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<b>Title of Research *</b>	Health Care Reform Law: What is in it for Oral Health?
<b>Other Authors *</b>	Peter Damiano, DDS, MPH (Public Policy Center, UI College of Dentistry)
<b>Introduction &amp; Purpose *</b>	To assess the 2010 health care reform law and the provisions that will have the greatest impact on the nation's oral health.
<b>Experimental Design *</b>	The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and its provisions were reviewed to identify those that have either direct or indirect implications for access to dental care and oral health. These provisions were then categorized into various domains depending on the populations it will affect, and what aspects of oral health it would impact. They were then analyzed to understand what barriers to access to oral health will be addressed by the PPACA, and which problems will remain unaddressed.
<b>Results *</b>	The PPACA has several provisions that impact access to oral health both directly and indirectly. The major provisions that will have an impact are mandatory dental coverage for children, Medicaid expansion to include all adults below 133% FPL, children to be covered on parents' policies till the age of 26, workforce training grants and support for innovative workforce models, national oral health education and other preventive programs targeted towards vulnerable populations.
<b>Conclusions *</b>	The health care reform law has several provisions that will improve the oral health of the nation if they successfully venture through intermediary steps to their implementation. The populations most likely to be affected are children, poor and underserved adults, pregnant women, elderly and minorities. These provisions ensure improved oral health by addressing the problem at various levels from educating the public to expanding the capacity of the oral health care delivery system.

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