

# Council on Dental Practice

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Ottley, Jeffrey C., 2024, Florida, chair  
 Ricci, Shane A., 2025, Texas, vice chair  
 Barnes, Richard W., 2024, California  
 Chang, Douglas T., 2027, Illinois  
 Dornfeld, Kamila L., 2024, North Dakota  
 Fitzpatrick, Amanda L., 2024, Missouri  
 Fried, David L., 2025, Connecticut  
 Gingrich, Margaret S., 2026, Michigan  
 Goudarzi, Payam, 2026, New York  
 Hollar, Steven C., 2027, Indiana  
 Hollingsworth, James W., 2026, Mississippi  
 Korch, Michael J., 2025, Pennsylvania  
 Papadea, Nicholas A., 2027, South Carolina  
 Rekhi, Princy S., 2024, Washington  
 Ross, Derrick K., 2027, Arkansas  
 Ruggeri Bryant, Camryn, 2027, Arkansas\*  
 Saba, Michael A., 2025, New Jersey  
 Thompson, Jennifer L., 2026, New Mexico

Alberti, Hana R., senior director  
 Metrick, Diane M., senior manager  
 Bloom, Felicia B., manager  
 Jarosz, Laura, manager

The Council's 2024–25 liaisons include: Dr. Chad R. Leighty, (Board of Trustees, Seventh District) and Ms. Emma Wilkinson (American Student Dental Association).

## **Areas of Responsibility as Set Forth in the *Bylaws or Governance and Organizational Manual of the American Dental Association***

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As listed in Chapter VIII., K.5., of the *ADA Governance and Organizational Manual*, the areas of subject matter responsibility of the Council are:

- a. Dental Practice, including:
  - i. Dental practice management;
  - ii. Practice models and economics;
  - iii. Scope of practice;
  - iv. Impact of and compliance with regulatory mandates; and
  - v. Assessment of initiatives directed to the public and the profession;
- b. Allied Dental Personnel, including:
  - i. Utilization, management and employment practices; and
  - ii. Liaison relationships with organizations representing allied dental personnel;
- c. Dental Health and Wellness, including:
  - i. Dental professional well-being, wellness and ergonomics;
  - ii. Patient safety and wellness; and
  - iii. Liaison relationships with state well-being programs and related national organizations;
- d. Dental informatics and standards for electronic technologies; and
- e. Activities and resources directed to the success of the dental practice and the member.

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\*New Dentist Member

## **Key Accomplishments and Outcomes: Agency Programs, Projects, Results and Success Measures**

**Initiative/Program:** Dental Team Health, Wellness, and Well-Being

**Success Measure:** Percentage of Well-Being Index (WBI) participants with high levels of distress will decrease by 3% over the next five years from baseline of first assessment, therefore decreasing the risk of suicide.

**Target:**

- By September 30, three states will remove punitive mental health and substance-use disorder questions from the license renewal applications through legislative or regulatory reform.
- At least three dental payers will review their credentialing applications by December 31.
- By November 1, the Wellness Ambassador program will be expanded in three states.

**Range:**

- Two to four state Boards of Dental Examiners will review discriminatory licensing language against dentists who have received counseling, therapy or treatment for mental health issues and substance-use disorders.
- Two to four credentialing organizations will review their credentialing applications.
- Best practices from the Wellness Ambassador program will expand the program with two to four state dental associations.
- Among WBI participants, there will be a 2-4% reduction in distressed providers or dental students.

**Outcome:**

- As of this report, Iowa, Oregon, and South Dakota are reviewing dentist licensure applications.
- Two dental payers met with staff regarding credentialing applications.
- Eleven dentists have been selected for the third final group of ADA Wellness Ambassadors to assist expansion of this program to the state level, focusing on Wisconsin, New Jersey, and Florida to assist in their licensure language efforts.
- As of the writing of this report, the WBI participant first time assessments indicate 17% of dentists were distressed. With 75% of participants not yet reassessed, a non-representative reassessed value of 16% are distressed.

**Initiative/Program:** Interoperability and Health Information Exchange (HIE)

**Success Measure:** Raise awareness and engagement to promote health information exchange with participation of stakeholders, vendors, payors, providers, federal agencies, and academia.

**Target:** By December 31, deliver three webinars, bringing together stakeholders from industry, federal agencies, academia, payors, and providers to raise awareness and promote health information exchange.

**Range:** N/A

**Outcome:** A March 13 webinar titled "[Federal Regulatory Panel on Dental Interoperability and Data Exchange](#)" was viewed by over 150 attendees from industry, federal agencies, providers, and payors. Post webinar survey results indicated interest in additional interoperability discussions. A response webinar titled "[Dental Interoperability and Data Exchange](#)," scheduled on June 12, included panelists from industry, academia, and practice to continue the discussion, and a second federal panel on the topic is tentatively scheduled for September.

**Initiative/Program:** ADA Standards Program

**Success Measure:** Establish timelines and complete the high-priority standards development activities within those established timelines.

**Target:**

| Standards Project  | Draft Ready   | Final Document |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| ISO: 18374 Dentistry — Artificial intelligence (AI) based 2D X-ray analysis — Data generation, data annotation and data processing.                      | January 2024  | May 2025       |
| 1108: Dentistry - Implementation Guidance for the ADA-HL7 Dental Health Functional Profile   |               | May 2024       |
| 1109: Dentistry - Image Analysis Systems using Artificial Intelligence   | May 2024      | December 2024  |
| 1110-1: Dentistry - Validation Dataset Guidance for Image Analysis Systems Using Artificial Intelligence, Part 1: Image Annotation and Data Collection   | May 2024      | December 2024  |
| 1113: Complete Contents for Dental Procedure--Level Data Required for Eligibility and Benefit Responses  |               | May 2024       |
| 1114: Implementation Requirements for the Effective Use of DICOM in Dentistry  | May 2024      | May 2025       |
| 1115: Dentistry - Electronic Remittance Advice for EDI and Web Portal Data Exchange Standardization  | August 2024   | January 2025   |
| ISO: 5105-1: Dentistry – Accuracy of CAD/CAM Additive Manufactured Dental Products – Part 1: Polymeric Materials with Vat Photopolymerization Technology | December 2024 | December 2025  |
| 166: Accuracy of CAD/CAM Produced Digital Dentures   | June 2024     | June 2025      |
| 176: Accuracy of Computer-aided Milling Machines in Dentistry  |               | June 2024      |
| 186: Dental CAD/CAM Machinable Polymer Blanks  |               | May 2024       |
| 187: Dental CAD/CAM Machinable Ceramic Blanks  |               | May 2024       |
| 188: Sequential Aligners for Use in Orthodontics   | May 2024      | December 2024  |
| ISO: 24277 Dentistry — Clear aligners  | May 2024      | May 2026       |

**Range:** N/A

**Outcome:** Status as noted in table above.

**Initiative/Program:** ADA Standards Program

**Success Measure:** Increased Recognition of ADA Standards by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and adoption of ISO standards as ANSI/ADA Standards

**Target:** By December 31, at least 55% of applicable ADA SCDP/ International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards are recognized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

**Range:** N/A

**Outcome:** (as of May 2024)

- FDA: 137 of 250 (54.8%) standards have been recognized
- ISO Adoption: 89 of 106 American National Standards Institute (ANSI) / ADA SCDP Standards have been adopted as ISO Standards (84%)

## Emerging Issues and Trends

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### Corporate Transparency Act

On January 1, 2024, the Corporate Transparency Act went into effect, requiring all business entities that employ fewer than 20 people or make less than \$5 million in revenue, report information on their ownership to the U.S. Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Unit ([FinCen](#)). CDP created and continues to maintain a [FAQ](#) for dentists, practice owners, and dental team members on their obligations under the Act. CDP continues to monitor the outcomes of several legal challenges and proposed bills amending the Act.

### Workplace safety

In response to recent events of dental workplace violence, the Council [resolved](#) that Dental Team Wellness Advisory Committee explore opportunities to address workplace violence and safety, as part of dental team well-being. Findings will be shared at the November Council meeting.

### Allied Dental Team Workforce Shortage

In response to the workforce shortage, the Council updated ADA.org with an [Emerging and Current Models to Address Dental Team Workforce](#). CDP also [resolved](#) that comprehensive research be conducted to develop an action plan that will be presented at its November Council meeting. ADA policies related to workforce will be consolidated to provide a uniform message. Two CDP representatives are participating in the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Workforce shortage workgroup.

### Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

OSHA announced its final rule on the current Hazard Communication Standard to conform to the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) to better protect workers. The updated standard improves the information on labels and safety data sheets, allowing workers and first responders to react more quickly in an emergency. The ADA shared OSHA'S updated standards to members in an [ADA News article](#) in advance of the effective date of July 19.

### Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a final rule reinterpreting Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, or any combination thereof, in a health program or activity, any part of which is receiving federal financial assistance.

Many of the provisions were to be effective on July 5, 2024, however the Final Rule is being challenged in the courts with respect to gender identity and sexual identity.

HHS also issued a Final Rule that modifies the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health information in the HIPAA Privacy Rule to Support Reproductive Health Care Privacy. The rule strengthens privacy protections for medical records and health information for women, their family members, and doctors. The ADA communicated the new revisions to members on June 28, 2024 in an [ADA news article](#).

### Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

The FTC issued a final rule on April 26, 2024, updating the Health Breach Notification Rule with new and revised definitions to expand coverage to include health apps and other technologies not covered by HIPAA, including websites that collect health data that are not operated by HIPAA-regulated entities.

The FTC also issued a final rule to promote competition by banning non-competes nationwide (the rule is currently being challenged in the courts) scheduled to become effective September 4, 2024, which the FTC claims will assist in protecting the fundamental freedom of workers to change jobs, increasing innovation, and fostering new business formation. The ADA communicated the new revisions to members on April 24, 2024 in an [ADA news article](#).

## **ADA Standards Program**

The SCDP and SCDI were reorganized within the ADA Standards Program effective January 1, 2024. The reorganization dissolved the SCDP and SCDI and created 12 consensus bodies in their place, including a realignment of the existing SCDP and SCDI subcommittees.

Twenty-five new or revised standards and technical reports were approved in 2023 through mid-2024. Many of these standards address new or emerging issues of special interest. For products, the FDA recognizes and uses conformance with these standards as criteria to demonstrate safety and efficacy for clearance to market products in dentistry. In addition, informatics technical reports and standards lead the path to interoperable and secure exchange of data among dentists and between dental and medical providers.

Listings of ADA standards and information about the ADA's standards committees can be found on [ADA.org](https://ada.org). Proposals for new and revised standards will now focus on the customers who will use the standards, with the goals of implementation and interoperability.

New standards include:

*Proposed ADA Standard No. 1110 for Validation Dataset Guidance for Image Analysis Systems Using Artificial Intelligence.* This standard will help ensure confidence in image analysis systems using artificial intelligence by providing a validation dataset to be used to measure their performance.

*Proposed ADA Technical Report No. 147 for Accuracy of CAD/CAM 3D Printed Dental Products.* This technical report will provide test methods for the evaluation of the repeatability, reproducibility, and accuracy for 3D printed dental products.

*Proposed ADA Standard No. 1114 for Implementation Requirements for the Effective Use of DICOM in Dentistry.* This standard will provide dental requirements for DICOM conformance to achieve interoperability through networking infrastructure, storage and archiving, data security and privacy, and integration among systems.

*ANSI/ADA Standard No. 1113:2024 for Complete Contents for Dental Procedure-Level Data Required for Eligibility and Benefit Responses.* This project specifies required information for providers to communicate to payers when determining patients' full benefits.

## **Participation in Other Standard Organizations**

### **National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA)**

The American Dental Association (ADA) represents dental professionals as a voting member of the NFPA and is participating in the review of the 2027 version of the Healthcare Facilities Code. [NFPA 99](#) Healthcare Facilities code, which includes chapter 15 "Dental Gas and Vacuum Systems", establishes criteria for levels of health care services or systems based on risk to the patients, staff, or visitors in health care facilities to minimize the hazards of fire, explosion, and electricity and are regularly adopted as building codes to provide safeguard implementations among practitioners, authorities having jurisdiction, and those who sell and install dental gas and vacuum systems within dental facilities.

### **Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)**

The Center for Informatics and Standards (CIS) continues to maintain the ADA liaison to the AAMI, an ANSI accredited standards developer that is the primary source of standards for the medical device industry. There are AAMI working groups that address sterilization of medical devices, and reprocessing instructions and validation methods of medical devices that are pertinent to dentistry. The ADA has formed a joint working group with AAMI to develop a *Proposed AAMI/ADA Standard for a Guide to Steam Sterilization in Outpatient Dental Settings*. This standard will provide dentists with steam sterilization criteria that are specific to dental practices.

### **American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)**

CIS continues to maintain the ADA liaison to the ASHRAE, and Air Conditioning Engineers organizations. ASHRAE is an ANSI-accredited standards developer in areas such as ventilation, indoor air quality and water treatment, and infection control and diseases, in healthcare and dental facilities. The Dental Section of the ASHRAE Handbook is undergoing a major update in which ADA volunteers continue to provide input.

### **Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM)**

The CIS carries forward the ADA's support of DICOM standards for the secure exchange of persistent digital dental radiographs and visible light (photographic) images. DICOM is approved by ISO for use in electronic health record systems, digital radiography systems, and practice management systems to transmit, store, retrieve, print, process, and display persistent medical imaging information. The ADA develops DICOM standards for dental uses, such as radiographic view sets and radiation dose reporting.

### **Health Level Seven International (HL7)**

The ADA's ongoing partnership with HL7 has allowed for the creation of HL7 standards utilizing standard dental data content specifications named in *ANSI/ADA Standard No. 1079, Standard Content of Electronic Attachments for Dental Claims* and *ANSI/ADA Standard No. 1084, Reference Core Data Set for Communication Among Dental and other Health Information Systems*, which are expected to aid greatly in interoperability between dental information systems and other forms of health information exchange. The ADA and HL7 have renewed and expanded its partnership, to promote the use of ADA Current Dental Terminology and the Systematized Nomenclature of Dentistry terminology, as well as represent the business needs of dental providers within the HL7 organization.

## **Responses to House of Delegates Resolutions**

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### **Resolution: 308-2023—Promoting Use of DICOM in Dentistry**

**308-2023. Resolved**, the appropriate ADA agencies collaborate with interested dental specialty societies to understand issues related to DICOM and image exchange to facilitate development of the appropriate and necessary specifications, standards, and guidance; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the appropriate ADA agencies review and facilitate updating the DICOM standards as needed for dentistry, and be it further

**Resolved**, that after the necessary standards and educational tools are developed, the appropriate ADA agencies urge legislators and/or regulators to require the use of DICOM standards across applicable products or systems that exchange images in dentistry, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the ADA urge the dental software industry to adopt DICOM standards to ensure interoperability between systems.

The Proposed ADA Standard No. 1114 *Implementation Requirements for the Effective Use of DICOM in Dentistry* is being finalized with participating members from various specialties, including oral and maxillofacial radiologist, surgeons, orthodontists, and other dental specialists. In addition to experts from manufacturing and industry, other experts representing IT and software developers, identified this standard as pivotal to closing the gap in the current DICOM related standards to achieve the request of this resolution with the needed elements to allow for exchange of appropriate data without proprietary restrictions.

**Resolution:** 313-2023—Incorporating Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) into Practice

**313-2023. Resolved**, that the American Dental Association encourage dental and prescription software vendors to include PDMP compliance tools in software they sell to dental professionals in all new and updated versions of their software, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the ADA recommends that dentists request that their software vendors include PDMP compliance tools in the software they provide, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the ADA agencies that develop standards for dental software include PDMP compliance tools as an essential element of dental practice management and prescription software.

CDP staff have met with personnel from the two major prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) hubs, the Bureau of Justice Administration's Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC), RxCheck and PMP Interconnect, to learn about the barriers to integrating PDMP into dental software. In addition, Working Group 13.3: Dental Provider's Guide to the Electronic Dental Record, will oversee the development of the ADA Standard No.1116 *Dentistry — Interoperability with Regulatory Compliance in EHR Systems*, replacing *ADA Technical Report No. 1104 Guidance on Regulatory Compliance to Assure Electronic Health Information Interoperability and Prevention of Information Blocking*. A major impetus for the formation of the working group is to establish PDMP as an essential part of the electronic health record. The Bureau of Justice participated in the "[Federal Regulatory Panel on Dental Interoperability and Data Exchange](#)" to bring awareness of the need for this integration to be available to providers.

**Resolution:** 517H-2023—Preventing Unfair Discrimination

**517H-2023. Resolved**, that the appropriate ADA agency create a pilot project to assist a limited number of states to develop and advocate for legislation or regulation that prevents discrimination in licensing, credentialing, and other matters against dentists who have received counseling, therapy, or treatment for mental health issues, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the resources developed by this project, including model legislation, be compiled into a toolkit for other state associations to use in their advocacy efforts, and be it further

**Resolved**, a report on these activities be prepared for the 2024 House of Delegates.

- CDP is working with three pilot program states: New Jersey, Florida, and Wisconsin, to identify and change any stigmatizing language in licensure and credentialing applications.
- Staff met with two credentialing organizations regarding intrusive questions on credentialing applications. State Boards of Dentistry in Iowa, Oregon, and South Dakota are also reviewing licensure applications.
- A toolkit of diverse approaches to audit and advocacy for licensure reform taken by various states will be posted to ADA.org/Wellness and will contain efforts taken by Texas and Virginia who have accomplished licensure change, in addition to those states in progress and participating in the pilot.

**Self-Assessment**

In accordance with *Resolution 1H-2013 (Trans.2013:339)*, the Council on Dental Practice conducted a self-assessment through a survey. It was the consensus of the Council that it is effective in fulfilling its subject matter responsibilities as outlined in the *Bylaws* and believes it is the most appropriate agency to complete these assignments. It does not believe there should be any changes to its *Bylaws* responsibilities. The Council expressed future potential for separating policy from the existing structure of subcommittees.

## Policy Review

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In accordance with Resolution 170H-2012, Regular Comprehensive Policy Review (*Trans.*2012:370), the Council on Dental Practice reviewed the following policies and determined they should be maintained:

Dental Schools to Provide Education to Dental Students on Drug and Alcohol Use and Misuse (*Trans.*2014:453)  
 Ownership of a Dental Practice Following Death or Incapacity of a Dentist (*Trans.*2000:462)  
 Ownership of Dental Practices (*Trans.*2000:462)  
 Regulating Non-Dentist Owners of Dental Practices (*Trans.*2011:491; 2019:255)  
 Statement Regarding Employment of a Dentist (*Trans.*2013:353; 2018:357; 2019:251)  
 Statement on Dental Care in Nursing Homes (*Trans.*1991:619)  
 Certification or Approval of Dental Care Facilities (*Trans.*1993:689)  
 Dental Care in Institutional and Homebound Settings (*Trans.*1986:518; 2013:341)  
 Informational Support for Members Providing Oral Care in Long-Term Care Facilities (*Trans.*1997:671; 2013:342)  
 Use of Environmentally Conscientious Measures in the Production, Packaging and Shipping of Dental Products (*Trans.*2013:314)  
 Statement on the Use of Opioids in the Treatment of Dental Pain (*Trans.*2016:286)  
 Policies and Recommendations on Occupational Safety and Health (*Trans.*2016:322)  
 Tax Treatment of Professional Dues (*Trans.*2019:298)  
 National Pretreatment Standard for Dental Office Wastewater (*Trans.*2019:305)  
 Fabrication of Oral Appliances Used with Tooth Whitening Products (*Trans.*2002:397)

The Council will submit the following amendments to the 2024 House of Delegates on separate worksheets:

Dental Office Wastewater Policy (*Trans.*2003:387)  
 Infection Control in the Practice of Dentistry (*Trans.*2012:470; 2019:266)  
 ADA Policy on The Aged, Blind and Disabled (*Trans.*2002:390; 2012:455)

The Council will submit the following rescissions to the 2024 House of Delegates:

ADA Action Plan on Amalgam in Dental Office Wastewater (*Trans.*2002:422; 2007:441)  
 Seamless Electronic Patient Record (*Trans.*1996:694)  
 Electronic Technology in Dentistry (*Trans.*1992:608)  
 Development of Electronic Dental Patient Records (*Trans.*1992:598)  
 Dental Practice Management Software (*Trans.*2001:428)  
 Electronic Technology Activities (*Trans.*1993:695; 2013:313)  
 ADA Involvement in Electronic Data Interchange Activities (*Trans.*1992:598)

The Council will submit the following Proposed Policy to the 2024 House of Delegates:

Statement on Electronic Health Record and Data Exchange in Dentistry

## Council Minutes

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For more information on recent activities, see the Council's [minutes](#) on ADA.org.