



ASTDD Roundup for May Through September 2022

Selected Consultant, Committee, Project and Meeting Summaries



By Bev Isman, RDH, MPH, ELS

Where did the summer go? We all were busy with projects, traveling for vacation, or trying to avoid COVID. At the end of August we closed out the CDC cooperative agreement budget for Year 4 and submitted our request for carryover funds for our fifth year. All national and state CDC oral health funding has been extended for an extra year until August 31, 2024. We also closed out our Head Start contract budget the end of September for Year 02 and are excited to be starting Year 03. Additional contracts we have for specific projects have various budget deadlines. Chris Wood and I met with all ASTDD consultants in September to do “check in” calls to discuss plans for the upcoming year and to determine if additional support is needed.

This issue of the newsletter spans many months and lots of activities. We’ll get back on schedule for the bimonthly newsletter for the next issue.

State Dental Director Calls, National Partnerships, and Congratulations

Dental directors continue to meet virtually to provide information and support to each other. Calls during the summer included:

5-13-22. Dr. Robert Weyant, a Senior Editor for the *Oral Health America: Advances and Challenges* report, presented about the section, *Effect of Oral Health on the Community, Overall Well-Being, and the Economy*.

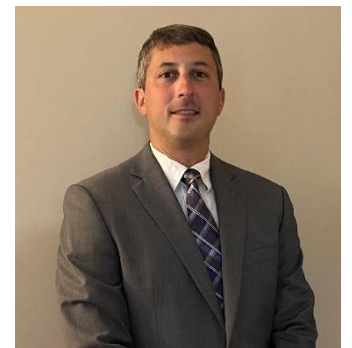
6-10-22. Drs. Elisa Chavez, editor for the *Oral Health America: Advances and Challenges* report, and Elisa Ghezzi, a member of the ASTDD Healthy Aging committee, discussed their section of the report, *Working-age and Older Adults*.

7-8-22. Dr. Paul Casamassimo, Senior Editor for the *Oral Health America: Advances and Challenges* report presented about *Oral Health Across the Lifespan: Children and Adolescents*.

8-2-22. *Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program* was presented by multiple experts who have worked closely with Nebraska’s health care professionals, including dental providers, during COVID to keep providers informed of all things related to infection control.

9-13-22. Dr. Adam Barefoot, Chief Dental Officer for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), discussed the roles and responsibilities of his new position. Adam previously served as the state dental director for Georgia and on the ASTDD BOD, most recently being elected as the president-elect, but having to step down with his move to HRSA. Big congratulations to him! Adam shared the following with us about his new position.

As the Chief Dental Officer, I am an expert and consultant on oral health issues and serve as the primary HRSA point of contact on oral health. I apply extensive training and professional experience, which demonstrates leadership, professional, technical, administrative, fiscal, and programmatic skills in the development and implementation of



cross-agency coordination of oral health initiatives. Major duties and responsibilities include:

- *Providing advice and guidance to HRSA Senior Leadership on policy development and coordination for oral health issues as they impact HHS and HRSA*
- *Working across HRSA to develop and coordinate critical policy and initiatives with the primary intent to facilitate a cross-agency approach to improve oral health coordination and program implementation*
- *Developing cohesive HRSA oral health priorities, goals, approaches and intended outcomes with input and buy-in from agency leadership and internal and external stakeholders*
- *Serving as an expert in policy/program/management issues with responsibility for developing, recommending, coordinating, and implementing program improvements and new procedures, which are designed to improve/enhance program performance throughout HRSA.*
- *Developing and delivering briefings and actively participating in high-level internal and external policy meetings, task forces, committees, and work groups on behalf of HRSA.*

ASTDD continues to participate in calls and emails with the COVID-19 Public-Private Partner Dental Coordination Group, and in the CareQuest Institute's Pandemic Response Workgroup. Many ASTDD members serve on the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN) Response Teams and participate in OPEN webinars, updates, and other training. We recently began having quarterly calls with Natalia Chalmers, Chief Dental Officer for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The ASTDD leadership and consultants participate in regular calls with the CDC's Division of Oral Health (DOH) leadership and staff around national issues and our cooperative agreement activities. Likewise, we communicate frequently with the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center staff around our Maternal and Child Health and Head Start activities (see separate sections in this issue.) Kimberlie Payne recently was appointed to the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Substance Misuse Addiction Response Taskforce (SMART) subgroup for the upcoming year.

ASTDD Peer and Member Support Program

Ten new state dental directors or interim directors started in their positions during this time period: Nelly Chawla – IN, Mira Colter – GA, Khalil Hassam - DC (interim), Maryanne Goss - CT (interim), Michele Brown – SC, Kristi Mellion – LA, Rachel Sizemore – AR, Jacqueline Miller – MO, Stacey Swilling – UT, Keith Benson – NV. Warm welcomes to the ASTDD family!

Lori Cofano oriented the new directors and entered them into the mentoring program while Kimberlie Payne oriented 27 new associate members to ASTDD. The Peer Support Discussion Group held a call in May led by Judy Feinstein about current fluoridation and fluoride issues and resources, and in September with a discussion about *Data Has Been Collected—Now What?* Consultants Kathy Phipps and Matt Jacob facilitated, demonstrating ways to disseminate data and how to communicate data to non-oral health professionals.

Data Committee and National Oral Health Data Portal

Kathy Phipps and Mike Manz provided technical assistance to 25 states for Basic Screening Surveys (BSS) or other oral health surveillance assistance from May through September. Classrooms are re-opening and BSS plans are moving forward. Ohnmar Tut continues to assist Pohnpei's State Dental Chief and Expanded Duty Dental Assistants with BSS data recording and analysis on email, Zoom calls, and on-site; CNMI (Saipan, Rota, and Tinian) with on-site hands-on training on BSS collection of data, recording, and analysis; and onsite with Guam Public Health and MCH Directors to continue collecting BSS data.

Updates were made to the following documents:

- [Older Adult BSS manual and all the supporting documents included in the toolkit](#)
- [List of state-added PRAMS/BRFSS/YRBS questions](#)
- [Emergency Department surveillance guidance, guidelines, and ICD-9/ICD-10 ED code crosswalk documents](#)

In addition, Kathy completed and posted the [2022 State Synopses Summary Report](#) on the public side of the website and the Complete Report on the Members Only section. Two infographics were created based on 2022 Synopses data:

- [The Importance of State Oral Health Surveillance Systems](#)
- [Important State Collaborations Around Oral Health and Chronic Disease](#)

Communications Committee

The communications committee met in June and September. We would like to thank Heather Beavers and Matt Jacob for coordinating ASTDD posts on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. We've significantly increased our social media presence in the past year.

- Twitter followers just hit 700. That's a 44% jump from the 486 followers we had one year ago.
- We're about to hit 200 followers on LinkedIn, which we launched recently.
- The Facebook page has 593 likes and 677 followers.



The Social Media Work Group (SMWG) will be providing social media technical assistance to a state in 2022/2023. This will be a pilot program to show social media is not intimidating to use and help the state to implement a social media program for the year. The state selection process will be by application. Applications were due Oct 14. Look for an announcement about what state was selected in a future Weekly Digest.

ASTDD Spotlight continues to be a great way to learn about programs and initiatives of colleagues during a brief 30 minute webinar. A Spotlight on May 18 featured Robin Miller from Vermont sharing their recent experiences with a *Silver Diamine Fluoride Policy Change* to allow dental hygienists to apply SDF in public health settings. The Spotlight on August 24 featured Jay Kumar and Linda Neuhauser discussing *California Oral Health Literacy Toolkit: Progress*. The CA Oral Health Literacy (OHL) Toolkit is a concise, digital, skills-based set of materials that provides background about OHL and key communication techniques for providers, tools to assess, set goals and monitor OHL progress in a practice, tips sheets, provider scripts, and a patient brochure. It is available free at: <https://oralhealthsupport.ucsf.edu/oral-health-literacy-toolkit>.

Recordings and slides from Spotlights are available on the [Health Communications page](#) of the ASTDD website. There are some great topics planned for the rest of 2022 so be sure to look for announcements about Spotlight announcements in the Weekly Digest.

A Communications Community of Practice (CCoP) was held on June 22. The topic was *Strategic Communications* featuring Shawnda Schroeder from North Dakota. The October CCoP is on October 19. *If you are not signed up for the CCoP and would like to join, contact Christine Wood at cwood@astdd.org.*

The committee is coordinating the ASTDD NOHC 2023 exhibit booth so plan to stop by!

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

Following their intent to review and update ASTDD documents older than five years, the DPHPC reviewed ASTDD's 2016 policy statement on dental public health residencies, informed by discussions at the 2022 NOHC with partners from the

American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD). After review and draft revisions, the committee determined the existing policy statement should be archived and not revised or updated. The issues raised are much larger and point to dental public health workforce issues, which are inclusive of the need for dental public health residency training. Possibilities for next steps include an ASTDD issue brief or a white paper from AAPHD, either separately or in collaboration.

The 2015 State-Based Oral Health Surveillance Systems policy statement was also reviewed for updates. It should be finalized later this fall. The DPHPC continues to consider what should be included in a potential policy statement tentatively titled *Social Determinants of Health in Dental Public Health*. Initial steps were taken to develop a new policy statement on dental amalgam, probably to replace rather than revise the 2010 document. Much has changed since the 2010 paper was written, particularly the understanding of environmental impacts of dental restorative materials.

The DPHPC also reviewed resolutions proposed for the 2022 American Dental Association (ADA) House of Delegates annual meeting. Only a few are of potential relevance to ASTDD, and we will submit simple statements of support, to be “on the record.”

The Best Practices Committee met in person at the NOHC in April and has been busy with the update to the [School-Based Dental Sealants Best Practice Approach Report \(BPAR\)](#) that is now available on the ASTDD Best Practices webpage. Fourteen descriptive reports were submitted for inclusion in this BPAR. This update was supported by the National Maternal and Child Health Oral Health Resource Center. Dr. Prasida Khanal and Beth Lowe served as primary authors. There will be a Spotlight on this BPAR on November 17 at 1:00 ET.

In the upcoming year revisions will be made to the Descriptive Report Form based on input from end users. There also will be updates to the *Prevention and Control of Early Childhood Tooth Decay BPAR* and the *Oral Health of Older Adults (Age 65 and Older) BPAR*.

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



The SAOHC shared information with the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) including Rhode Island’s *Dental Trauma Decision Tree* and Missouri’s *Oral Health Guide for School-Aged Children*. Melissa Fahrenbruch from CDC Healthy Schools provided a presentation to the SAOHC. States currently receiving funding from both the CDC Division of Oral Health (1810) and the CDC Healthy Schools Division

(1801) are Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Minnesota and Missouri. The CDC Healthy Schools Division will have another funding opportunity announcement (FOA) coming out this fall. 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 was able to visit with Rudy in his New Mexico office recently while in Santa Fe on vacation (see photo). Lori is also a member of the CDC



fluoride varnish coordination team led by Susan Griffin. The team is providing input on information/evidence on fluoride varnish in school programs that will be presented to the Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF).

Sandy Tesch, dental sealant coordinator, continues to monitor the CDC-funded states dental sealant group listserv, posting information on upcoming sealant and infection prevention and control-related events including the OSAP webinar, *The Latest on Infection Prevention and Control for Dental Professionals* on September 22.

During the Sealant CoP in June, John O'Malley presented information on the National Oral Health Data Portal and fielded questions about how the data can be used/shared. The August 5 Sealants CoP session on school sealant program evaluation featured guest speakers Anita Alston (CDC Evaluation Scientist) and Susan Griffin (CDC SEALS).

Sandy Tesch will be attending the March 2023 National Mobile and Teledentistry Conference in Frisco, TX representing ASTDD. The American Mobile and Teledentistry Alliance (AMTA) reached out to ASTDD to partner on projects and papers that address mobile, virtual and other non-traditional care delivery methods and to attend their conference.

ASTDD Fluorides Committee (FC)

The Fluorides Committee and its coordinator, Judy Feinstein, spent considerable time preparing talking points for state dental directors to use when responding to the release of the National Toxicology Program's (NTP) report on fluoride and neurotoxicity (which as of this date has still not been published). The document provides talking points, guidance for framing and FAQs, and several references. The final version was shared with ASTDD discussion lists and with the CDC, ADA, and ASTHO.

On behalf of the FC, Judy participated in a Zoom call with ASTDD's Peer Support Program participants about current CWF issues and resources. She also drafted ASTDD's 2021-22 report to the ADA's National Fluoridation Advisory Committee (NFAC) and participated virtually in NFAC's annual meeting, along with NFAC and FC members Howard Pollick and Jay Kumar, and Tracy Boehmer from CDC.

The FC has had ongoing discussions about the nationwide shortage of fluoride additives, particularly sodium fluoride. This is not a shortage per se, but more an issue with supply lines and transportation, complicated by increasing costs. The FC is sponsoring a weekend workshop, *Using Targeted Briefings to Strengthen Partners' Knowledge of Water Fluoridation*, at the 2023 NOHC in collaboration with the American Fluoridation Society (AFS). Look for more information in the registration brochure when it is available.

Judy continues to monitor fluoridation activity using Google Alerts for media postings and Curate, a subscription data-mining service that finds municipal meeting agenda notices, usually sending two emails covering a spreadsheet each month to four ASTDD listservs and two other interested party listservs, Fluoride Rapid Responders and the American Network of Oral Health Coalitions. As needed, she sends an individual email as an "early warning" directly to state contacts so that they can take appropriate action; there were six of these between May and September.

There were three sessions of the CWF Community of Practice between May and September:

- May 12th focused on the expected release of the NTP report, language for public notification of CWF suspension or discontinuing, fluoride additive supply chain issues and the FDA's announcement about fluoride in bottled water.
- June 28th focused on the work that MITRE, the consulting group working with CDC on data and systems improvements for the next iteration of CDC's Water Fluoridation Reporting System (WFRS), is doing with Tracy Boehmer. The presentation was an overview, summary of work to date, description of plans, and request for feedback.
- The August 23 session included a review to follow up on June's session on WFRS, and updates on the fluoride additive shortage issue and the NTP report, plus a look at the decision to stop CWF in State College, PA and what we can learn. Previews of sessions at the NOHC were also discussed.

The CWF sessions now are open to all state fluoridation coordinators, not only the CDC-funded states. Attendance has been 40 to 50 people or more.

Healthy Aging Committee (HAC)

The Healthy Aging Committee's primary activity has been via a workgroup formed to develop the *Older Adult Oral Health Resources for Collaboration* document. The workgroup consisted of State Oral Health Programs and State Units on Aging staff from Alabama, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Virginia and Wisconsin as well as Kathy Wilson-Gold from the Administration for Community Living. A grant from the Gary and Mary West Foundation supported the project. The goal is to launch the *Older Adult Oral Health Resources for Collaboration* document in late October. Lori Cofano developed a workplan and budget to submit for another grant through the Gary and Mary West Foundation. The grant was submitted by our partners at Apple Tree Dental. ASTDD was recently notified the grant has been awarded for January through December 2023. Funding will support an update to the *Oral Health of Older Adults (Age 65 and Older) Best Practice Approach Report*.

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

Our work on the Dental Hygienist Liaison (DHL) Project with the NCHBHS has been running at full steam all summer. In addition to the routine work of administration and providing technical assistance to all the state and regional DHLs, Kathy Hunt (Lead) and Gina Sharps (co-lead) also oversaw the following activities:

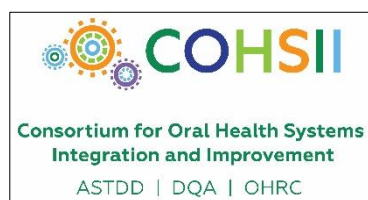
- Design, collection, and report of annual DHL Assessment
- DHL Webinar in May on "Oral Health in Indian County" and on the "DHL Assessment Findings" in September
- Exhibited at the ADHA Conference in Louisville, KY
- Planned and facilitated the annual Regional DHL Coordinator meeting in Chicago
- Recorded videos on our "5 Key Oral Health Messages" presentation
- Held individual check in calls with Regional DHL Coordinators
- Met with ADHA leadership about future collaboration efforts.



Throughout this timeframe, we have experienced higher than normal transition in and out of state and regional roles. Most the reasons are due to retirement, health concerns, and changes in employment. We expect to be back to 100% coverage by the end of the month. Here are two photos from the ADHA meeting and the Regional DHLC meeting.



Center for Oral Health Systems Integration and Improvement (COHSII)



With gratitude for her steadfast support over the past five years, COHSII staff and consultants bid farewell to Kathy Geurink, ASTDD consultant, as she retires. During her time working with COHSII, Kathy generously shared the knowledge and skills she amassed through her work as a public health dental hygienist, public health educator, university faculty, state dental consultant, and ASTDD consultant supporting various committees. She offered her expertise to COHSII-managed learning collaborative projects and via technical assistance provided to states addressing the Title V national performance measure on oral health (NPM 13) and state oral health programs striving to improve oral health services. As a reminder to readers, the purpose of COHSII is to expand access to integrated preventive oral health care for the maternal and child health population, particularly in safety-net sites, by providing technical assistance, training, and resources. Kathy also served as the



ASTDD lead Head Start consultant for many years. Katrina Holt representing COSHII and Bev Isman representing ASTDD thank Kathy for many years of meaningful service and wish her a happy retirement filled with trips to interesting places with family and friends! Kimberlie Payne is now serving on the COHSII team to take over Kathy's responsibilities.

COHSII is pleased to announce a new resource, [Networks for Oral Health Integration \(NOHI\) Within the Maternal and Child Health Safety Net: Environmental Scan 2021–2022 Chartbook](#). The chartbook contains data about factors that could impact the integration of oral health care into primary care for pregnant women, infants, and children at high risk for oral disease in 11 states and Washington, DC as part of the [Networks for Oral Health Integration \(NOHI\) Within the MCH Safety Net](#), an initiative funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). The chartbook presents data related to scope of practice for medical and dental providers, Medicaid billing and payment, and policies and regulations. It also presents information about the NOHI projects and the environmental scan data collection tool. In addition to the chartbook presenting data for the initiative, there's a chartbook for each of the three MCHB-funded networks:

- [Midwest Network for Oral Health Integration](#): Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Ohio
- [Rocky Mountain Network of Oral Health](#): Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming
- [Transforming Oral Health for Families](#): District of Columbia, Maryland, New York, and Virginia

COHSII anticipates that the set of chartbooks will be a handy reference for state oral health programs, state partners and other stakeholders, and the NOHI projects. Tell us what you think using our [feedback form](#).

RESPITE Project

As a reminder, RESPITE is a research study, *Evidence-based Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Acute Dental Pain: Development, Implementation, and Evaluation Using Data Analytics to Target an Implementation Strategy*. Activities for the RESPITE study for the past few months centered around finalizing a Continuing Education (CE) course on the clinical practice guideline (CPG) and preparing seven study publications including four systematic review manuscripts, two guideline manuscripts and one patient values and preferences manuscript. Publication of all manuscripts is expected in 2023. In addition, proposal submissions for two conferences in 2023 (NOHC and the American Association for Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research) were prepared; the NOHC one, co-sponsored with the ASTDD DPHPC, has been accepted for a concurrent session but the status of the other one won't be known until December. Planned activities this fall include designing a CME course for emergency medical providers on the guideline. Throughout the next year, we will survey dentists and dental patients to learn about prescribing practices before and after the guideline is released as well as measure negative consequences for both groups.

Evaluation Activities

The ASTDD Evaluation consultants continue to provide general assistance and TA to CDC-funded evaluators through one-on-one consultation, ASTDD's evaluation listserv, and review of states' annual evaluation reports and progress updates.

The ASTDD Evaluation consultant team has grown! Mary Davis of Project Y Evaluation Services and the Emory Centers for Public Health Training and Technical Assistance team of JoAnna Hillman and Carissa Beatty are at your service. Also joining the Emory Centers team is Maggie Pustinger. Prior to joining Emory Centers as an evaluator, she graduated with a Masters in Public Health from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Maggie is also a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).



As public health workers emerge from the pandemic, some SOHPs are finding that they need to "reboot" their evaluation plans to adapt to shifting needs, opportunities, or staffing changes that have occurred in the past two years. The ASTDD evaluation consultants are available to support surveillance and evaluation specialists at state oral health programs funded through CDC's DP18-1810 cooperative agreement, and core resources are available on ASTDD's [Evaluation and Quality Improvement](#) website.

The ASTDD evaluation and data consultants hosted a webinar on August 22 about the data available from the National Oral Health Surveillance System (NOHSS) and how state oral health programs or coalitions can use the NOHSS indicators to develop measurable targets and track progress toward improving health in their states. The recording is available on [ASTDD's Webcasts and Audioconferences webpage](#), which is in Members Only.

Topics of evaluation listserv posts have included: data visualization and effective reporting; facilitating online focus groups; tips for scoping and managing evaluation to ensure projects have adequate evaluation resources and staff support; and "evaluation as a team sport" that outlined the roles and responsibilities of evaluators, staff implementing the programs, and managers in implementing evaluation projects and ensuring data are used to guide decisions.

The ASTDD evaluators continue to coordinate evaluation training and TA to states with the CDC staff evaluators. Watch for upcoming webinars and state peer discussions on Zoom. Future sessions will feature SOHPs sharing examples of their work. Look for their weekend workshop at the NOHC as well (see the listing under the NOHC).

National Oral Health Conference (NOHC) Update



APRIL 17-19, 2023
AT THE DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
UNIVERSAL STUDIOS, ORLANDO, FL
WEEKEND WORKSHOPS
APRIL 15-16, 2023



PRESENTED BY:



2023 will mark the 24th joint meeting of ASTDD and AAPHD. NOHC offers educational sessions on a diverse array of topics by leaders in the field and is designed for dentists, dental hygienists, health researchers, dental/health educators, legislators, public health officials, Medicaid/CHIP dental program staff or consultants, state/territorial dental directors, county/city/local dental directors, community health center personnel, students, school-based and school-linked health center personnel, federally-employed dental personnel, as well as dental manufacturers/distributors and dental insurance companies – in short, anyone interested in engaging in collaboration to improve the oral health of the public.

Attendee Registration opens in December 2022.

The following weekend workshops sponsored by either ASTDD or AAPHD will be offered:

- Using Targeted Briefings to Strengthen Partners' Knowledge of Water Fluoridation
- Clear Writing: Strategies to Enhance Reports, Newsletters or Other Products
- Oral Health Equity in Action
- Building Research Infrastructure
- Resources for Needs Assessments and Oral Health Improvement Plans
- From Sampling to Analysis- A Hands- on Workshop for Epidemiologists and Analysts
- Meaningful Oral Health Impact Metrics and Measures for the future
- Evaluation Report Makeover Bootcamp
- Curating Your Faculty Development Process
- Inclusion of Racial and Oral Health Equity in Dental School Curricula.

Additional information about the conference is available at <https://www.nationaloralhealthconference.com/>

Come join us in Orlando!

Meetings and Webinars

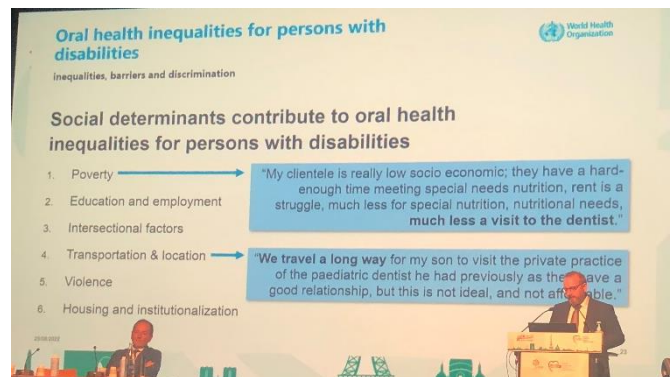
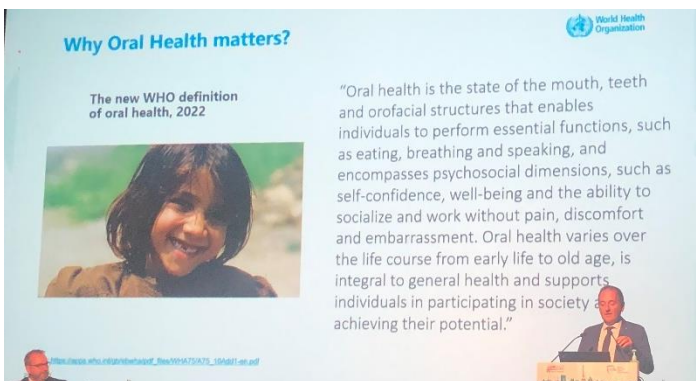
(links aren't available if they were a member only or pre-registration event)



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

International Association of Disability and Oral Health (IADH) 2022 International Conference in Paris August 23-26.

ASTDD President-Elect Sam Zwetchkenbaum attended the IADH meeting in Paris. Sam has attended these meetings in the past as part of his work in caring for patients with special health care needs and finds them a great opportunity to learn about some of the innovative work going on outside the U.S. Among the many interesting sessions was one featuring Dr. Benoit Varenne, Dental Officer from the World Health Organization (WHO) and Darryl Bennet who works on disabilities issues for WHO. In addition to reviewing oral health inequalities for people with disabilities, they presented the new WHO definition of oral health and reviewed work related to the Director-General's request to develop a Global Strategy on Oral Health.



Oral Health Symposium Honoring Dr. Alice M Horowitz, September 16 at the University of Maryland College Park Campus and virtual. *Beverly Isman reporting.*

This symposium highlighted the career and contributions of Dr. Horowitz in the emergence and growth of oral health as a focal area within the health literacy field and set a course for continued action. She was formerly a senior scientist at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Health of the National Institutes of Health, leading oral health literacy initiatives at the federal level. Alice served on the first U.S. Department of Health and Human Services committee on health literacy in the mid-1990s and was one of the lead authors of the oral health section for Healthy People 2010. In commemoration of her life's work, speakers addressed oral health and health literacy research, practice, and policy that have developed during the prior 20 years, highlighted contributions to and needs for Maryland and the region and considered the importance of oral health and general health integration as a health literacy and public health issue. Dr. Horowitz discussed lessons she learned and Dr. Dushanka Kleinman discussed lessons learned from Alice. ASTDD members Dr. Harry Goodman, Dr. Debony Hugues and Dr. Jay Kumar were presenters on the opening panel. Virtual attendees could listen to the opening and closing sessions, while onsite attendees participated in breakout sessions and

viewed student posters. The symposium concluded with a look at the future of oral health and health literacy research and practice and the role of the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy.

National Association of School Nurses Annual Conference, Atlanta, June 28-30. *Matt Zaborowski reporting.*

The conference focused on the definition of school nursing, the critical role school nurses play in the health of students, and the [NASN 2020-2023 Strategic Plan](#). It fostered a shared vision through engagement, leadership, and integrity to optimize student health, safety, and learning by utilizing innovation, diversity, equity, and inclusion. Furthermore, they were able to connect health equity and student success through the role of school nurses demonstrating the critical role they serve. It was beautiful to see how the meeting fostered a shared vision through engagement, leadership, and integrity to optimize student health, safety, and learning by utilizing innovation, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

As I reflected on my trip, I wanted to share that I found this meeting very energizing and hope we can continue to partner in school-based oral healthcare (dental sealant and fluoride varnish programs, dental homes and access to oral healthcare) and health equity. While there were no sessions on oral health, several school nurses shared their perspectives on current oral health challenges in schools. By strategically networking and promoting oral health, I am confident that we can unite to support the [NASN's Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice](#) to ensure students, family, and the school community are healthy, safe, and ready to learn through care coordination, leadership, quality improvement, and community/public health.

2022 DPH Residency Virtual Graduation Celebration, June 8. *Jasmine Joseph reporting.*

This is the third year holding this ceremony, to celebrate the accomplishments of all the dental public health residents from their programs across the U.S. The American Institute of Dental Public Health (AIDPH), the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD), and the American Board of Dental Public Health (ABDPH) honored all dental public health residents who graduated from their residency programs from across the nation at an online ceremony held on June 8, 2022. Eighteen residents were honored at the ceremony representing eight dental public health programs. The ceremony was recorded and is available via AIDPH's YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/bqZRad1C5F8>. AIDPH, AAPHD, and ABDPH look forward to great accomplishments and wish the dental public health residents much success in their future endeavors. Congratulations to all! ASTDD interacts with several of the residents through our Five Minute Masterpiece session at the NOHC and via various writing projects.



2022 Illinois Virtual Summit on Antimicrobial Stewardship, July 12. *Mona Van Kanegan reporting*

The Oral Health Section of the Illinois Department of Public Health, for the fourth year, invested time and effort to include oral health practitioners in the summit. As stated in the ASTDD [Promoting Antibiotic Stewardship in Dentistry Policy Statement](#), state and territorial oral health programs (S/TOHPs) can encourage healthcare providers to better understand their own prescribing trends through regular self-monitoring and evaluation of their prescribing practices and processes. Additional actions such as sharing best practices, resources, and tools play a critical role in interdisciplinary collaborations between healthcare provider types leading to safer treatment planning and lowering the risk of antibiotic resistance. The target audience was interdisciplinary health care professionals including physicians, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, quality directors, infection preventionists, facility leadership, and public health professionals across inpatient, outpatient, and long-term care settings. The purpose of the summit was to:

- Summarize the regulatory and national landscape for antimicrobial stewardship

- Apply national guidelines and best practices for implementing and evaluating facility antimicrobial stewardship programs.
- Review past successful antimicrobial stewardship programs and lessons learned.
- Identify tools and resources for implementing antimicrobial stewardship programs.

Sessions directed to oral health practitioners included:

- CDC Update
- Dentistry Update
- Expert Panel Q&A
- Latest Literature in Antimicrobial Stewardship
- MDROs & Novel Antimicrobials
- Endocarditis and Joint infections
- Antimicrobial Stewardship for Dentists
- Management of Acute Oral Infections in Medical Settings.

All sessions were rated highly by the attending dentists.

Look for the next issue of *Roundup* in December 2022

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