The Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP) met on January 24-26 at the ADA Headquarters building in Chicago, IL. The following is a summary of major actions taken by the Council.

**Report of the Subcommittee on Access and Advocacy**: Dr. Mark Koday shared the discussions of the subcommittee including:

1. An update on the Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee which continues to provide content to the online Medicaid Provider Resource Guide.

2. Considerations regarding Resolution 55H passed by the 2018 HOD regarding developing a Culture of Safety. An in person meeting will take place this year, with a 3-5 year overall concept to finalize what a “culture of safety” means in the dental profession.

**Report of the ADH Prime Subcommittee**: Dr. Alicia Risner-Bauman, Subcommittee Chair, updated the Council with the following information:

1. The Action for Dental Health legislation which was signed into law in December 2018. Specific language in the bill allows for grants to state associations for ED Referral programs and services of the Community Dental Health Coordinators.

2. Community Dental Health Coordinator Transition Team, referring to the CDHC Scorecard which is computed quarterly. She offered a template article for all Council members to consider for publication within state journals.

3. Progress made by the ED Referral Workgroup, noting the involvement of the American College of Emergency Physicians with the Workgroup and the various models of ED Referral which are available to follow as templates for new programs.

4. The opportunity to broaden Council influence with a recommended change to the charter of the National Fluoridation Advisory Committee. Rather than one CAAP member for a 4 year period, the Subcommittee suggests having 2 Council members with staggered terms of service to NFAC.

Upon vote, the Council approved the following:

- Expansion of National Fluoridation Advisory Committee to 9 members (2 CAAP members)

- NFAC Chair and Vice-Chair shall be active or past members of CAAP who are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the CAAP Chair.

- Other Committee members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of CAAP, based on nominations made by the Committee.

- One year terms are not limited by appointment

**Report of the Prevention Subcommittee**: Dr. Mike Wasserman, Subcommittee Chair, shared the following news with the Council:

1. The increased marketing about vaping has concerned the Prevention Subcommittee which is planning a webinar to educate members and additional oral health stakeholders on the risks of this dangerous habit.
2. The artwork for 2019 National Children’s Dental Health Month poster will feature the runner up from last year’s contest at the Columbia College School of Graphic Art. The Council was pleased to learn that over 55,000 posters have been shipped to educational institutions, military bases and health centers to celebrate this special month for oral health education.

3. The National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry’s charter was presented in an updated form for the Council to consider. The term “CAPIR” was replaced with “CAAP” while the Council was updated on the 2019 dental student health literacy essay contest. The importance of health literacy was affirmed by the Council.

Upon vote the following resolutions were approved by the Council:

Resolved, that the ADH Prevention Subcommittee Charter amendments be approved

Resolved, that the National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry Charter amendments be approved.

Resolved, that the Council on Scientific Affairs be urged to add health literacy as a priority on the research agenda.

4. Dr. Bonita Neighbors, Chair of the National Fluoridation Advisory Committee, provided the Fluoridation report to the Council. Fluoridation Facts was released in March and has sales of over 1300 books. She also covered the increased challenges to community water fluoridation that many states are facing, with the additional need for statistical expertise for NFAC. Upon vote, the Council approved the following:

Resolved, that Xian-Jin (Jin) Xie, Ph.D. be approved as a consultant to the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention for a term ending with the 2019 ADA annual meeting.

New Business:

Dr. Mark Koday asked for input on how to address the new regulations offered by the CDC and other regulatory agencies regarding non evidence based processes such as sterilization of low speed handpieces. He stated that these regulations will add to the cost of care which could impact access. Dr. Herman will consider how this issue could be most effectively addressed with the appropriate Subcommittee.

Dr. Irene Hilton requested input on which states receive reimbursement for silver diamine fluoride. She is compiling a national profile of this preventive material for reference. Council members will check within their states and report back in time for the next Prevention Subcommittee call.

Special Order of Business:

Dr. Kathleen O’Loughlin, ADA executive director, updated the Council on the obligation the ADA has towards the members and the public. She covered the process for developing the new strategic plan 2020-2025. The Association continues to be deeply committed to the success of state dental associations with governance, planning and diversity / inclusion.

Dr. Sam Shahid, Practice Management Manager, American College of Emergency Physicians, presented the EMPRN (Emergency Medicine Practice Research Network) June 2018 survey results. She described the data overview showing approximately 50% of the over 200 respondents stating their need for dental referral partnerships.
Ms. Beth Truett, President and CEO, accompanied by Ms. Bianca Rogers, Public Affairs Manager, Oral Health America, discussed the broad range of initiatives of OHA. Their sealant program assistance provided each year to community partners across the country. The OHA program, Kindergartners with Cavities, takes place during February and March of this year. The Council also heard the background of OHA efforts to engage stakeholders in developing a dental benefit in Medicare.

Dr. Allen Finkelstein, CEO Bedford HealthCare Solutions, presented the Council with “Disruptive Innovation”, a series of futuristic aspects of dental care reimbursement including volume to value financing. He was thanked by many Council members for his role on the Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee and for his efforts in Medicaid audit reconciliation duties around the country on behalf of dentists.

Dr. Suzanne Ebert, vice president, Dental Practice and Relationship Management ADA Business Innovation Group, presented the Business Model Project to the Council with insights on developing project of practice purchases in two states (Maine and Wisconsin) with the intention of assisting newly graduated dentists professionally integrating with established dentists for the purposes of practice transition. .

Ms. Katherine Merullo, manager, Public Affairs and Advocacy Communications, gave the Council an overview of the Integrated Marketing Campaign for the Action for Dental Health. She described the various types of media used in promoting oral health and the positive actions ADA members have in improving the oral health of the public.

**CAAP Council Members:**
- Dr. Richard P. Herman, New Windsor, New York (chair)
- Dr. Richard A. Stevenson, Jacksonville, Florida (vice chair)
- Dr. R. David Bradberry, Marietta, Georgia
- Dr. Paul S. Casamassimo, Columbus, Ohio
- Dr. Kristi Gipe Golden, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas
- Dr. Shailee J. Gupta, Austin, Texas
- Dr. Irene V. Hilton, San Francisco, California
- Dr. Mark J. Humenik, Northbrook, Illinois
- Dr. Mark Koday, Yakima, Washington
- Dr. Carmine J. LoMonaco, Newark, New Jersey
- Dr. Jessica A. Meeske, Hastings, Nebraska
- Dr. Carol Marie Morrow, Walsh, Colorado
- Dr. Bonita Davis Neighbors, Saline, Michigan
- Dr. Michael L. Richardson, Charleston, West Virginia
- Dr. Alicia Risner-Bauman, Horseheads, New York
- Dr. Shamik S. Vakil, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Dr. Michael H. Wasserman, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

**Council Liaisons:**
- Dr. Ken McDougall, Jamestown, North Dakota, (ADA Board of Trustees, Tenth District)
- Mr. Greg Mitro, Tampa, Florida (Alliance of the American Dental Association)
- Mr. Craig McKenzie, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, (ASDA Representative)
- Dr. Craig S. Armstrong, Houston, Texas, (CGA chair)
- Dr. Phillip J. Fijal, Des Plaines, Illinois (CGA vice chair)
- Dr. Andrew D. Welles, Madison, Wisconsin, (New Dentist Committee)