



COUNCIL ON DENTAL HEALTH PLANNING & HOSPITAL DENTISTRY
October 26, 2022

OFFICIAL MINUTES

McLaren, Sean (Chair)	Rozdolski, Raquel (9)
Rubin, Marsha (NY)	Miller, David (N) (Downstate Dental Director Liaison)
Joseph, Alfred (2)	Kesner, Stuart (Q)
Doriot, Robert (3)	Maranga, Maria (S)
Laura Johnstone (4)	Heller, Diane (B)
DiFlorio, Jean (5)	Peters, Scott (New Dentist Representative)
Noren, Scott (6)	Rossitto, Rachael (Upstate Dental Director Liaison)
Frustino, Jennifer (8)	Maurice Edwards (BOT Liaison)

The Council on Dental Health Planning and Hospital Dentistry met on Friday, October 26, 2022, at NYSDA Headquarters. All members were in attendance with the exception of Drs. Noren, Rozdolski, Miller, Kesner, Maranga, Heller and Peters. Dr. Dionne Richardson, State Dental Director, NYS DOH, attended as a guest. Mr. Gregory Hill, Executive Director, and Ms. Betsy Bray, Director, Health Affairs, were also in attendance.

Dr. McLaren called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. The minutes from the Council's meeting held on April 1, 2022, were adopted as written by unanimous consent, following a motion by Dr. Frustino, seconded by Dr. Rubin.

The meeting began with introductions of the new Council members and introductory remarks provided by Mr. Hill.

Chair Report

Dr. McLaren discussed the establishment of a primary care dental faculty development center at Eastman Institute for Oral Health in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The National Dental Training Center for Primary Interdisciplinary Care Educators will be a five-year program that will train 12 junior primary care dental faculty in the U.S. on a wide variety of skills, including

integrating oral health and primary care, setting up a teledentistry program, increasing access to rural and other underserved populations, and how to train other faculty in their home institutions.

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

Dr. Robert Margolin, ADA CAAP representative, was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report. A copy of his report is attached. Dr. Frustino inquired about the 2023 HPV stakeholders workgroup and would like to learn more. Ms. Bray will reach out to Dr. Margolin on her behalf.

NYS Department of Health (DOH) Update

Dr. Richardson began her report by providing an update on Covid-19. The most recent CDC guidance, updated September 23, recommends providers continue to monitor the guidelines as we head into influenza season, citing the current updates as of May 18 for Article 28/FQHC facilities. Dr. Richardson also noted the DOH monitoring of monkeypox and tuberculosis outbreaks.

Dr. Richardson updated the Council on DOH fluoridation advocacy. The DOH is on the fourth round of funding issued to 13 municipalities to repair and replace equipment. The last funding was July of 2022. The application is currently offline and will be relaunching soon. Dr. Richardson outlined the challenging history of water fluoridation in Gloversville, NY, while noting the exemplary effort by NYSDA BOT member Wayne Harrison. Dr. Harrison played a significant role as a liaison between NYSDA, Fourth District and local leaders in successfully securing fluoridation in the community.

Dr. Richardson informed the members that as of September 9, School Based Health Centers can resume aerosol-generating procedures with caution. The DOH's focus in working with School Based Health Centers is to vaccinate children in school settings. The Council discussed the low vaccination rates for children under 5 and those 5-11 years of age.

Dr. Richardson reviewed the HRSA-supported workforce grant which ended August 31, with an extension to February 23, 2023, to promote varnish in primary care settings and complete the provider tool kit for alternatives to using opioids in a dental practice (still in production). The contents of both tool kits (Children's Oral Health and Opioid Prescribing and Use) were discussed and examples of the Children's Oral Health Kit were available for review.

Dr. Richardson provided an update on OSAP (Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention) infection control. OSAP is now in partnership with Care Quest Institute. Infection-control webinars are archived on the Care Quest website. Also noted, Dr. Don Kohn will be presenting a webinar on Compliance for Accountable Care Organizations. Dr. Richardson will send notice about the November 9 webinar.

Dr. McLaren asked about the success of fluoride varnish application by primary care physicians. Dr. Richardson noted that while efforts remain challenging, they are working to identify champions across the state and establish protocols in medical school curriculum. Dr. DiFlorio commented that the Syracuse Pediatric Department applies fluoride varnish. Ms. Bray added that Bassett Healthcare Network, covering a five county region, continues to provide a risk

assessment populated in Epic and varnish is applied at well-child visits for those determined to be at risk for dental caries.

Dr. Richardson concluded her report by announcing an Oral Health Summit for Early Childhood Caries to take place on November 14.

Hospital Dental Program Liaison Reports

Dr. Miller, downstate dental director liaison, was unable to attend the meeting.

Dr. Rossitto reported that the GME departments stay consistent with the interview format--some are still on Zoom, some in person--with good feedback from the residents. The upstate group has a meeting scheduled in April 2023 in conjunction with the UB residency fair.

The nuances and challenges for residents applying for licensure were discussed at length. Ms. Bray provided a review of advocacy efforts undertaken by NYSDA leadership and CDEL to improve the application process for residents. The State Education Department has received funding to improve the application process and is reported to be actively working on the electronic conversion.

Dr. Rossitto noted that the Office of the Professions has a new section that identifies the current week of processing, and is now reviewing Sept 8 submissions. She proposed a joint meeting with CDEL in the spring of 2023 to discuss the councils working together on this pressing issue. Ms. Bray will work with CDEL to coordinate a meeting.

Dr. McLaren said that NYSDA advocacy is a member benefit to be promoted to students.

Hospital Program and Component Issues

The members discussed activities and concerns in their components and respective hospitals. Challenges with workforce and access to care are the most critical issues the centers are facing.

Dr. Joseph discussed the shortage of dental assistants and the difficulties in finding qualified applicants. He described the successful efforts to persuade the union to negotiate with the city to increase salaries for dental assistants. Dr. McLaren said he has met with his human resources department to also increase salaries for dental assistants and shared plans for a dental assisting program in Rochester. Ms. Bray reported that the Council on Dental Practice has created a subcommittee to address workforce challenges and plans to work on sharing tools with members.

Dr. Doriot confirmed that St. Peter's Hospital is discontinuing the dental residency program in June 2023. He explained the impact this will have on his oral surgery practice and the devastating impact it will have on the Capital District. In addition to St. Peter's, Trinity Health also operates St. Joseph's in Syracuse. Currently, there are three residents at St. Peter's and five at St. Joseph's Hospital. The contracts with residents at St. Peter's will be discontinued at the end of the academic year, and the staff contracts will end in December. Mr. Hill added that NYSDA leadership will attempt to coordinate a meeting with Trinity Health in the near future.

Dr. McLaren questioned if GPRs are returning to matches. Dr. Rossitto noted that applications have increased due to Zoom interviews. Dr. Joseph stated that programs are dropping out of the match process and discussed how this creates an unfair advantage. The Council discussed the

match process and the discrepancies between the dental and medical models. It was suggested that the Downstate Dental Directors could meet to discuss participation in the match process as they have the same applicant pool.

There was discussion of a new exam vs. national board. It was noted that students cannot take the board until after the interview. When reviewing the applicants, it is somewhat of a blind review, as the applicants are not ranked and graded.

Dr. Edwards questioned the quality of dental residents. Several members agreed that the quality is down due to the education process, compounded by the residual effects of the pandemic. Discussion ensued about current education standards, historical references and the need for review. Dr. Richardson said there are groups advocating for the academic requirements to be driven by oral medicine rather than procedure, which is currently the focus.

There was discussion with the group on the integration of Wisdom (Epic) and phasing out of Dentrax. It was agreed that the ability to see the patients' complete medical and dental history in one system is beneficial.

New Business

Federal Student Loan Debt Relief Loan Program criteria was discussed. Residents are encouraged to apply (<https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief-announcement>).

Workers' Compensation was discussed. Ms. Bray discussed the current crisis of limited providers across the state. She also informed the members that NYSDA is currently working with the Workers' Compensation Board to increase the dental reimbursement fees for workers' compensation and no-fault insurance claims. The Board now requires electronic claims submission to help streamline and expedite the process.

Old Business

IDD fellowships have begun in the various programs throughout the state. The fellow receives didactic courses and is treating mild-to-moderate IDD patients who were previously unable to receive care in a traditional setting. OR time is still reserved for the most severe cases.

Dr. Richardson asked what further training would be needed to address this population. The Council discussed the current CODA standard, which is "identify and assess" only, and noted there is limited training in both the didactic and clinical aspects for the special needs population.

Dr. Frustino commended Dr. Elizabeth Kapral, a member of the Eighth District, who has been a champion for education and treating the IDD population in the community. She received an HRSA grant to build a new ambulatory IDD clinic in Buffalo and support training of GPR residents. Dr. Kapral has also started an IDD elective for 3rd year UB dental students. Students and residents receive six hours of didactics and students get three full clinic days and one OR day with IDD patients. Residents rotate continually, so they have unlimited clinic and OR time with the IDD patients at the center. It was noted that Dr. Kapral could be a resource and could share best practice with DOH.

It was also noted that there is need for special needs electives and fellowships. For programs offering two-year positions, PGY2 could train more doctors to treat IDD and be GME funded.

Dr. Frustino added that there is an Erie County Medical Center IDD ambulatory clinic scheduled to open in the City of Buffalo by the end of the year.

Adjournment

There being no additional business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean McLaren, DDS
Chair