



**UNITEDHEALTH GROUP AWARDS \$500,000 TO CALIFORNIA DENTAL
ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION TO STUDY NEW MODEL OF DENTAL DISEASE
PREVENTION**

*New approach has potential to save patients thousands of dollars in
healthcare expenses*

For Immediate Release

Sacramento, Calif. – The California Dental Association (CDA) Foundation, in collaboration with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Dentistry announced today a \$500,000 grant over the next four years to study a revolutionary new approach to oral care. Together, the CDA Foundation and UCSF School of Dentistry will implement a dental practice-based research network that will demonstrate the feasibility of formally incorporating Caries Management by Risk Assessment (CAMBRA) principles in clinical practice.

This project is made possible in part through UnitedHealth Group’s Charitable Commitment Category of “population based preventive health strategies.”

Caries Management by Risk Assessment (CAMBRA), a unique approach to dentistry that helps dentists assess the risk for cavities and other oral health problems, endeavors to move dentistry toward a medical model of preventive care. It is anticipated that at least 20% of patients at high risk of caries who receive dental care consistent with CAMBRA protocols will change to a lower risk status by the end of the clinical portion of the study.

"UnitedHealth Group is committed to investing in a healthier California," said Steve Nelson, CEO, West Region of UnitedHealthcare. "We do this by striving to provide insurance products that ensure the highest quality of care and also through substantial charitable giving that improves the health care delivery system for everyone, including underserved populations."

Instead of only determining the presence of cavities and other irritations in the mouth, CAMBRA helps dentists assess a patient’s risk for oral disease by examining numerous health and lifestyle factors as part of the regular dental checkup. Factors such as the patients’ diet, previous dental work, medications, family history and saliva flow are all explored to provide unique, patient-specific guidance to prevent future disease. When caught early enough, there are a number of non-invasive interventions a dentist can suggest that will arrest or reverse the disease process and keep the structure of the tooth intact.

“The CDA Foundation supports CAMBRA research because we feel this is a tremendous step in the direction of preventive care,” said Jon Roth, executive director of the CDA Foundation. “In addition to regular dental checkups and cleanings, which are an essential part of any sound oral health care regimen, CAMBRA provides extra resources for combating oral disease before it can occur.”



The CDA Foundation's mission is to improve the oral health of all Californians by supporting the dental profession and its efforts to meet community needs.

About CDA Foundation

Established in 1998 as a statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the CDA Foundation has a strong record of managing large programs that involve multi-agency collaboratives and funding partners. Programs include direct services for underserved populations, health policy research, and limited grant making. Many of these programs are offered statewide while others are regionally concentrated to benefit specific underserved communities. For more information, visit www.cdafoundation.org.

The California Dental Association's membership consists of more than 21,000 dentists. For more information, visit www.cda.org.

About UnitedHealth Group

About UnitedHealth Group

UnitedHealth Group is a diversified health and well-being company dedicated to making health care work better. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minn., UnitedHealth Group offers a broad spectrum of products and services through six operating businesses: UnitedHealthcare, Ovation, AmeriChoice, OptumHealth, Ingenix and Prescription Solutions. Through its family of businesses, UnitedHealth Group serves more than 70 millions individuals nationwide. Visit www.unitedhealthgroup.com for more information.