Integration of Oral Health and Primary Care: Where Have We Come From, Where Are We, and Where Are We Going?

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Professor
May 3, 2018
Why I care about the MOUTH?
Agenda

At the conclusion of this presentation participants will be able to:

1) Describe the evolution of oral health integration into Primary Care
2) Critique our current oral health integration into primary care efforts.
3) Implement future oral health integration policy based on a solid framework of successful models
Where Have We Come From
How is our system working out…

• Dental caries is the most common chronic disease of childhood
• Severe gum disease affects 1/5 of adults aged 25-44
• 45,000+ oral/pharyngeal cancers/yr; 1 person per hour dies all year
• 50% of the elderly perceive their dental health as poor/very poor; 33% have untreated cavities
**Medicine and Dentistry - Separate Systems**

![Bar graph showing seeing the dentist and the physician, by age group.](image)

- **Physician Visit and no Dentist Visit**
  - 0-4: 24.8%
  - 5-20: 30.4%
  - 21-34: 34.2%
  - 35-49: 36.9%
  - 50-64: 35.7%
  - 65+: 65.4%
  - Total: 111 Million

- **Dentist Visit and no Physician Visit**
  - 0-4: 3.3%
  - 5-20: 14.0%
  - 21-34: 10.6%
  - 35-49: 9.6%
  - 50-64: 7.3%
  - 65+: 2.0%
  - Total: 27 Million

*Source: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, AHRQ, 2011.*
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event/Conference/Opinion</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics: Section on Oral Health</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Society of Teachers in Family Medicine: Smiles for Life</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>American Dental Association: Access to Care Summit</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Physician Assistants Leadership Summit on Oral Health</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Healthy People 2020: Oral Health = Leading Health Indicators</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Assn. of American Medical Colleges AAMC: oral health curricula</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>National Nursing Oral Health Summit &amp; Nursing Education Practice</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>ACOG Committee Opinion Oral Health Care During Pregnancy</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>American Academy of Family Physicians Oral Health Interest Group</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>AAP ECHO Project for Oral Health</td>
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States with Medicaid funding for physician oral health screening and fluoride varnish


Medical coverage approved
Reimbursement not yet approved

Family Medicine and Community Health
Where Are We?
Program Director's Satisfaction with Graduate Competence in OH

- Pedi NP: 51.0%
- PA Programs: 46.3%
- DO Schools: 41.1%
- FNP: 28.6%
- Peds/Med-Peds: 25.8%
- Midwifery: 22.6%
- OB-GYN: 20.0%
- Med Schools: 18.8%
- FamMed: 16.9%
- Geri NP: 15.8%
- Geri Fellows: 15.4%
- Internal Med: 0.0%

*Percent of combined responses to "agree and strongly agree" in one question*
## Total Quality Score for Each Discipline

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<th>DO Schools (N=22) (52%)</th>
<th>Peds/ Med-Peds (N=110) (40%)</th>
<th>Fam Med (N=195) (40%)</th>
<th>Geriatrics (N=75) (51%)</th>
<th>Physician Assistant (N=102) (42%)</th>
<th>Midwifery (N=33) (85%)</th>
<th>Adult Geri NP (N=74) (56%)</th>
<th>Pedi NP (N=50) (68%)</th>
<th>FNP (N=106) (41%)</th>
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2012 >1,400 Marshfield Clinic patients with DM hadn't been to their dentists within the previous 12 months
Group Visits

Codman Square Health Center

Family Medicine and Community Health
Committee on Oral Health

This committee focuses on increasing public awareness of the relationship and importance of good oral health to good physical health and works to promote prevention and improve oral health literacy to health providers and the public. Recommends ways to improve access to oral health care. Committee meets 4 times per year, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Participation by teleconference is an option.

Committee Members:
Hugh J. Silk, Worcester, Chair
Michelle Dalal, Worcester, Vice Chair
Jean Bruch, Barnstable
Jatin K. Dave, Charles River
Robert B. Donoff, Suffolk

• Reps from:
  – ENT, Oncology, OB/GYN, Geriatrics
  – Primary Care – Fam Med, Peds, Medicine
  – Dentistry – MDS, HSDM, Medicaid

• Projects:
  – updates of oral health for MDs
  – ED-Dental collaboration
  – State wide survey
  – Video and public messaging
Where Are We Going
“Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”

Albert Einstein
Making it Systematic

www.QualisHealth.org/white-paper
Figure 6.1: Referral workflow from a primary care practice to a dental practice

Primary Care Workflow: Referral to Dentistry

- Clinical assistant asks, looks, makes preliminary decision, and pends referral order
- Clinician reviews, completes, and signs referral
- Clinical assistant reviews referral expectations
- Referral coordinator processes and sends referral
- Patient leaves with referral
- Report is entered in EHR

Dental Office Workflow: Referral from Primary Care

- Dental office processes referral
- Patient makes appointment
- Patient has appointment with dentist
- Dentist writes consultation report
- Dental office sends consultation report to referring clinician office

Effectiveness of physicians’ dental referrals

ECC
N=1,204 (4.9%)

(Total N = 24,403)

0-36 m olds

Referred
N=396 (32.9%)

Dental Visit
N=141 (35.6%)

No Dental Visit
N=255 (64.4%)

Not referred
N=808 (67.1%)

Dental Visit
N=97 (12.0%)

No Dental Visit
N=711 (88.0%)

Pahel-Talekar, Rozier et al. Submitted.
Periodontist visits EPFMC three times a month to perform surgery under the gum pockets for diabetic patients. She also performs screenings for pregnant diabetic patients.

Periodontal, or gum, disease can make it harder to control diabetes. Eisner Pediatric & Family Medical Center is one of the few community clinics that offer periodontal services for our diabetic patients.
State Level Collaboration

An Act To Restore MassHealth Adult Dental Benefits

In 2010, adult dental care benefits for people in MassHealth were significantly cut. Our Oral Health Advocacy Task Force has been working hard to restore coverage. Services have been restored piecemeal, year by year, with dentures being the latest service added, in May 2015. Currently, the only oral health services covered for adult MassHealth members are fillings, cleanings, extractions, and now, dentures. HCFA supports legislation to restore full oral health benefits cut from MassHealth, our...
Family Medicine and Community Health

- Infant/Child
- Dental Team
- Family, Parent
- WIC
- Day-care
- Preschool
- School
- Pre-school
- Coalition
- Legislators
- DPH
- CHW
- Head Start
- Medical Team
  - Peds
  - Fam Med
  - RN
  - MA

- Water
Swarming by age range

Family Medicine and Community Health
"You must be the change you wish to see in the World"

Mahatma Gandhi
Questions, Comments, Thoughts

www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org
www.fromthefirsttooth.org
hugh.silk@umassmed.edu