



COUNCIL ON DENTAL PRACTICE

March 25, 2022

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Demas, John, Chair (2)

Jackson, Lois (NY)

Lawless, Gregory (3)

Korkosz, Adrienne (4)

Sorge, Kevin (5)

Silvestri, Mario (6)

Andolina, Jr., Richard (7)

Matteliano, James (8)

Sahawneh, Duraïd (9)

Hills, Donald (N)

Koppikar, Prabhakar (Q)

Smith, Craig (S)

Herman, Richard (B)

Khanna, Sambhavna (New Dentist Representative)

Madonian, Margaret (BOT Liaison)

The Council on Dental Practice met on Friday, March 25, 2022, via Zoom. All members attended with the exception of Dr. Koppikar and Board of Trustee Liaison, Dr. Madonian. Dr. James Hoddick, Second District Representative to the ADA Council on Dental Practice; Mr. Michael Herrmann, NYSDA Interim Executive Director; Ms. Betsy Bray, Director, Health Affairs, and Ms. Jacquie Donnelly, Manager, Health Affairs, also attended. Ms. Grazia Yaeger, Assistant Executive Director, Marketing and Communications and council representative nominees Drs. Tricia Quartey-Sagaille (2), Nicole Hinchey (8) and Fred Mourad (9) attended as guests of the Council.

Dr. Demas called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. The Council adopted the minutes from its meeting on September 24, 2021, as written by unanimous consent. Dr. Demas welcomed everyone and introduced the guests.

Chair Report

Dr. Demas began his report by stating that this will be his final meeting as chair and thanked the members for their support. He then pointed out that the Department of Health's Interim Guidance for Dentistry and the Department of Labor's Hero Act were no longer in effect. He further stated that the CDC recommendations related to infection prevention and control for healthcare personnel are still best clinical practice. Dental offices should institute protocols that best make themselves and their patients safe.

ADA Council on Dental Practice Report

Dr. Hoddick summarized the activities of the Council's various subcommittees. He discussed the Council's Health and Wellness Subcommittee and the National Eldercare Advisory Committee's efforts in developing an educational campaign to identify staff who are having mental health and substance abuse problems. Various educational webinars have already taken place and new online offerings are being discussed. A two-part webinar series on resilience is being offered on April 19 and May 18. Dr. Hoddick mentioned that there is a June 8 webinar being presented on opioids and the ADA has been collaborating with the DEA to offer additional webinars.

Dr. Hoddick also discussed the initiative to create a direct help link on the ADA website for doctors in crisis. Ms. Donnelly asked if the recently passed Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act would include dentists. The bill establishes grants and requires other activities to improve mental and behavioral health among health care providers. Dr. Hoddick stated that the ADA is lobbying with the Department of Health and Human Services to make sure that dentists are included.

Dr. Hoddick also spoke of ongoing discussions on the need to address dental team workforce shortages and developing a policy statement on paid family leave, developing webinars on financial literacy for new dentists, the development of an implant tracking tool, and whitepapers being developed by the Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI) on the topics of AI and Teledentistry.

Dr. Herman discussed a recent webinar presented by the ADA's Health Policy Institute about the future of dental practice. He will forward a link to the webinar to Ms. Donnelly for dissemination to the members. The webinar discussed dental support organizations (DSO) and how they may prove to be a large part of dentistry moving forward. Dr. Hoddick said that ADA Membership is reaching out to owners and employees of DSOs.

A copy of Dr. Hoddick's report is attached.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Dr. Wardah Inam, CEO of Overjet, gave a presentation on the use of artificial intelligence. Overjet uses computer vision algorithms to improve diagnostic accuracy and patient care. Dr. Inam explained how AI can also be used to enhance practice management software and automate administrative tasks. Dental practices can also use AI to automate claims review.

Nomination of Council Chair

The Council voted unanimously to recommend Dr. Jackson for appointment as Council Chair from June 2022 to June 2023.

Vaccine Administration

The Council had previously discussed a proposal to allow dentists the ability to administer certain vaccines. After formation of an ad-hoc committee to study the issue further, a resolution was presented to the Council in advance for their comments. The Council reviewed the resolution once more and hearing no comments, Dr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Sahawneh to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, that NYSDA adopt policy that would allow dentists with appropriate training, to independently prescribe and administer vaccines to patients who are 18 years of age or older, intended to prevent or reduce the transmission of a life threatening disease; and be it further,

Resolved, that vaccinations include; Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Influenza, Sars-CoV-2 and emergency medications related to a declared public health emergency.

The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

New Business

Referrals for Sleep Studies

Ms. Bray discussed phone calls she has received from dentists inquiring about the ability of dentists to order a sleep apnea test. In New York State, this is not within the scope of practice for dentistry. Ms. Bray provided information obtained from the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine, which lists the states that allow dentists to order/administer home sleep apnea tests.

Information Technology Committee

Ms. Donnelly informed the Council of the Information Technology Committee's recent meeting held on March 8. She provided a background on the inception of the IT Committee pointing out that it began as a Task Force in 2012 and then moved under the Board as a standing board committee. Mr. Herrmann suggested it seems more appropriately linked with the Council on Dental Practice and is not necessarily well suited as a standing committee of the Board. He suggested it be placed as a subcommittee of that council. Ms. Donnelly noted that the Committee does not meet on a regular basis but only when issues present themselves and need be addressed. Mr. Herrmann indicated that the issue would be discussed at the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting.

Oral Cancer Awareness Month

Ms. Bray discussed NYSDA's efforts to promote Oral Cancer Awareness Month, which takes place in April. Information has been added to the NYSDA website for both providers and the public. Additionally, a social media campaign is planned throughout the month.

Developments in Dental Practice

HL7 Standards (electronic communications between medical and dental), dental problems associated with Buprenorphine medicines, and recent legislation requiring providers to prescribe an opioid antagonist when prescribing an opioid were discussed.

Component Reports

The members reported on activities in their components. Several members discussed membership recruitment efforts in their components directed to residents and new dentists. Dr. Lawless stated that Albany Medical Center is trying to establish a way for local oral surgeons to have regular access to the hospital in order to support patients with urgent dental needs, especially after trauma. Dr. Sorge mentioned efforts in the Fifth District to re-establish a dental hygiene school. Dr. Silvestri said the Sixth District is trying to establish a dental hygiene scholarship at Broome Community College. Dr. Matteliano reported that the Eighth District has been promoting volunteerism and has hired a new executive director. Component "events" include Frills and Drills on April 6 (9th Dist.), Give Kids a Smile in May (Nassau), Greater Long Island Dental Meeting on April 12-13 and a Bronx County job fair on April 28.

Old Business

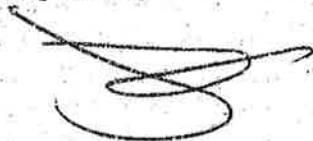
There was no old business to discuss

Adjournment

The Committee members thanked Dr. Demas for his time as chair. Drs. Sahawneh and Matteliano stated that their term on the Council has ended and they thanked the members for their support over the years.

There being no additional business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned 12:10 p.m., following a motion by Dr. Matteliano and seconded by Dr. Herman.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. Demas, DDS
Chair

The American Dental Association-Council on Dental Practice

Report to the NYSDA Council on Dental Practice

March 25, 2022

There are four subcommittees of the ADA Council on Dental Practice. These subcommittees have been meeting, as needed. This is a brief overview of their current activities:

Practice Management Subcommittee

Chair: Dr. Allison House (AZ)

This subcommittee has been meeting bimonthly since January and will continue to do so, likely through the next formal Council meeting in May. Current active topics include:

Response to HOD Resolution 85RC - Addressing the Dental Team Workforce Shortages:

Workforce has become one of the most pressing issues for the ADA members nationally. It has proven to be a complex issue with regional differences with many variables, financial, ability, political climate, etc. President Sabates considered appointing a special study group on Workforce. He decided that much of the work he envisioned was already underway within the Council on Dental Practice (CDP). The Chair of the Council on Governmental Affairs (CGA) appointed a member of the Council as a liaison to improve communication and avoid redundancy of effort. Ongoing efforts on workforce follow:

Ongoing workforce efforts:

The Practice website is being reimagined to make it more user friendly to Tripartite Members. This includes an inventory of existing educational webinars for all staff levels - potential, new and seasoned.

Currently, the ADA is reaching out to all tripartite levels to help inventory and make accessible information about existing training programs by region. Make accessible new training ideas, such as an Apprenticeship Study Program being introduced in Nevada, and a collaborative training program introduced by the South Dakota Dental Association and DANBY. New Hampshire and Washington State are partnering with Delta Dental to fund increases in Dental Hygiene Training Programs. Many states are re-examining scope of practice with an eye on increasing expanded functions.

The Council on Governmental Affairs Workforce Study Group will be introducing a resolution on a policy for paid family leave. CDP and the New Dentist Council will be working with CGA to develop this resolution.

The ADA Department of State Governmental Affairs is inventorying real and perceived barriers to entrance in the dental workforce such as differences in training, certification, registration and licensing requirements.

Response to HOD Resolution 104H - Financial Literacy Among New Dentists and Dental Students:

A catalogue of existing resources available to ADA members are being reviewed. There are ongoing efforts to engage dental students and new dentists about debt and methodologies on minimizing new debt and addressing existing debt. The ADA will be continuing the “Financial Journey” webinar series, which is meant for dentists in all levels of their career.

Response to the Dental Quality Alliance White Paper:

The members of the CDP were asked to respond to the DQA White Paper. In the unified response it was agreed that the DQA is well intentioned and has potential promise. However, it was felt that the proposed use would do little to improve quality of care and potentially give the third-party payors another tool to interfere with the doctor/patient relationship.

Dental Assistants Recognition Week was March 6-12, 2022. An article was published in the *ADA News*.

Children’s Apnea Screening Tool-Validation Study Support: The CAST group has a validation study designed and study sites identified. Unfortunately, COVID has caused the expected funding programs to withdraw their support. New potential funding sources are being identified.

All members are encouraged to use the continual updates by the ADA COVID Rapid Response Team. Information on this site is under continual review to maintain the most current and accurate information. ADA staff is reviewing the available data to identify new office procedure recommendations.

Health and Wellness Subcommittee

Chair: Dr. Sherry Gwin (MS)

NECAC-National Eldercare Advisory Committee-Chair: Dr. Kami Dornfeld (ND)

Current active topics include:

The National Eldercare Symposium, currently scheduled on August 26, 2022, will be held in person. It is hoped that a virtual component will be available for those who are hesitant or unable to travel.

The March 25, 2022 NECAC meeting will be held virtually due to the pandemic. Developing Eldercare focused presentation, which will be shared on all levels of the Tripartite Dentistry to use for continuing education.

DWAC-Dental Wellness Advisory Committee-Chair: Dr. Princy Rekhi (WA)

The annual DWAC Meeting was held on March 4, 2022, virtually via Zoom.

Topics included:

The scope of activities, from February 2021-March 4, 2022, were reviewed by ADA staff. These included educational webinars the “Accelerator Webinar Series on Wellness” and the webinar series available at SmileCon 2021. Friends of Bill meetings were held during SmileCon 2021 to help support our colleagues in recovery. The 2021 Dentist Health and Wellbeing Report has been completed and was released in January. It has been shared across the tripartite and available through the ADA Catalog.

Response to Resolution 95H-2021 - Prioritizing the Mental Health of Dentists:

Coordinate efforts through tripartite dentistry and inventory and publicize available material to support members facing mental health and substance abuse issues. Improved communication was stressed to help develop best practices throughout the tripartite, using the Clinician Well-Being Collaborative as a model. Access and education (both for those in need and those in a position to support) were discussed. Although it was acknowledged that there is voluminous information available, it is somewhat difficult to access. A participant pointed out that when someone is in crisis, they need help and need it now! They likely won't be in the state of mind to navigate through a confusing website.

Proposed new online seminar topics and speakers were discussed. Short YouTube type informational videos are being readied for release. On April 19 and May 18, 2022, there will be a two-part webinar series on resilience.

The ADA is supporting the Lorna Breen Act which will protect Healthcare Providers from onerous licensing consequences often imposed on dentists in crisis seeking help. A participant stated it succinctly, “We have to stop killing our wounded!”

Future meeting dates were discussed. It was also pointed out that several committee members will be coming to the end of their tenure. It has been asked that interested persons submit their CVs for consideration.

Policy and Emerging Issues Subcommittee

Chair: Dr. Ralph Howell (VA)

Current topics include:

Current Policies slated for periodic review have been completed. The policies were updated to include proper verbiage. The changes were grammatical in nature, and none will be resubmitted to the 2022 ADA House of Delegates for consideration. This subcommittee stands in recess unless a resolution is sent that will have policy implications.

Technology and Oversight Subcommittee

Chair: Dr Jeff Ottley (FL)

Current topics include:

An Implant tracking tool, as requested by the 2021 ADA House of Delegates, is being finished and will be sent to the ADA for completion of final graphics.

Monitor AI (Augmented Intelligence) for changes and new development. Investigate the possibility to develop a page on the ADA Website to aid members in finding information about these developments. SCDI is finishing a white paper on Augmented Intelligence. The white paper will be reviewed by this subcommittee prior to the presentation to the 2022 House of Delegates for acceptance.

Monitor changes in teledentistry. SCDI is also finishing a white paper on teledentistry, which will be reviewed by this subcommittee.

The ADA has very dedicated volunteers and staff that produce valuable resources available for our membership. Unfortunately, an exceptionally large segment of our membership is unaware of them. It will remain a major goal of the Council on Dental Practice to better communicate the availability of these resources to our entire tripartite membership. If you ever have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

James A. Hoddick, DDS

District 2 Representative, Chairman, ADA Council on Dental Practice