



Board of Directors (BOD) and National Activities

Belated congratulations to Chris Farrell, ASTDD Immediate Past-President and MI state dental director, for selection to participate in the 2023 Medicaid and CHIP Oral Health Initiative Workgroup, being convened by Mathematica on behalf of the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services. The workgroup met for the fourth time on May 4. ASTDD has signed another three-year contract in collaboration with the American Association of Public Health Dentistry with Good Plan Jan for meeting planning services for the National Oral Health Conference (NOHC). ASTDD now has a contract with CareQuest to help support the National Oral Health Data Portal. The ASTDD BOD met on May 8 and June 12. The BOD reappointed all Committee chairs for new two-year terms and voted to join the [American Teledentistry Association](#). Their mission is to improve access to care for patients without restrictions by boards and/or legislation limiting access to alternative delivery sites. We look forward to a productive relationship!

Peer and Member Support Program



One new mentoring pair is participating in the peer support program: Angela Filzen (MS) is mentoring Kristi Mellion (LA). Lori Cofano oriented Deborah Vishnevsky (DC). Kimberlie Payne contacted 23 new associate members during May and June. The Peer Support Program discussion group was held on May 24. Sarah Kolo from the National Maternal and Child Health Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) presented resources available on the OHRC website. The next quarterly discussion group will be held in September.

Fluorides Committee (FC)

A CWF Community of Practice (CoP) session on May 16 was attended by about 47 individuals. Gwen Sullentrup (Missouri) presented the “toolkit” she has developed when working with communities dealing with challenges to water fluoridation as well as in efforts to initiate fluoridation. Johnny Johnson (American Fluoridation Society) offered a short version of the concurrent session he organized for the NOHC, “Are Your Water Systems Properly Fluoridating,” explaining why it’s important (even critical) for states to turn on the Advanced Level of reporting in My Water’s Fluoride and how the information can be used. Judy Feinstein spoke briefly about ASTDD CWF resources as well as the function and use of ASTDD’s fluoridation-focused listservs as tools for fluoridation coordinators in their work. Judy participated in a second small collaboration workgroup organized by Gwen Sullentrup and others, this time including representatives from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Iowa and Alaska. Discussion touched on operator training manuals, tracking for local system test results, and getting state approval for the CDC’s FLO training.

The Fluorides Committee has recently completed a review and revision of ASTDD's *Fluoridation Fact Sheet*, a one-page (front and back) template that can be modified by inserting your state information, adapted in other ways, and used as an educational/information tool. [Contact](#) the ASTDD Central office for a copy. To accompany and complement the template, the Committee compiled a new resource available through the Members' Only side of the Fluorides & Fluoridation webpage that provides links to similar short and usually public or consumer-oriented documents that states might want to review when developing their own, along with links to one-pagers from CDC, the American Dental Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Thanks to the states that shared their work!

An ASTDD webcast on *Community Water Fluoridation and Oral Health Equity* was held on June 8. Donald Chi from the University of Washington presented interview data from more than 120 community members in Washington state and focused on potential differences in views based on the level of fluoridation in the community, race/ethnicity, and opposition/support of fluoridation.

One Fluoridation Alert was sent during May with individual emails sent to contacts in Iowa and Massachusetts, and one Alert during June.

Communications Committee (CC)

The CC met May 18. The Communications Community of Practice (CCoP) met on May 24; the topic was QR codes. The group discussed QR Codes, what are they, how to create them, how do you use them, and how can they enhance your communication efforts.



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The ASTDD Spotlight on June 1 featured Marla Morse and Susan Lawson discussing *Leveraging the MNOHI Environmental Scan in Ohio*—specifically how the environmental scan is being used to influence policy and systems in Ohio; there were about 55 participants. The link is in the Members Only section of the website. This work is part of the COHSII project (see page 6.)

Matt Jacob and Heather Beavers from the Social Media Workgroup are providing TA to three states this year based on their applications for assistance. This is a pilot program to show that social media is not intimidating to use. The Missouri team is checking in every other month. Missouri engaged in a twitter chat for children's dental health month and also has increased networking opportunities with other organizations. They have increased their use of social media since the start of the TA. Minnesota had their second call and is excited to participate in the social media project. The key strategies are to encourage the state oral health program director, Prasida Khanal, to post more frequently on her LinkedIn account, offering tips for doing so. The coalition in Minnesota has been encouraged to give Twitter less attention and focus instead on Facebook and LinkedIn. The idea is to use Facebook as more of a communication hub for existing coalition partners, while using LinkedIn to try to identify new partners (especially by stressing the links between oral and systemic health). Arkansas TA is to start this Fall.

Dental Public Health Policy Committee (DPHPC) and Best Practices Committee (BPC)

The DPHPC held two meetings in June. They continue to work on the policy statement on the Environmental Health Impacts of Amalgam and Other Dental Materials and the issue brief on Mobile and Portable Dentistry. Look for them to be posted soon.

BPC workgroups and authors have continued working on two BPARs: Oral Health of Older Adults (Age 65 and Older) and the update to Prevention and Control of Early Childhood Tooth Decay (ECC).

Healthy Aging Committee (HAC)

The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) held an Oral Health Interest Group Meeting on May 17. Sam Zwetchkenbaum gave an overview of the [ASTDD Toolkit of Older Adult Oral Health Resources for Collaboration](#). Other topics presented included an update on expanding Medicare coverage for medically necessary oral treatment; highlights from the “Meeting within a Meeting” on Aging and Oral Health Research at the AADOCR Annual Meeting in March; new GSA resources and activities planned for the upcoming GSA 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting in Tampa, FL November 8-12. The Toolkit also was widely shared during Older Americans Month.



School and Adolescent Oral Health Committee (SAOHC) and Dental Sealant Subject Matter Expert



CDC Healthy Schools announced [20 grantees](#) for their School-Based Interventions to Promote Equity and Improve Health, Academic Achievement, and Well-Being of Students projects; funding for this five-year cooperative agreement begins July 1. Healthy Schools and the CDC Division of Oral Health collaborated on the FOA to include some oral health components. Recipients will use the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model.

The SAOHC met on May 25; Liz Clark from the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) presented on how school-based sealant programs can collaborate with school nurses. The Mobile/Portable workgroup met on May 11 and June 7. The Sealant CoP met on June 23. Dr. Marcia Parker presented and shared updates on CDC’s guidance on blacklight usage for data collection and on the SEALS program. CDC will not permit states to use CDC funding to conduct a BSS or sealant retention checks using black lights.

Basic Screening Survey (BSS) and Oral Health Surveillance Technical Assistance (TA) and Training

Kathy Phipps and Mike Manz, ASTDD data subject matter experts, provided TA to 13 states for BSS or other surveillance assistance in May and June. Mike continued updating emergency department related documents. Kathy completed an overhaul of the National Oral Health Surveillance System (NOHSS) database adding indicators requested by CDC as well as an overhaul of the State Synopses database, submitting the framework to CDC for review. Brooke Mehner, one of our new data consultants, completed ASTDD State Synopses Report training with Kathy Phipps and updated the ASTDD 2023 State Synopses Report external data tables.

On June 26, the BSS CoP met and discussed several topics: materials placed in the BSS CoP Dropbox; watched a South Carolina BSS TV spot and reviewed dissemination materials from Alaska, Connecticut, Hawaii and

Vermont; discussed Florida's 9th grade BSS successes and challenges, and discussed active/passive and hard copy/electronic permission forms. We are adding new state-generated BSS infographics and reports to the [Data and Oral Health Surveillance webpage](#) under State Examples as we receive them.

On June 14 Kathy Phipps was one of the presenters for the HP2030 webcast, *Developmental Objective OH-D01: Increase the Number of States and the District of Columbia that have an Oral Health and Craniofacial Health Surveillance System*. Other presenters were Gina Thornton-Evans and Parth Shah. Access the [slides here](#) and the [recording here](#) (passcode \$?1lhKBN).

Updated State Oral Health Improvement Plan Tool

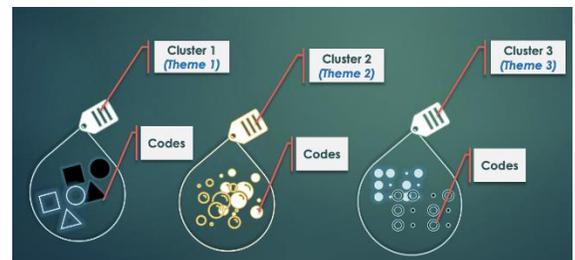
Significant updates have been made to the [ASTDD State Oral Health Improvement Plan Comparison Tool](#). The Comparison Tool identifies a set of State Oral Health Improvement Plan strategy indicators within a conceptual framework among the three public health core functions and [Ten Essential Public Health Services to Promote Oral Health](#). The tool allows for cross-state comparisons and features descriptive statistics detailing the extent of each

state's oral health activities and relationship to one another. Every state is listed on the top and also on the tab on the bottom. You can find your state by clicking on either area. The Strategies are on the left side of the tool. The National summary tab gives the compilation of all the states. The number identified across from the strategies show whether a state has that indicator. New and updated state plans will be added by ASTDD as they are received. We have also created an [ASTDD State Oral Health Plan Comparison Tool Description](#) document that lists states with up-to-date plans that are on the tool, states with out-of-date plans that are on the tool, and states that do not have a state oral health improvement plan.

Work continues on a State Oral Health Improvement Plan Toolkit to help states plan, implement, disseminate, track and evaluate their state plans. Look for it later this summer.

Evaluation Activities

The ASTDD evaluation consultants continued to provide general assistance to CDC-funded states through listserv posts and emails and held office hours for end of year progress updates. They also developed a listserv post: Qualitative Coding Toolkit. Qualitative coding is a multi-step process that generally follows the same sequence of (1) reading through data, (2) applying codes to excerpts, (3) grouping codes according to themes, (4) conducting multiple rounds of coding, and then (5) making interpretations that lead to your research findings. The evaluation team is developing examples of alternative report methods as a follow up from the NOHC workshop on different reporting styles. Look for them soon!



RESPITE Project

The RESPITE project, a collaborative research project to reduce opioid use by dental providers in managing dental pain, now has four manuscripts published. In addition, three manuscripts have been accepted for publication, and two are undergoing review. ASTDD will provide links for the remaining papers when they are published. The 2nd and 3rd manuscripts listed below are being switched to open access.

Published:

- Miroshnychenko A, Ibrahim S, Azab M, Roldan Y, Martinez JPD, Tamilselvan D, He L, Little JW, Urquhart O, Tampi M, Polk DE, Moore PA, Hersh EV, Claytor B, Carrasco-Labra A, Brignardello-Petersen R. Acute Postoperative Pain Due to Dental Extraction in the Adult Population: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis. *J Dent Res*. 2023 Apr;102(4):391-401. doi: 10.1177/00220345221139230. Epub 2023 Jan 11. PMID: 36631957; PMCID: PMC10031629.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10031629/>
- Miroshnychenko A, Ibrahim S, Azab M, Roldan Y, Diaz Martinez JP, Tamilselvan D, He L, Urquhart O, Tampi M, Polk DE, Moore PA, Hersh EV, Carrasco-Labra A, Brignardello-Petersen R. Injectable and topical local anesthetics for acute dental pain: 2 systematic reviews. *J Am Dent Assoc*. 2023 Jan;154(1):53-64.e14. doi: 10.1016/j.adaj.2022.10.014. PMID: 36608963.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36608963/>
- Miroshnychenko A, Azab M, Ibrahim S, Roldan Y, Diaz Martinez JP, Tamilselvan D, He L, Urquhart O, Tampi M, Polk DE, Moore PA, Hersh EV, Carrasco-Labra A, Brignardello-Petersen R. Analgesics for the management of acute dental pain in the pediatric population: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Am Dent Assoc*. 2023 May;154(5):403-416.e14. doi: 10.1016/j.adaj.2023.02.013. PMID: 37105668.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37105668/>
- Khouja T, Polk DE, Suda KJ. Opioid prescribing by oral and maxillofacial surgeons in the United States, 2016-2019. *J Pub Health Dent* 2022 Sep;82(4):491-494. PMID: 36210548.
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36210548/>

National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety (NCHBHS)

In addition to the critical but routine work of administration and provision of technical assistance to Dental Hygienist Liaisons (DHLs) and Regional DHL Coordinators (RDHLCs), Kathy Hunt (lead) and Gina Sharps (co-lead) also oversaw the following activities:

- Planned for the NCHBHS project exhibit and recognition of DHLs during the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) Conference in Chicago, IL in July
- Planned for the RDHLC's annual meeting in Salt Lake City, UT in August
- Produced the 2nd quarter DHL progress report
- Revised and disseminated the annual DHL assessment
- Revised and disseminated the annual RDHLC assessment
- Conducted annual check-in calls with RDHLCs

- Provided Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) training for RDHLCs.

Since 2012 ADHA has been a key partner in support of the DHL project, helping to identify potential state DHLs, holding receptions in their honor, securing continuing education credits for DHL webinars, and much more. We'd like to acknowledge with deep sadness the passing of Ann Battrell, MSDH, ADHA CEO, on June 7, 2023. Ms. Battrell became the first registered dental hygienist and first former ADHA president to assume the position of CEO of the organization. She served as ADHA's President from 1996-1997. Ann Battrell began her career with the ADHA in 2000 as manager of education and moved into the role of director of education four years later. In 2009, the Board of Directors selected her to fill the executive director opening, and in 2016 she was named CEO. In her leadership role, she worked tirelessly to advance the dental hygiene profession, evolve the scope of practice, empower dental hygienists, eliminate inequities and improve access to care. A tribute was held July 7, 2023, during the Opening General Session of the ADHA 2023 Conference in Chicago, to celebrate Ann Battrell's life, leadership and legacy in the dental hygiene profession and the ADHA.



We'd also like to acknowledge that Ann Lynch left her position in early June as ADHA's director of governmental affairs, a position that she had held since 2012. As leader of the division, her responsibilities included developing the strategy and execution of ADHA's advocacy efforts on the federal level and directing the governmental affairs staff in their support and counsel to ADHA's state organizations. Ann has extensive experience in public policy, having served from 2007 to 2010 as a member of the Minnesota Senate, representing Rochester and surrounding communities. We

appreciate her efforts throughout the years to help promote the DHL project to the greater dental hygiene community.

Consortium for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement (COHSII)



ASTDD consultants continued to participate in learning collaborative webinars and other activities. *The Importance of Oral Health Care During Pregnancy and the Integration into Prenatal Care Visits webinar* was held on June 22.

Participants learned how to assess and improve systems-level capacity for integrating oral health care and primary care for pregnant women, infants, children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs.

COHSII partners, the OHRC and ASTDD, have been busy the past 2 months working on an important project. On May 5, 2023, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) released an announcement in the Federal Register for information collection for [*Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to States Program: Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report*](#), OMB No. 0915-0172—Revision. This announcement contained proposed revisions from HRSA to the Title V Block Grant for the next 5-year (2025–2030) period. This guidance is used by states and jurisdictions in applying for block grant funding and in preparing the required annual report.

One of HRSA’s proposed changes is to transition the oral health national performance measure (NPM) to a state performance measure (SPM), which could negatively impact oral health advances in states. Oral health has been a NPM since 1997. If oral health is transitioned to an SPM, it will no longer be viewed as a national priority, and efforts to promote oral health care at the national, state, and local level will suffer. Conversely, continuing to have an oral health NPM:

- Calls attention to important oral health issues and concerns affecting the MCH population, and can stimulate the development and implementation of strategies to improve oral health at all levels.
- Acknowledges state-level experience showing that tracking an oral health NPM is a significant driver for initiating and sustaining oral-health-related activities at the state and local level.

In response to HRSA’s proposed change to the oral health NPM, OHRC and ASTDD developed a webpage, [Making the Case to HRSA for Retaining the Oral Health National Performance Measure](#), to provide background information and talking points and contacted more than 60 organizations and individuals to encourage them to submit comments to HRSA by July 5, 2023. OHRC and ASTDD are grateful for the significant number of people who submitted comments to encourage HRSA to retain the oral health NPM. We hope that our collective efforts make a difference.

During May and June, ASTDD evaluation consultant, Mary Davis, conducted US jurisdiction interviews on NPM 13 activities for COHSII, prepared transcripts of completed interviews, and discussed the report outline with OHRC staff.

Meetings and Webinars

(Links aren’t available if they were a member only or pre-registration event)

Announcements about meetings and webinars is regularly included in the ASTDD Weekly Digest. These are just some examples of meetings attended.



World Federation of Public Health Associations. 17th World Congress on Public Health, May 2-6, 2023, Rome Italy



The theme of the meeting was *A World In Turmoil: Opportunities To Focus On The Public’s Health*, reflecting the commitment, as the global health community, to work together in and outside of our respective fields to promote health equity and to build a more sustainable and just future. Read their [Final Public Health Declaration](#). ASTDD consultant Matt Jacob co-presented a session focused on the challenge of communicating health data to non-scientific audiences. His co-presenter was Vasileios Margaritis, a researcher and public health faculty member.

National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD), National Action Framework for Medical-Dental Integration Partner Engagement Meeting, May 3, 2023, Atlanta, GA.

On May 3, 2023, NACDD convened approximately sixty-five participants with a broad range of subject matter expertise to participate in a day-long meeting focused on identifying a core set of objectives and actions that will lead to increased medical-dental integration and support for whole-person integrated care. Julia Wacloff,

ASTDD president, attended from ASTDD. The meeting was held in collaboration with CDC's Division of Oral Health and KDHRC at CDC's Global Communication Center. During the facilitated breakout sessions, participants were guided through a series of questions designed to identify a realistic set of objectives and activities that could be implemented over the next three to five years to accelerate collaborations among clinical, public health, community, and other partners. The discussions were candid, focused, and robust, and resulted in the identification of priority recommendations and action steps that the CDC, NACDD, and KDHRC team will use to inform the development of a draft action plan containing strategies to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration between oral and medical care providers and other interested partners. The draft action plan will also serve as a springboard for a partner engagement strategy with an anticipated launch later this year.

Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP) Annual Conference, June 1 – 3, Tucson, AZ, with a Pre-Conference Workshop on May 31. *Julia Wacloff reporting.*

OSAP is looking to expand their recruitment of state oral health program staff for attendance at these meetings. Very few SOHP staff were present. The program was packed with outstanding speakers and thought leaders from the dental infection prevention, occupational health, and patient safety communities. The on-demand recordings include sessions on:

- Federal Agency Updates (Regulatory and Guidance)
- Antibiotic Stewardship in Dentistry
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Dental Unit Waterlines
- And more!

On-demand recordings from the 2023 OSAP Annual Conference are **available for purchase until August 4**. You'll have until **Friday, August 18**, to access the on-demand recordings at your own pace. You will also receive:

- Access to session PowerPoints, checklists, tools, & resources
- 20+ ADA CERP CE credits
- [Digital badge and online certificate of attendance](#)

The Pre-Conference Workshop helped participants collect the tools they need to address infection control and prevention challenges in their work environment. The on-demand recordings of the workshop can be purchased. For more details on what's included, check out the [format & features](#).

Look for the next issue of *Roundup* in September 2023

Send any questions, comments, or articles to Bev Isman at bev.isman@comcast.net