

ASTDD Dental Public Health Policy Committee Annual Report Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2020

Chair: Harry Goodman

Members: Raya Abu-Zahra, Lindy Bollen, Antonina Capurro, Carrie Farquhar, Chris Farrell, Debony Hughes, Shelley Guinn; Ray Lala, Jeevan Lohan, Jason Roush*, Anubhuti Shukla, Kristi Sutton-Thomas, Mona VanKanegan

1. List any new members or subcommittee members:

Raya Abu-Zahra, Jeevan Lohan, Anubhuti Shukla and Kristi Sutton-Thomas joined the committee during 2020.

* Jason Roush left the committee at the end of 2020.

2. Describe the purpose of your committee:

To develop, promote and support resource and policy-related documents to assist state and territorial oral health programs to improve oral health, in support of ASTDD's objective to reflect the Association's priorities and stance on dental public health issues. These documents are intended for directors of State/Territorial Oral Health Programs (S/TOHP) and their staff to support them in describing the issues and evidence base at a high level. These documents may include examples, recommendations, strategies, and/or information that S/TOHP can use to assist decision makers (such as healthcare providers, federal, state or private agencies, employers, public health officials), or the public, in developing further understanding of dental public health issues or in choosing between alternative courses of action in specific situations. The Committee works to oversee the creation of resource documents and policy statements on such issues in collaboration with other ASTDD committees and/or individuals and submits them to the Board of Directors for approval and dissemination to the ASTDD membership.

3. List your committee accomplishments for the last calendar year.

- Updated committee logic model and work plan for September 2020-August 2021.
- Met nine times during 2020; meetings in April, May and June were cancelled primarily due to COVID-19 and conflicting priorities for most of the committee members.
- Updated committee compendium for NOHC.
- Reviewed relevant section of ASTDD annual report to CDC.
- Produced four new documents:
 - *Reducing Emergency Department Utilization for Non-Traumatic Dental Conditions*, working with Dane L. McClurg, DDS, MPH, was finalized and posted to ASTDD's website in January.
 - *Perinatal Oral Health*, working with the Perinatal Oral Health Committee and Ruth Barzel, MA (National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center) was posted to ASTDD's website in February.

- *Promoting Antibiotic Stewardship in Dentistry*, working with Kobie Gordon DDS, Erinne Kennedy DMD, MPH, MMSc, and Cara Ortega DDS, MPH, was posted to ASTDD's website in April.
 - This paper was the basis of a presentation during the NOHC by the three writers.
- *Healthy People 2030 Oral Health Objectives*, working with Katrina Holt, MPH, MS, RD, FAND (National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center), was posted to ASTDD's website in November.
- The update of ASTHO's 2015 Oral Health Position Statement (now known as a policy statement) was approved by ASTHO's Population Health and Informatics Policy Committee and Board and posted to ASTHO's website in February. This paper is linked to a longer background document; it expires in February of 2023.
- Reviewed proposed resolutions as presented to the ADA's House of Delegates for their Annual Session in October, and prepared comments on 12 of them. ASTDD's comments on a resolution on teledentistry contributed to substantive changes in the document that was adopted by the ADA. Our review involved collaboration with AAPHD.

5. Describe the future activities planned by your committee:

- Complete/finalize ASTDD's updated nutrition education policy statement, now titled *Promoting Good Nutrition and Healthy Eating in Schools: An Important Strategy for Preventing Dental Caries*, in collaboration with the School and Adolescent Oral Health Committee.
- Complete a policy statement on opioid prescribing practices and dentistry drafted by a dental resident at Temple University.
- Draft a policy statement on health equity that will correspond with a BPAR to be developed over the next year. This project has been delayed due to HP 2030 paper, which was not anticipated, other competing priorities and time constraints.
- Review several updated/revised documents in collaboration with the Fluorides Committee.
- Continue to look at older resource documents (publication dates older than 5 years) in order to identify those likely to need revisions/updates. There are several papers that should be reviewed in 2021, possibly starting with the revision of the existing policy statement on the integration of oral health and primary care.
- Determine what role, if any, the DPHPC might have in collaborating with John Fellows of the National Practice Based Research Network on a project to track and analyze policies related to the provision of care during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Determine ASTDD's potential role, and the nature, extent, and timing of collaboration with NACDD on their medical-dental integration project, following a phone conference in November.
- Continue consideration of Committee processes, e.g., format changes for documents, how the relationship among related various papers and resources (those related to access to care, fluorides, and others to be determined) can be presented.

- In lieu of an issue brief on oral health literacy, which would be broad in scope, the Committee continues to be interested, as time permits, in undertaking drafting a short document (one to two pages) to summarize the many and multi-faceted issues around oral health literacy and describe ASTDD's resources.
 - Continue to assess need for, recruit writers, and develop policy statements, as resources allow, on priority issues identified by members as well as on those previously identified. The 2020-21 workplan suggests we will "assess ASTDD member priorities on dental public health policy and resources and develop annual dental public health policy statements plan (as needed)." We also rely on topics identified as of interest by DPH residents who want to work with ASTDD.
6. Describe any subcommittees your committee uses, their roles and activities:
- The DPHPC does not have standing subcommittees. Subcommittees are established as needed to work on specific statements or other activities, e.g., an *ad hoc* subcommittee to review the ADA's proposed resolutions. The DPHPC did not use any subcommittees in 2020.
7. List any unmet needs of your committee (e.g., members, funding, etc.): N/A