

**Unofficial Report of Major Actions
Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP)
July 9-10 2020**

The Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP) met virtually on July 9-10. The following is a summary of major actions taken by the Council.

Report of the Prime Subcommittee: Dr. David Bradberry, Subcommittee Chair shared the discussions of the subcommittee including:

1. Dr. Shailee Gupta reviewed the proceedings of virtual meetings of the ED Referral Workgroup with mention of the representative presence of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).
2. Dr. Mark Humenik, Chair of the Community Dental Health Coordinator Transition Team, provided the Council with an overview of the CDHC research agenda, schools, graduates and students across the country.
3. A report was given by Dr. Gupta regarding the National Advisory Committee on Health Literacy in Dentistry and their efforts in preparing a fall webinar series on the topic of Motivational Interviewing and essential patient communications strategies for practitioners.
4. The Council heard the details of the new role of CAAP in assembling the selection committee for the ADA Humanitarian Award. This duty was conferred by the Board during their April meeting.

Upon vote, the Council approved the following two ADA members to serve on the Humanitarian Awards selection committee:

- Dr. Alan J. Moore
- Dr. David Miller
- Dr. Robert Lamb will serve as alternate

Report of the Access and Advocacy Subcommittee: Dr. Carol Morrow, Subcommittee Chair, presented the Subcommittee priorities to the Council

1. The response to the House of Delegates regarding Resolution 78H-2019, Establishing a Culture of Safety in Dentistry, will cover the activities of the Safety workgroup including their framework for developing a curriculum on patient safety, recognition of patient safety considerations in practice guidelines and standards in addition to working collaboratively with other healthcare agencies on the topic of patient safety.
2. The Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee (MPAC) continues to work with ADA State Government Affairs to monitor adult Medicaid benefits around the country while encouraging states to proactively collaborate with their state Medicaid agencies to support family centric care. Dr. Morrow cited the success of the Colorado “Take 5” program as a strategy for legislators to maintain adult benefits.
3. The CE Medicaid “Bootcamp” program has presented key elements of being a Medicaid provider in an era of accountability to twenty seven dental school or residency programs prior to the COVID considerations which began in March. Over 1600 students and 200 residents have attended a Bootcamp since the fall of 2019.

4. Medicaid audit processes continue to prompt discussion among participants in the program.

Upon vote, the following resolution was approved by the Council and will be transmitted to the 2020 House of Delegates for its consideration:

00. **Resolved**, that the American Dental Association encourages all state dental associations to work with their respective state Medicaid agency to adopt such guidelines into their request for proposal (RFP) to third party payers interested in managing the dental benefit:

Guidelines for Medicaid Reviews

The auditor / reviewer shall demonstrate adherence, not only to individual state Board regulations and requirements, but also demonstrate an understanding, acceptance and adherence to Medicaid state guidelines and specific specialty guidelines. In addition, the Auditor / Reviewer shall demonstrate experience in treatment planning and treatment of specific demographic groups and unique treatment sites that influence treatment planning.

It is recommended that entities, which conduct Medicaid dental reviews and audits, utilize auditors and reviewers who:

1. Have a current active license to practice Dentistry in the state where audited treatment has been rendered and be available to present his/her findings
2. Are of the same specialty (with equivalent education) as the dentist being audited
3. Document and reference the guidelines of the appropriate dental or specialty organization as part of their findings, including the definition of Medical Necessity being used as the basis for the review
4. Have a history of treating Medicaid recipients in the state in which the audited dentist practices
5. Have experience treating patients in a similar setting as the dentist being audited, such as a hospital, surgery center or school based-setting, if a significant portion of the audit targets such venues

In addition, these entities will be expected to conduct the review and audit in an efficient and expeditious manner, including:

1. Stating a reasonable period of time in which an audit can proceed before dismissal can be sought
2. Defining the reasonable use of extrapolation in the initial audit request

Report of the Prevention Subcommittee: Dr. Shamik Vakil, Subcommittee Chair, shared the following news with the Council:

1. In lieu of the cancellation of the in-person 75th anniversary of Community Water Fluoridation Symposium, the month of July will feature weekly webinars on classic fluoridation topics such as history of fluoridation, Mom's Guide to Fluoride, fluoridation advocacy and how to communicate the value of water fluoridation to a lay person audience.
2. The winning artwork submission from the 2020 poster contest for National Children's Dental Health Month was approved by the Council. The chosen theme featured water as "Nature's Drink" which is intended to promote water as a beverage of choice.
3. The challenges of Early Childhood Caries in vulnerable populations continues to be a priority for the Prevention Subcommittee. The Council discussed the opportunity to align with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry on two major prevention related subjects.

Upon vote, the following resolution was approved by the Council and will be transmitted to the 2020 House of Delegates for its consideration:

00. **Resolved**, that the American Dental Association supports the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's policy statements on Early Childhood Caries which includes :

1. [Policy on Early Childhood Caries](#) (ECC): Classifications, Consequences, and Preventive Strategies (2019-2020/P. 71-73)
2. [Policy on Early Childhood Caries](#) (ECC): Unique Challenges and Treatment Options (2019-2020/P. 74-75)"

00. **Resolved**, that the American Dental Association supports the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's [Statement of Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Care.](#)"

New Business

The Council considered several points made by Rear Admiral Tim Ricks in his presentation of COVID considerations for the healthcare agencies.

Upon vote, the Council approved the following and which will be transmitted to the 2020 House of Delegates for its consideration:

Resolved, that the ADA supports temporarily expanding the scope of dental practice during declared public health emergencies to include:

1. Administering critical vaccines
2. Performing FDA-authorized diagnostic tests to screen patients for infectious diseases
3. Taking patient medical histories and triaging medical patients
4. Performing other ancillary medical procedures and activities, as requested by medical personnel, to expand the nation's surge capacity.

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Resolved, that dentists should be granted immunity from personal liability and restrictions on the services they provide for the duration of the emergency.

The Council also considered a resolution from the Council on Governmental Affairs regarding access to care for veterans. This resolution was offered to CAAP for their consideration and comment. After discussion of the resolution, the Council agreed upon a language modification which will be shared with CGA for their August Council meeting.

Special Orders of Business

- Rear Admiral Tim Ricks, Assistant Surgeon General, Chief Dental Officer, U. S. Public Health Service, Deputy Director, HIS Division of Oral Health presented an overview of the US Public Health Service to the Council, while engaging their baseline knowledge on duties of the Surgeon General.

- Renee W. Joskow, DDS, MPH, FAGD, Captain, U S Public Health Service, Senior Dental Advisor, Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA) shared with the Council many aspects of this government agency including the new workforce dental projection report and the importance of Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to community oral health. She also covered the key areas of the HRSA Strategic Plan which include improved access to quality care, a workforce which can address emerging oral health needs and the continuing goal of Health Equity.
- Mr. Robert Quashie, Senior Vice President of ADA Business Operations and Strategy, provided the Council an update on *Common Ground*, and current operational challenges in light of COVID. He covered major aspects of membership and business strategies of the Association.
- Ms. Katherine Merullo, Manager, Public Affairs and Advocacy Communications, updated the Council on much of the COVID related communications done by the Communications division and provided metrics about Action for Dental Health initiatives such as interviews with CDHC graduates and the “Oral Health is Health” campaign.
- Dr. Mark Koday, Chair of the Dental Quality Alliance (DQA), joined with Ms. Diptee Ojha, Senior Manager, Office of Quality Assessment and Improvement, Center for Dental Benefits, Coding and Quality, in covering recent developments of dental quality measurement, development and use. The Council members engaged with questions and commentary specifically related to application of quality measures by third party payers.
- Dr. Emily Mattingly, Chair of the Committee on the New Dentist, provided the Council with an update on the activities of the Committee, including their new plan for a virtual annual meeting.

CAAP Council Members:

Dr. Richard A. Stevenson, chair, FL
 Dr. Jessica Meeske, vice-chair, NE
 Dr. Karin Arsenault, MA
 Dr. R. David Bradberry, GA
 Dr. Paul Casamassimo, OH
 Dr. Chris Delecki, WA
 Dr. Kristi Golden, AR
 Dr. Shailee Gupta, TX
 Dr. Irene Hilton, CA

Dr. Mark Humenik, IL
 Dr. Carmine LoMonaco, NJ
 Dr. James Mancini, PA
 Dr. Robert Margolin, NY
 Dr. Carol Morrow, CO
 Dr. Michael Richardson WV
 Dr. Shamik Vakil NC
 Dr. Jehan Wakeem, MI
 Dr. Andrew Welles, WI (New Dentist Member)

Council Liaisons:

Dr. Billie Sue Kyger, Ohio, (ADA Board of Trustees, Seventh District)
 Mr. Greg Mitro, Tampa, Florida (Alliance of the American Dental Association)
 Ms. Sydney Shapiro, New York, New York (ASDA Representative)
 Dr. Phil Fijal, IL (CGA chair)
 Dr. David White, NV (CGA vice chair)