

# CAAP Programmatic Update

September 2017



## Director Update

Jane Grover

It's during the month of September that our thoughts transition away from summer towards the activities of fall. One of those major activities is the House of Delegates at the ADA Annual Meeting.

For those of you who've had District Caucus meetings, we hope that the information we supplied was helpful. Always feel free to call, if you need additional background on an issue. Please contact us in Atlanta if a question comes up from your District.

Here are the September highlights for CAAP and our Action for Dental Health initiatives:

- A live radio interview with station KRSN in Los Alamos provided a highlight of the New Mexico CDHC program. CDHC Program Instructor Tammy Whitney and I chatted with the host of a talk show about the CDHCs, past and present, from Central New Mexico Community College. KRSN has a listening area of over 250,000 people.
- CDHC presentation in Virginia for the VDA Board of Trustees at the VDA Annual Meeting was accompanied by a dinner meeting with the first class of Patrick Henry Community College.
- ASDA students at the University of Texas – Houston had a 2017 “Advocacy Day” to follow their successful “Advocacy Event” of last year. Senior student Jonathan Vogel, organized an effective full day of speakers including Arizona CDHC MiQuel McRae (former Miss Rodeo USA) and myself along with ADA Trustees Dr. Ray Cohlmiia and Rick Black. Other topics included large group practice, ADPAC and licensure testing issues. Jonathan will be joining CAAP in 2018 as the ASDA representative. See Dr. Cohlmiia’s power point on [ADA Connect](#) for an in-depth look at the CDHC value to Oklahoma.
- CDHC presentation at the St. David’s Foundation in Austin, Texas with attendees from Austin Community College, Texas Oral Health Coalition, Texas Dental Association, Dr. Dave Cappelli from the University of Texas San Antonio, and ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership member Dr. Shailee Gupta, who serves as the Clinical Director for the St. David’s Foundation (SDF). The SDF operates nine dental vans, each with two operatories, in and around the Austin area.
- Presented the CDHC program to the Colorado Dental Association Board of Trustees and a local Colorado Community College, which is very interested in the curriculum.
- Continuing to engage key stakeholders for ER Referral in the identified “Priority Cities” from the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Please share this Monthly Update with any members in your state association who could find it useful. See more September CAAP update material from the rest of the CAAP team listed below.

See you in Atlanta!

For more information regarding this update please contact Jane Grover at: [groverj@ada.org](mailto:groverj@ada.org)



**Nashville Dental Association (NDA):** Dr. Rhonda Switzer-Nadasdi, current NDA president, invited me to speak on medical/dental collaboration within the community. This is a very active component, which has already reached out to medical colleagues in the community. I used this opportunity to speak to the importance of community-based prevention, alongside treatment options. I emphasized the significance of working across the lifespan as dental patients are “part of a family who live in a community.” I spoke of gains made with addressing the importance of oral health during pregnancy, the AAP Chapter Oral Health Advocates, individuals living with diabetes or HIV, and the ADA’s endorsement of the *Smiles for Life* oral health curriculum. The presentation concluded with the introduction of the Community Dental Health Coordinator as a new member of the dental team and a foundation of the ADA’s *Action for Dental Health*.

**Child Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement (COHSII):** The [National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center](#) (OHRC) at Georgetown University has been awarded a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to administer the National Maternal and Child Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement ([COHSII](#)). I am serving as a national advisor for the COHSII grant.

The purpose of the COHSII funding is to work with national, state, and local key stakeholders to improve existing systems of care in support of a quality-improvement, patient-centered approach that addresses the comprehensive oral health needs of maternal and child health (MCH) populations. Comprehensive delivery of care ensures continuity of care and integration between primary care health professionals and oral health professionals. This is a natural extension of the ADA’s efforts to encourage implementation of the two recent ADA House resolutions citing the importance of oral health during pregnancy.

**First Annual National Native Health Research Training Conference: *Healing Ourselves: Cultural and Traditional Medicine-Based Approaches to Sustainable Health*:**

Background: This first conference of this kind, specifically addressing Native Americans, held in Denver in mid-September, was designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the latest research developments, opportunities, and findings to increase effective use of research in biomedical research; clinical systems research; Injury Prevention; Native Men’s Health; Traditional Medicine and Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Environmental Health in Indian Country. The conference was sponsored by the Indian Health Service, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, and the Native Research Network.

Upon seeing the request for abstracts, Ms. Mae-Gilene Begay, the Navajo Community Health Representative (CHR) and Outreach Program director, and I submitted an abstract detailing the “Navajo CHR program’s Oral Health Capacity-Building Initiative, which was a summary of current progress being made in the Navajo Nation Oral Health Plan utilizing CHRs as the catalyst for change, especially regarding the incorporation of oral health into overall health. Our focus was on the health improvement that could be garnered within the overall community through emphasis on prevention across the lifespan.

Main points: I began the presentation with a comparison of tribal health from personal experience in the late 1980s to the present, utilizing Indian Health Service data to illustrate that little to no progress has been made in the overall oral health status of the Navajo people over this 30+ year timeframe. I stressed the need to increase the emphasis on community-based prevention across the lifespan, building upon the success that our medical colleagues have found within case management and care coordination.

Ms. Begay provided an overview of the CHR program and described what Community Health Workers do to have a positive influence within the community, building upon the trust they naturally incur having come

generally from that same community. She described the interest of CHRs to enhance their personal oral health awareness and knowledge, through the Smiles for Life oral health curriculum, as well as several CHRs becoming “oral health specialists” through earning the Community Dental Health Coordinator certification. We concluded by speaking to the potential of a CDHC-certified CHR serving as an oral health resource and role model within each of the eight Navajo service units and eventually within the 36 chapters/communities. Very favorable response from the audience with questions.

**Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee (MPAC):** After a successful year of sharing the Medicaid program integrity course helping dentists avoid unfortunate audit outcomes through proper documentation of medical necessity, MPAC is soliciting state, regional and national conferences to provide a venue for *Being a Medicaid Provider in an Era of Accountability*. Thus far, the 2018 course is scheduled in Anchorage, Alaska and Portland, Oregon, while being under consideration in Georgia, South Dakota and Florida. We would appreciate your assistance in making contact with your state dental association conference planner to bring this Medicaid course to your state.

**Dentistry in Long-Term Care Tool kit:** Before being transitioned to the auspices of the ADA’s Practice Institute, CAAP’s National Elder Care Advisory Committee invites you to expand your knowledge and comfort level in addressing the oral health needs of older adults, especially those residing within long-term care facilities with this new tool kit. Dr. Greg Folse offers practical tips on providing care in these settings, while Dr. Paul Glassman provides information on how to access the tools described on this webpage, including participating in the **Dentistry in Long-Term Care: Creating Pathways to Success** continuing education course. For more information, see this ADA New Online [article](#).

## RESOURCES:

**Collecting Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data:** At the upcoming National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) 2017 [Annual Conference](#), I will be co-facilitating a discussion group centering on how to collect gender and sexual orientation data in a reasonable, competent and non-stressful manner for either the provider or the patient. The [National LGBT Health Education Center](#), a HRSA grantee, has wonderful learning resources to assist in this endeavor. I found this [slide deck](#) particularly helpful.

**NHANES Announces the First Release of NHANES 2015-2016 Datasets:** The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (DHANES) is pleased to announce the release of the first set of data from NHANES 2015-2016 cycle. This release consists of 42 demographic, questionnaire, examination, and laboratory data files.

- [Oral Health](#) (OHQ\_I 2015-2016)
- [Fluoride – Water](#) (FLDEW\_I 2015-2016)

Additional information can be found at: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/new\\_nhanes.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/new_nhanes.htm).

For more information regarding this update, please contact Steve Geiermann at [geiermanns@ada.org](mailto:geiermanns@ada.org).



## Action for Dental Health Coordination

Carlos Jones, Jr.

The [Dentistry in Long-Term Care Toolkit](#) web page is up. Some of the toolkit information has been updated so check it out when you have a chance.

CAAP is also preparing for an upcoming Medicaid webinar. Please see the webinar details below and register if interested.

## Medicaid Compliance within a Pediatric Dental Practice: *Utilizing a Self-Audit*

*A Complimentary 60 Minute ADH Webinar* Presented by the ADA's Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention and its Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee

- Date: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 12:00-1:00pm Central Time
- Hosts: Sioban Amezcua, Manager, ADA Department of Continuing Education & Dr. Jane Grover, Director, ADA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP)
- **One hour of Continuing Dental Education credit will be provided.**

This course was created to help dentists understand what a Medicaid Compliance Plan is and why it's needed in their practice. It is a set of procedures and processes in place within a practice to assure that all members of the dental team conform to and abide by applicable state and federal regulations when treating Medicaid patients, which includes proper Medicaid documentation. Just as dental practices have HIPAA, OSHA, and Infection Control Plans, they also need a Medicaid Compliance Plan.

This course will help dentists and other stakeholders understand what such a plan should include as well as give an example that dentists can modify to reflect their own practices. A good Medicaid Compliance Plan will minimize the dentist's risk of having a negative audit finding.

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Meeske, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

Closing Remarks: Dr. Jane Grover, Director, CAAP

[Click here](#) to register

For more information regarding this update please contact Carlos Jones, Jr. at [jonesc@ada.org](mailto:jonesc@ada.org)



### Prevention Update

Sharee Clough

#### Health Literacy in Dentistry

National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry (NACHLD): The NACHLD members convened their annual meeting on September 25 – 26, 2017. Ms. Jennifer Byrne, Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Project Manager for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) was an invited guest at the meeting. She presented information about the CDPH's most recent efforts with developing a health literacy toolkit. Committee members shared ideas about available resources that could be included in the toolkit. During the meeting, various ADA departments including, Communications, Science and Product Development and Sales were invited to report on their department's activities related to health literacy. The committee reviewed the current ADA Health Literacy in Dentistry Action Plan 2016-2020 to begin prioritizing next steps that the CAAP/ADA can implement to continue efforts in becoming a health literate health organization. Suggested activities included a webinar on health literacy for ADA members, advocating for additional research on the use of health literacy in dentistry, health literacy training for key ADA staff and continued support for ADA development of health literate patient education materials.

ADA Health Literacy Essay Contest for Dental Students: The 2017 contest was launched to students at participating dental schools on August 30. The following schools are participating in the contest: Nova South Eastern University, University of Texas – San Antonio, UCLA, Case Western Reserve University, Tufts, University of Illinois – Chicago, University of Alabama – Birmingham, Stony Brook University, Temple University, Meharry Medical College, Midwestern University of IL, Marquette University, University of Iowa, University of Washington State, University of Oklahoma, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, University of Maryland and University of Florida. Students will submit essays to their schools by October 15 for preliminary judging. Each school can submit up to two essays to the ADA for final judging. Submissions to the ADA are due by November 30 and winners will be announce in January 2018.

## School Based Oral Health Care

National Children's Dental Health Month: The 2018 National Children's Dental Health Month Campaign (NCDHM) was launched in October 2017. The campaign begins early to allow agencies time to order NCDHM posters to prepare for the launch of their NCDHM campaign in February. For the first time in the history of NCDHM, CAAP sponsored an NCDHM Poster and Activity Sheet contest with Columbia College, Chicago. Design and Illustration students and alumni were invited to design a poster and four corresponding activity sheets with the message, "Brush your teeth with fluoride toothpaste and clean between your teeth for a healthy smile." Fifteen students submitted unique and innovative designs. A judging committee comprised of CAAP Prevention Subcommittee members, representatives of the National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry and CAAP's American Student Dental Association liaison chose the winning poster design and two runners-up. The winners were announced on October 5 at Columbia College in Chicago.

Recent publication on school-based dental sealant programs - Griffin SO, Naavaal S, Scherrer C, Patel M, Chattopadhyay S, Community Preventive Services Task Force. [Evaluation of school-based dental sealant programs: an updated Community Guide systematic economic review](#). American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2017;52(3):407-15. The paper concludes that the economic evidence indicates that the benefits of school-based sealant programs outweigh the costs when the programs target schools that have a large number of children who have a high risk of caries.

For more information regarding this update, please contact Sharee Clough at [cloughs@ada.org](mailto:cloughs@ada.org).



## Fluoridation Update

Jane McGinley

### Community Update

Meadville, PA – In late September, with equipment design complete, the Meadville Area Water Authority announced it will seek official approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to initiate fluoridation. Review of such a request for a permit would typically take 120 business days and may include additional public hearings.

Potsdam Village, NY – While not on the official agenda, on September 5, 2017 seven people spoke against fluoridation during the public comment period of the Board of Trustee's meeting. On October 2, the trustees held a public hearing to receive public comments on fluoridation. Of the eight people who spoke, four expressed support for fluoridation while four were opposed. According to WFRS, the Potsdam Village water system serves more than 9,000 customers. The trustees are currently researching whether to continue fluoridating water at the water treatment plant, as the equipment is aging and needs either to be replaced or removed. The village currently has a grant from the state to study the cost of replacing the equipment, so if it decides to end fluoridation, it would have to return the money.

Rugby, ND –Originally fluoridated in 1958, the Rugby City Council was scheduled to vote on a repeal of their fluoridation ordinance on September 7, 2017. However, the repeal was tabled primarily because one of the council members was tragically killed in a car accident a few days before the meeting. The issue will be discussed at the next Council meeting on October 2, 2017.

Oconto Falls, WI – On August 8, the Oconto Falls City Council voted 4-2 to discontinue their fluoridation program in place since the 1950s. The call to stop was led by the water plant personnel who presented opposition studies, charged that the process was corroding the water plant and claimed the process was too expensive to continue. Local supporters launched an unofficial petition to bring the issue back for discussion at the next City Council meeting on September 12, 2017 that had secured more than 300 signatures. At the meeting more than 10 people spoke in favor of fluoridation including a medical doctor, pharmacist, dentists, hygienists, teacher, and state and county health officials. Those opposed to fluoridation that spoke included

an antifluoridationist from Green Bay and several people from the water department. Unfortunately, fluoridation supporters were unsuccessful in their attempt to convince the City Council to reverse its decision.

Genesee County, Michigan – The Genesee County Waste and Water Advisory Board held a meeting on September 27, to hear testimony on fluoridation. With a gallery pack with dental professionals, the Advisory Board (comprised of the township supervisors from involved communities) as well as the County Commissioners heard from testimony in support of fluoridation. While FAN had been contacted to send a speaker to the meeting, no representative was present. The nine County Commissioners will make the final decision on fluoridation. At least one of the Commissioners has publically declared his antifluoridation stance. They can take a vote to initiate fluoridation or vote to send the issue to a public ballot. Because the Commissioners next meeting takes place in November, the next opportunity for a public ballot would be sometime in 2018. This system supplies water to Genesee County except for the city of Flint who now purchases water from Detroit.

Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), NC – In March 2017, the OWASA Board voted 7-1 to restart their fluoridation program once equipment and safety procedures are fully updated. Those opposed to fluoridation who were upset when OWASA cancelled a public meeting in August, took the issue to the Carrboro Board of Alderman on September 5, 2017. The Aldermen listed to more than 20 speakers, the majority of which were opposed to fluoridation. Six people spoke in favor of fluoridation. One Alderman offered a resolution asking the two Carrboro representatives on the OWASA Board to lobby the Board to stop fluoridating the water. Other Aldermen noted that two members would not be enough to prompt the nine-member OWASA Board to revisit their decision. The Mayor voice her opinion noting that any comprehensive discussion of fluoridation should take place at the county level, led by OWASA officials. The Board opted not to vote on the resolution, but noted interest in the issue was not likely to dissipate.

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, NM – On Wednesday, September 20, 2017, following an hour of public testimony, the Authority members voted 5-2 to approve a \$250,000 appropriation to purchase fluoridation equipment needed to resume fluoridation which the Authority had halted in 2011. Utility officials estimate that fluoridation can restart in six to eight months. This water system serves more than half a million people.

Southwick, MA – On September 7, 2017, the Southwick Board of Health met to discuss a recommendation to initiate fluoridation. While the public was invited to the meeting, it was reported that no members of the public attended the meeting except for a dentist who spoke in favor of fluoridation.

Ormond Beach, FL – On September 19, 2017, the City Council of Ormond Beach approved the cost of fluoridation additives for the coming year but not before one Councilman spent significant time voicing his objections to fluoridation. He noted that no bids had been received for fluoride additives when the purchase had been placed up for bid and that staff had to seek out known chemical suppliers. However, when the price was quoted the city would save almost \$3,000 over the previous year's cost. Eventually, the Council voted to approve the purchase on a 4-1 vote.

## **State Update**

### State Fluoridation Legislation Activity September 2017

Noting that the vast majority of state legislatures have adjourned or will be adjourning in the near future, the vast majority of the “fluoridation” bills introduced did not become laws during this legislative session. If you have questions regarding fluoridation legislation in your state, please contact Jane McGinley.

## **National Update**

### Update – Lawsuit re EPA Denial of Petition to Ban Use of “Fluoride Chemicals”

No action regarding this lawsuit was observed during September 2017.

For more information regarding this update please contact Jane McGinley at: [mcginleyj@ada.org](mailto:mcginleyj@ada.org)