess.org.

The Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health (MCMCH) is partnering with other statewide organizations to improve oral health and access to dental care in Michigan by promoting evidence-based, cost-effective policy solutions. To contact us, please email info@midentalaccess.org or call 517-482-5807.