

ASTDD Best Practices Committee (BPC) Annual Report

Jan 1, – Dec 31, 2020

Chair: Steve Geiermann

Consultant: Lori Cofano

Members: Stacey Chazin, Christina Demopoulos, Sue Dodd, Irene Hilton, Greg Holder, Nicole Blair Johnson, Samantha Jordan, Katya Mauritson, Robin Miller, Shillpa Naavaal, Kimberlie Payne, Julie Reynolds, Bob Russell, Christine Veschusio, and Kathy Weno

Members resigned: Nicki Bennett (Invalid contact information; unable to find new contact information.)

No new members in 2020.

Purpose: This committee supports more effective state, territorial and community programs through the development and sharing of Best Practice Approach Reports (BPARs). The collection of State Activity Submissions (SAS) and Descriptive Reports (DRs) promote the integration of oral health best practices into other programs. This activity supports the ASTDD Strategic Plan by encouraging the use of evidence-based practices and offering technical assistance.

Accomplishments: The committee held three calls in 2020. The format for calls has switched to virtual per the Chair's request. The annual face-to-face meeting held during the National Oral Health Conference (NOHC) did not take place this year as the conference went to a virtual format due to COVID-19. The committee worked efficiently and effectively offline as all members are volunteers and have many other responsibilities. Their work included preparing and updating BPARs, reviewing draft narratives and descriptive report submissions. Committee members bring a wide range of subject matter expertise.

- State and Territorial Oral Health Programs and Collaborative Partnerships BPAR was posted to the ASTDD website in March. The goal was to have the BPAR posted prior to the NOHC. In October, Lori Cofano and Judy Feinstein offered an *ASTDD Spotlight* on this BPAR with over 90 participants. Twenty states and one territory submitted DRs associated with this BPAR with four committee members reviewing and providing input.
- The new Data Dissemination BPAR, a collaboration among the Best Practices, Communication and Data Committees, had some challenges as the original author had to resign due to conflicting commitments related to her job and COVID-19. Thanks to Kathy Phipps for her willingness to assume authorship of this report.
- The Oral Health of Children, Adolescents and Adults with Special Health Care Needs BPAR is being updated thanks to funding from the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. The primary author is Dr. Farah Alam, Director of Special Care Dentistry at the Rose F. Kennedy Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center at the Montefiore Medical Center in New York.
- The BPC thanks Grace Linn of the Communication Committee for offering three potential templates for a revised BPAR template. Pictures and quote boxes can be added to future BPARs to add interest, along with Arial 10 being the new standard font. The new template and a guidance document were added to the BPAR Toolkit.
- Carry forward funding allowed the Best Practices webpages to be revised/updated on both the front and back end, thus reducing the number of "clicks" required to access BPARs.
- An abstract, *Don't Reinvent the Wheel: Best Practices for Improving Oral Health for Pregnant Women*, was accepted for the NOHC 2021.
- The committee provided technical assistance pertaining to DR completion and use of Dropbox.
- The BPC 2020-2021 logic model and workplan were updated, approved and posted to the ASTDD BP webpage.

Current activities:

- Develop new BPAR on *Data Dissemination*.
- Update Oral Health of Children, Adolescents and Adults with Special Health Care Needs BPAR.
- Solicit and collect submissions for BPARs in process, as well as updating or archiving state submissions more than five years old.
- BPC members serve as liaisons to review drafts and provide subject matter expertise on BPAR workgroups.

Future Activities:

- The update to the State Oral Health Plans and Collaborative Partnerships BPAR has been extended to March 2021.
- Solicit submissions for BPARs, as well as liaisons to assist with these projects.
- Completion of at least two BPARs and post to ASTDD website.
- Dissemination of BPAR information via *ASTDD Spotlight*, listservs, and other presentation formats.
- Review and monitor BPC webpages for revisions.
- Continue to provide technical assistance around BPARs, submissions and use of Dropbox.
- Update BP documents to reflect Healthy People 2030 objectives.

Subcommittee interactions:

- BPC members serve as liaisons to committees working on BPARs.
- Volunteers are used for reviewing BPAR narratives and DR submissions.

Unmet committee needs:

Additional funding to:

- Support honoraria offerings for primary authors writing and presenting BPAR materials.
- Support a corresponding increase in consultant hours as needed to provide technical assistance and oversight as the number of BPARs in process now averages two to three per grant year.