

Study evaluates the impact of dental office closures during COVID-19 on dental conditions among children

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A study evaluating the impact of dental office closures due to the pandemic on the share of dental conditions on hospital emergency

departments (EDs) among Medicaid/CHIP-eligible children was presented at the 52nd Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the AADOOCR, in conjunction with the 47th Annual Meeting of the CADR. The AADOOCR/CADR Annual Meeting & Exhibition took place at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland on March 15-18, 2023.

Shulamite S. Huang of New York University led the study that analyzed 2018-2020 New York Medicaid claims data for trends in dental and dental-related medical care utilization among publicly insured [children](#) (N=3.2 million beneficiaries; n=2.6 million claims). A difference-in-differences approach was used to characterize the change in the dental-related ED burden before, during, and after dental office closures due to the pandemic across New York State.

After controlling for seasonality, an overall 30.3% increase (p

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