



COUNCIL ON DENTAL HEALTH PLANNING & HOSPITAL DENTISTRY
April 30, 2021
OFFICIAL MINUTES

Tegtmeier, Carl (Chair)
Rubin, Marsha (NY)
Fried, Alvin (2)
Farren, Seth (3)
Sandu, Diana (4)
Stacey, Steven (5)
Noren, Scott (6)
McLaren, Sean (7)

Frustino, Jennifer (8)
Miller, David (N) (Downstate Dental Director Liaison)
Kesner, Stuart (Q)
Maranga, Maria (S)
Heller, Diane (B)
Peters, Scott (New Dentist Representative)
Madonian, Margaret (BOT Liaison)

The Council on Dental Health Planning and Hospital Dentistry met on Friday, April 30, 2021 via Zoom. All members attended with the exception of Drs. Noren and Madonian. Dr. Robert Margolin, Second District Trustee Representative to the ADA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention; Dr. Rachael Rossitto, Upstate Dental Director Liaison; Dr. Mark Feldman, NYSDA Executive Director; Ms. Betsy Bray, Director and Ms. Jacquie Donnelly, Manager, Health Affairs, were also in attendance. Drs. Raquel Rozdolski, Ninth District Dental Association and Dionne Richardson, State Dental Director, Division of Family Health, NYS DOH attended as guests of the Council. Dr. Kevin Henner, NYSDA President-Elect attended a portion of the meeting.

Dr. Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The minutes from the Council's meeting held on October 23, 2020 were adopted as written by unanimous consent.

Chairperson's Report

Dr. Tegtmeier informed the Council that Dr. Henner would be briefly joining the meeting to address the members. He then stated that this is his last meeting as chair and as a member of the Council. He thanked the members and NYSDA staff for their support and guidance over the years. He stated that it has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Council. Dr. Tegtmeier introduced Dr. Rozdolski, who will replace him as the representative for the Ninth District Dental Association.

Dr. Tegtmeier attended NYSDA's Advocacy Day and gave an overview of the program and attendees. He discussed Assemblyman Gottfried's "New York Health Act" bill, which if enacted, would establish a single payer health system for every New York State resident. Dr. Tegtmeier also highlighted several comments made by the Assemblyman regarding the 2011 Medicaid Redesign Team and Medicaid reform.

Dr. Feldman gave a brief history of the Medicaid Redesign Team and the advent of Medicaid Managed Care in New York. In reference to the NY Health Act, he stated that Assemblyman Gottfried requested that NYSDA review the bill and provide feedback on the current language. Ms. Bray will disseminate information to the members so that they will be better able to form an opinion. The Council will discuss the issue at their next meeting.

NYS Department of Health Update

Dr. Richardson gave an update on the activities of the Oral Health Program, which has been integrated within the Division of Family Health. She reported that an opening plan for school based health centers has been released and DOH has been working with the schools to prepare for reopening. A small number of health centers have already opened with the majority opening in the summer or fall.

Dr. Richardson reported that the NY Forward guidance regarding the 15-minute wait time between patients is currently in review. Dr. Feldman thanked Dr. Richardson for her assistance with this matter and noted that NYSDA sent a letter to Commissioner Zucker on this matter as well. He then informed the Council that he has recently been in communication with NYSDA's lobbyist, Mr. Roy Lasky, who stated that the guidance should be updated very shortly.

Dr. Richardson reviewed ongoing activities that were reported at the Council's October 2020 meeting. These include:

- HRSA workforce grant to enable DOH to work with local health departments and other community stakeholders to help integrate oral health into medical health. Some of the strategic planning includes establishing a referral mechanism for primary providers, integration of fluoride varnish in primary care settings, and community health workers providing outreach to pregnant women. Ms. Bray informed Dr. Richardson of the new NYSDA app, "My HealthySmileNY", as a tool that could be utilized in the project.
- The Department's fluoride varnish training for local health departments is ongoing. They have launched a training program for primary care providers.
- Efforts on bringing awareness to alternatives to prescribing opiates for pain continues. DOH is currently developing a toolkit to support resources that are being developed for prescribing alternatives. Dr. Richardson stated that she appreciated the input she received from NYSDA's Chemical Dependency Committee.
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) has completed its review of the National Toxicology Program's (NTP) report on fluorides and its effect on cognitive development and neurotoxicity. Both the NASEM and the American Dental Association have concerns with inconsistencies in the report and their

reporting methods, among other areas of concern. Both recommend that the NTP revise its report.

Lastly, Dr. Richardson reported that the Governor's budget included funding for community water fluoridation.

ADA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP) Report

Dr. Margolin provided a copy of the minutes from the CAAP meeting held in January 2021. A copy is attached. He stated that the Council is planning a July meeting in Chicago. Dr. Margolin also made the Council aware of an ADA on-demand webinar addressing Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy among patients. He reported that the Council's Medicaid Action Plan is still in draft format.

Hospital Dental Program Liaison Reports

Drs. Miller and Rossitto reported that the downstate and upstate dental directors have not met due to the pandemic. However, communication has been ongoing via email. They reported that CODA and Joint Commission visits have taken place via Zoom. Dr. Rossitto noted that the Match program was more successful than it had been in previous years.

Ms. Bray asked about the hospital's plans to continue telehealth visits. Dr. Rossitto stated that the Erie County Medical Center has formed a task force to study the issue. Drs. Miller and Rossitto reported that being reimbursed for telehealth visits was a problem.

NYSDA Risk Management Course

Dr. Henner joined the meeting to inform the Council of a Risk Management course being offered on May 16 by NYSDA and MLMIC Insurance Company. He encouraged the Council to promote it to their residents and postgraduate students. The course is being presented at no cost to registrants. Attendees will receive 4 CE credits and a 10% discount on their MLMIC liability policy for the next 3 years. In addition, recent graduate NYSDA members may be eligible for their first year of \$50 MLMIC coverage free, paid for by NYSDA. Ms. Donnelly will disseminate information about the course to the Council.

Census of NYS Hospital Dental Services and ED Diversion

Dr. Tegtmeier stated that the survey of hospital dental services he intended to develop was postponed due to the pandemic. He asked the members to contact local hospitals in their component to ascertain what dental services are being offered. He explained that this information would be a good resource for component societies when receiving phone calls from patients seeking dental treatment. Dr. Tegtmeier will develop a list of questions to aid in the type of information being requested. The results will be evaluated and shared at the next council meeting.

Teledentistry

Dr. Tegtmeier expressed his concerns with subdivision 3 of the telehealth parity bill. He asked the Council if they felt the language in the law would affect how after hours emergency calls would be handled and does it affect the “standard of care”? Dr. Tegtmeier stated that he reached out to Lance Plunkett, NYSDA’s legal counsel, and Mr. Plunkett stated that he did not believe it would.

Dr. Feldman clarified that the amendment to the bill simply reaffirms the standard of care for DIY dentistry and prevents an out of state dentist or non-dentist from performing treatment.

Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Task Force Report

Dr. Tegtmeier reviewed a recent survey he initiated of hospital OR programs. The information gathered included the number of patients treated with severe to profound intellectual disabilities, the number of those patients treated in the OR over a one-year period, and the average OR wait time. He compared these results to a survey taken in 2011, subsequently published in 2012, in the NYS Dental Journal. Dr. Tegtmeier pointed out that all of the data reported in 2011 has increased significantly. In addition, several hospital dental programs have closed.

The Council discussed the need for more clinics similar to the ones at NYU and Eastman to treat the IDD population and increased residency training. Dr. Feldman reminded the members of NYSDA’s resolution (100S-1) passed at the ADA House of Delegates meeting. The resolution called for the ADA CDEL to explore the feasibility, with other interested parties, of developing an accreditation process and standards for advanced education programs in special care dentistry by CODA and to report to the 2021 HOD. The report would be sent to the Council on Special Care Dentistry as well.

Ongoing discussion centered on scholarships and fellowships being offered to residents as an enticement to provide care and adding additional anesthesia programs in order to increase more ambulatory centers specializing in dental care delivery for people with disabilities.

Dr. Farren expressed his frustration that St. Peter’s Hospital is losing residency positions. Dr. Tegtmeier cited the closing of the residency program at Helen Hayes Hospital. Dr. Sandu stated that Ellis Hospital will be closing their clinic and eliminating their residency program at the end of June. Dr. Miller voiced his concern that graduate medical education reimbursement has decreased over the years and could have an impact on the future of training residents. Dr. Rossitto emphasized the need to advocate for appropriate reimbursement rates to keep these programs going. Dr. McLaren mentioned a study being conducted at Eastman centered on ED diversion. Dr. Tegtmeier is exploring working with the NYS Dental Foundation on a program to incorporate desensitization training for the IDD population to reduce resistive behaviors.

Hospital Program and Component Issues

The members discussed activities and concerns in their components. Several members reported an increase in applications for their Match programs. Dr. Farren reported that St. Peter’s Hospital

has decreased its residency positions to three and that finding coverage for oral surgery continues to be a problem due to payment issues. Drs. Frustino and Heller's programs have received grants from HRSA.

Dr. Miller met with the hospital dental directors in Nassau County. Concerns discussed at the meeting included the elimination of the 15-minute wait time; Dr. Cottrell's letter regarding oral surgery internships; decreases in OR time; increases in applications to residencies and the lack of positions; and students graduating from dental school with less clinical experience due to the closure of dental schools during the pandemic.

New Business

The Council reviewed Resolution 11-J-07, adopted in 2007 by the Council on Education and Licensure (CDEL). CDEL has now referred this resolution to the Council for action. Resolution 11-J-07 reads as follows:

***Resolved:** That NYSDA seek development and/or expansion of community health care centers to provide facilities where access to care can be procured more readily.*

The resolution was discussed prior to the Council's meeting and the members voted to recommend that the referral by CDEL be rescinded. It was noted that community health centers and their services have greatly expanded since 2007.

Dr. Tegtmeier then discussed the information provided in the Dental Lifeline Network (DLN) handout. Dr. Noren had raised concerns about DLN's unfavorable rating on a website that rates charitable organizations - Charity Navigator. Dr. Tegtmeier, who is on DLN's Statewide Leadership Council, reported that the information on Charity Navigator's website was incomplete as data was used from only one of two tax reports submitted by DLN. DLN consistently receives Gold Star ratings from top charity/foundation rating organizations.

Old Business

Dr. Miller discussed a communication sent on April 9 by Dr. Dolores Cottrell, Executive Secretary, State Education Department, reminding dental residency directors that only individuals enrolled in residency programs accredited by CODA may practice under the exemption of the Dental Residency Registration Roster (form 5R). The letter was sent because of several facilities running parallel oral and maxillofacial surgery specialty residency and internship programs. Internship programs are not CODA accredited and not licensure qualifying, therefore, they are not recognized by SED. Dr. Miller stressed the importance of following Education Law in this situation.

Dr. Peters distributed a copy of an article he is writing about the role of oral pathology in New York's hospital system. He asked that the members email him with feedback. The Council discussed the need for more oral pathologists in residency programs. Dr. Miller stated that his hospital employs an oral pathologist.

Nomination of Council Chair

Dr. Miller made a motion to recommend Dr. McLaren for nomination as Council Chair. Dr. Rubin seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to recommend Dr. McLaren for appointment as Council Chair from August 2021 to June 2022.

Adjournment

Dr. Miller thanked Dr. Tegtmeier for his leadership as chair and during his tenure on the Council.

There being no additional business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carl H. Tegtmeier, DMD".

Carl H. Tegtmeier, DMD
Chair

**Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention
Talking Points of Council Meeting January 2021**

- The Council passed a resolution for consideration at this year's HOD regarding health equity and social justice. The resolution has similar language to the resolution the AMA passed at their special meeting of their HOD.

The language refers to supporting health equity as a means to improve the health of our Nation and also highlights the need for reforms in public dental programs, while reaffirming the need for oral health education within health training programs.

- Dr. Jessica Meeske, Chair, introduced a Medicaid Action Plan which gives broad outlines regarding the need for practitioners to participate with the program to some degree, to encourage dental training programs to do likewise and for the dental community to continue to advocate for program improvements.

The Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee of CAAP continues to provide Medicaid provider "Boot Camps" across the country (over 20 dental schools participated in 2020) and continuously updates the online Medicaid Provider Resource Guide which covers topics such as medical necessity and appropriate documentation.

Dr. Natalia Chalmers, current Chief Dental Officer of CMS, updated the Council on the current state of Medicaid for an eligible population which is expanding across the country.

- The Prevention Subcommittee of CAAP houses the National Fluoridation Advisory Committee (NFAC) which oversees fluoridation research and activity across the country.

The analysis of the National Fluoridation Advisory Committee (NFAC) shared strategies regarding local fluoridation challenges and offered an updated one page informational document on community water fluoridation for members to utilize in their communities.

- The Prime Subcommittee of CAAP updated the Council on upcoming webinars which includes dentists performing vaccine administration, introduction to cultural competency and how to talk with patients who may be vaccine hesitant. This Subcommittee oversees the National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry. A dental student essay contest is held each year by the NACHLD with the winner being recognized by their entry being published in ADA News.

The Council had Dr. Tim Ricks, Assistant Surgeon General of the United States, describe how several hundred thousand children do not have a medical home for necessary vaccinations. He indicated that this was an area where dental offices could be a critical referral and link in overall health.

- The Access and Advocacy Subcommittee of CAAP provided an update on the Culture of Safety in Dentistry which continues its work per HOD resolution 78H 2018. Over 600 attendees participated in a January webinar with additional presentations being planned.

Speaking to the Council from the Dental Patient Safety Foundation were Dr. Robert Bosack and Dr. Stuart Lieblich who shared multiple opportunities for dental safety interventions.

