

ASTDD School and Adolescent Oral Health Committee Annual Report

Jan 1, 2022 – Dec 31, 2022

Chair: Rudy Blea

Coordinator: Lori Cofano

ASTDD Sealant Coordinator: Sandy Tesch

Members: Tammy Alexander, Kim Bartolomucci, Jorge Bernal, Terri Chandler, Stephanie Chickering, Katelyn Christiansen, Liz Clark, Matt Crespin, Jennifer Ferguson, Jannette Gomez, Katrina Holt, Toni Hruby, Sherry Jenkins, Betty Kabel, Ashleigh Kirk, Kally Kline, Kerry Krell, Sherry Laliberte, Jenna Linden, Robert Calvin Lloyd, Jonise McDaniel, Robyn Maestas, Cathy Mills, Lauren Neufeld, Vonda Nutt, Karen Phillips, Julie Shelby, Rachel Sizemore, Amy Spieker, Gwen Sullentrup, Debora Teixeira, David Tepel, Debra Trybom, Julia Wacloff, Matt Zaborowski

New members: Katelyn Christiansen, Liz Clark, Jannette Gomez, Erika Iafate, Kerry Krell, Jenna Linden, Robyn Maestas, Cathy Mills, Vonda Nutt, Julie Shelby, Rachel Sizemore, Amy Spieker, Deborah Trybom, Matt Zaborowski

Subcommittee Members:

School-Based Dental Sealant Best Practice Approach Report (BPAR) Workgroup: Rudy Blea, Lori Cofano, Steve Geiermann, Irene Hilton, Prasida Khanal, Beth Lowe, Bill Maas, Shillpa Naavaal, Sandy Tesch

Sealant Retention Guidance Template: Rudy Blea, Terri Chandler, Lori Cofano, Betty Kabel, Karen Phillips, David Tepel, Sandy Tesch

Mobile-Portable Dental Services Workgroup: McAllister Castelaz, Lori Cofano, Judith Feinstein, Harry Goodman, Melissa Turner, Chris Wood, Sandy Tesch

Purpose: The ASTDD School and Adolescent Oral Health (SAOH) Committee serves as a resource to state oral health programs and works to ensure a strong oral health component in all school and adolescent health initiatives.

The mission of the SAOH Committee is to promote the importance of good oral health practices that improve the oral health of school-age children and adolescents through education, networking, and collaborative partnerships at local and national levels. School-based dental sealant programs are a focus area for SAOH activities. In addition, the SAOH Committee collaborates with other ASTDD Committees to establish policies and promote oral health for this target population at the Association level.

The SAOHC supports the ASTDD Strategic Plan by encouraging the use of evidence-based and evidence-informed policies and practices such as school-based dental sealant programs, identifying emerging issues and promising practices such as the use of teledentistry, fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride, identifying cross-cutting issues and providing tools and technical assistance to improve state and territorial oral health program policies, plans, programs and partnerships, promoting the collection of data, such as the ASTDD Basic Screening Survey (BSS) and sealant program data, to inform planning, decision making and evaluation.

Accomplishments and Current Activities:

- The SAOHC held six meetings via Zoom in 2022.
- The SAOHC held an informal face-to-face meeting during lunch at the NOHC in 2022.
- A number of school-based resources were shared via the SAOHC listserv including Vermont's Whole School, Whole Community Whole Child School Health Model informational materials, Future Smiles glass ionomer sealant information, CDC Sealant Coordinator Community of Practice presentation on glass ionomer sealants, Oregon's D1355 information, Rhode Island's Dental Trauma Decision Tree, Vermont's scope of practice change allowing dental hygienists to apply fluoride varnish, Missouri's Oral Health Guide for School-Aged Children, Oregon's Basic Screening Survey (BSS) flyer, article "Millions of Children May Lose Medicaid: What Can Be Done to Help Prevent Them From Becoming Uninsured?," the National Association of School Nurses Weekly newsletter, and other items related to school health.
- Rhode Island's Dental Trauma Decision Tree was shared with the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) through SAOHC's NASN representative Liz Clark. NASN shared the information via their weekly digest several times during Children's Dental Health Month.
- Rudy Blea and Lori Cofano presented to the CMS Oral Health Technical Advisory Group (OTAG) on the impact of COVID-19 on school-based dental sealant programs.
- Lori Cofano participated on the CDC coordination team calls to review and provide input on the presentation being prepared on school fluoride varnish programs. The information will be presented to the Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) in 2023. The CDC team lead is Susan Griffin. The goal is to have the CPSTF recommend the use of two fluoride varnish applications per year as a preventive tool in school prevention programs.
- Dr. David Tepel, a member of the SAOHC, reached out for technical assistance regarding how teeth treated with silver diamine fluoride should be classified for the ASTDD Basic Screening Survey (BSS). Lori connected him with Kathy Phipps ASTDD's subject matter expert on the BSS.
- Melissa Fahrenbruch from CDC Healthy Schools presented to the SAOHC in March. Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Missouri have CDC 1810 and 1801 cooperative agreements. Melissa discussed ways states could use both grants to support school-based oral health. Marcia Parker and Astrid Palmer from the CDC Division of Oral Health attended the presentation. Melissa's presentation was recorded and shared with SAOHC members.
- In August 2022 emails were sent to members who had not attended any SAOHC meeting in the past year. The committee roster was updated to reflect the changes.
- John O'Malley, who developed the National Oral Health Data Portal, presented to the SAOHC on how data can be used to create success stories that can then be shared with funders and others to show the importance of school-based dental sealant programs. The presentation was recorded and shared with SAOHC members.
- Oregon requested technical assistance with the development of a sealant retention guidance template. A workgroup was formed to assist with the

development of the template. The workgroup held its first meeting in October 2022.

- The SAOHC collaborated with the ASTDD Best Practices Committee on the update to the [School-Based Dental Sealant Programs](#) Best Practice Approach Report that was posted in October 2022, with 14 descriptive reports. This project was supported by the National Maternal and Child Health Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC). The primary authors were Prasida Khanal, BDS, MPH and Beth Lowe, BSDH, MPH. An ASTDD Spotlight was presented by Beth Lowe and Lori Cofano in November. A webinar co-branded by ASTDD, the OHRC and the CareQuest Institute is slated for February 23, 2023, during Children's Dental Health Month. Beth Lowe will present as well as two states, Oregon (Karen Phillips) and Texas (Shailee Gupta), with descriptive reports in the BPAR.
- Matt Jacob, a member of the ASTDD Communication Committee, presented on Tips for Clear Communication. His presentation covered consent forms and sealant program letters to parents, schools, administrators, and others. The presentation was recorded and shared with SAOHC members.
- The SAOHC approved combining the *School-based/School-linked Mobile or Portable Dental Services* policy statement and the *Mobile and Portable Dental Services in Preschool Settings: Complex Issues* issue brief. ASTDD and the America Mobile and Teledentistry Alliance (AMTA) are collaborating on the update. Dr. McAllister Castelaz, President of AMTA, will be the primary author. A small workgroup was formed for this project. Their first meeting was held in December 2022.
- The 2022-2023 logic model and workplan were posted to the ASTDD SAOHC webpage.
- As of the December 2022 there were not any technical assistance requests in the CDC AMP.
- 89% of the SAOHC are members of ASTDD.
- The SAOHC 2022-2023 logic model and workplan were updated, approved, and posted to the ASTDD SAOHC webpage.
- The Integrating Oral Health Education into the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child Health Model and the School Dental Sealant Programs policy statements will be combined. ASTDD consultant Julie Janssen will collaborate with the SAOHC on this project.

ASTDD Sealant Coordinator

- Six dental sealant Community of Practice (CoP) and/or sealant-related webinars were conducted for CDC-funded school sealant programs (SSPs) during 2022.
- Sealant coordinator serves as a member on the Student and Adolescent Oral Health Committee (SAOHC) and reports on CDC-funded SSP activities.
- Sealant CoP webinar on June 10, 2022, with John O'Malley overviewing the ASTDD National Oral Health Data Portal and how data can be used to "tell your story". The PowerPoint presentation and recording link made available through the sealant CoP Dropbox.
- Sealant CoP session on August 5, 2022, regarding sealant activities within state sustainability plans. Special guest, Dr. Anita Alston from the CDC Division of Oral Health (DOH) discussed SSP evaluation activities. Resources and recording link made available through sealant CoP Dropbox.

- Sealant CoP call on October 28, 2022, regarding SSP sealant materials, retention checks, and performance measures. Resources and recording link made available through sealant CoP Dropbox.
- Sealant CoP webinar on December 1, 2022, on Infection, Prevention, and Control (IPC) Updates presented by Dr. Michele Neuburger from CDC DOH. The PowerPoint presentation, IPC resources, and recording link made available through sealant CoP Dropbox.
- Sandy Tesch, Sealant Coordinator, facilitated multiple sealant CoP discussions sessions with CDC grantees on various topics to include: the pandemic's impact on SSPs, glass ionomer (GI) vs resin sealant materials, sealant retention, caries-risk assessment tools, SEALS reporting, workforce challenges, collaborations with coalitions, data collection systems, IPC and COVID-19 protocols.
- Coordinated multiple SEALS-related inquiries with Dr. Susan Griffin from CDC DOH to assist CDC-funded sealant programs with database and reporting.
- The Dental Sealant Resources webpage on the ASTDD website was updated.
- Sealant coordinator serves as a member on the School-Based Dental Sealant Programs Best Practices Approach Report (BPAR) committee, Sealant Retention workgroup, and the School-based/School-linked Mobile Portable Dental Services workgroup.
- Continuous monitoring and correspondence to TA questions posted on CDC-funded dental sealants group listserv (cdc-funded-dental-sealants@groups.astdd.org) and ASTDD sealant coordinator's listserv (dentalsealants@groups.astdd.org).
- Additional webinars/CoP sessions offered to state dental sealant coordinators:
 - CDC hosted a listening session to share lessons learned from NOHC and provide learning opportunities for those who were not able to attend.
 - SAOH webinar and Communications CoP (CCoP) Spotlight on ASTDD's School-based Sealant Programs BPAR.
 - SAOH presentation with Matt Jacob on *Tips for Clear Communication* which covered consent forms and sealant program letters to parents, schools, administrators, and others.
 - CCoP on developing state oral health program newsletters.

Future Activities:

- Create workgroups as needed for various policy statements in the process of being updated.
- Continue work on sealant retention guidance project.
- Continue to provide technical assistance as needed by SAOHC members and other ASTDD partner organizations.
- Continue work with ASTDD Sealant Coordinator on school-related sealant activities.

Subcommittees:

- School-Based Dental Sealant Programs BPAR Workgroup included three members of the SAOHC who provided subject matter expertise. One member, Prasida Khanal, was a co-author.

- Sealant Retention Guidance Template Workgroup is working on developing a checklist for sealant programs. The topic of risk assessment is also being discussed by the workgroup.
- Mobile-Portable Dental Services Workgroup will support McAllister Castelaz by reviewing and providing input on the document narrative.
- The SAOHC continues to provide input on various documents and provides technical assistance on an as needed basis.

Unmet Needs:

- Currently there are several documents that are being updated by partners or other ASTDD consultants. This is quite helpful to the SAOHC and will help move those projects forward in 2023.
- The SAOHC has a large membership roster however, many of the members listed do not participate on a regular basis. This impacts the number of volunteers for various SAOHC projects.