

**Unofficial Report of Major Actions
Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP)
January 6-7, 2022**

The Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP) met virtually on January 6-7. The following is a summary of major actions taken.

Report of the Access and Advocacy Subcommittee: Dr. Kristi Golden, Subcommittee chair, shared the following information with the Council:

1. The Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee continues to address issues that adversely affect how the increasing number of underserved Medicaid patients access dental care, especially through:
 - a. Reducing the administrative burdens associated with being a Medicaid provider
 - b. Increasing access to operating rooms and ambulatory surgical centers for those individuals most in need of dental treatment
 - c. Educating existing and future Medicaid providers to protect themselves and their patients through use of compliance programs and documenting medical necessity.
2. The Public Health Advisory Committee continues to discuss unmet oral health needs of seniors, those with disabilities, veterans and the 50% of Americans who cannot predictably access routine dental care.
3. The Culture of Safety in Dentistry Workgroup is working to implement the 2021 House approved resolution encouraging dentists to voluntarily report near misses and adverse incidents, in an anonymous and non-discoverable manner. In collaboration with the Dental Patient Safety Foundation, dentists can learn from the experience of others how adverse outcomes can be successfully managed.

Report of the Prevention Subcommittee: Dr. Shamik Vakil, subcommittee chair, updated the Council on the activities of the subcommittee, which included:

1. An explanation of the technology and cost efficiencies of the new tablet system for community water fluoridation.
2. Expanded Prevention strategies with regard to school based programs and sealants.
3. The 2022 National Children's Dental Health Month theme will feature sealants in its campaign messaging.

Report of the Prime Subcommittee: Dr. James Mancini, Subcommittee chair, updated the Council on activities of the subcommittee, which included:

1. The Action for Dental Health and Humanitarian Award 2022 processes and winners.
2. ED Referral Workgroup update which featured webinars for American College of Emergency Physician (ACEP) members who requested "dental" guidance for patients accessing hospital EDs for dental issues
3. The priority of encouraging dentists to collaborate with medical professionals to promote the HPV vaccine to parents to prevent oral cancer in their adolescent children
4. A new title for the Community Dental Health Coordinator Transition Team – now called the CDHC Advancement Team to better reflect the forward progress of the program.

5. An overview of upcoming CAAP webinars which have a focus on Health Equity and dentist participation in their state Medicaid programs

Resolution:

Upon vote, the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Council and will be transmitted to the 2022 House of Delegates for its consideration:

Resolved, that the American Dental Association supports and encourages research and collaboration between dentists and other healthcare providers to help identify systemic diseases which are strongly suspected to have a direct relationship to a patient's oral health

Special Orders of Business:

1. Dr. Raymond Cohlma, ADA Executive Director, gave an effective overview of the organizational state of the ADA at this time and provided insights for his vision for the future of the Association.
2. Dr. Marko Vujicic, Senior Vice President and Dr. Chelsea Fosse, Senior Analyst, of the ADA's Health Policy Institute, updated the Council on the recent collaborative white paper developed with other advocacy groups to make the business case for adult dental Medicaid benefits throughout the states.
3. Dr. Diptee Ohja, Director of the Dental Quality Alliance (DQA) and Clinical Data Registry, along with Dr. Krishna Aravamudhan, Senior Director, Center for Dental Benefits, Coding and Quality offered insights to the Council on the DQA and the opportunity for comments on the Provider Quality Rating.
4. Susana Galvan, Senior Manager, Membership Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, and Analytics, provided the Council with an update on strategies for potential member segments as well as the ongoing work with the leadership of diverse dental organizations.
5. Admiral. Tim Ricks, chief dental officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, provided an update to the Council about the collaborative actions between the ADA and the Indian Health Service, including Give Kids A Smile Day collaborations, while announcing the intention of the Indian Health Service to offer the CDHC curriculum to IHS dental professionals.
6. Dr. Winifred Booker, President-Elect of the Maryland Dental Association and pediatric dentist, educated the Council on the potential value of dentists doing salivary lead screening as the number of individuals exposed to lead is estimated to have doubled according to the CDC.
7. Dr. Caroline Goncalves Jones, Advocacy and Outreach Director for Tobacco Free Kids, an advocacy organization based in Washington DC, provided an overview on the current state of tobacco and e-cigarette usage in US schools.
8. Dr. Thomas Gallagher, internist and executive director of the Collaborative for Accountability and Improvement at the University of Washington, shared what medical colleagues have learned from embracing transparency with patients and peers when adverse events transpire in practice, which is applicable to dentistry. This activity was part of a major initiative of the Culture of Safety in Dentistry workgroup in 2022.

Council Members

Dr. Shailee Gupta, chair, TX
Dr. James Mancini, v.chair, PA
Dr. Elizabeth Clemente, NJ
Dr. Stephen Cochran, FL

Dr. Molly Conlon, WI
Dr. Chris Delecki, WA
Dr. Kristi Golden, AR
Dr. Katherine Kosten, IL
Dr. Huong Le, CA
Dr. Robert Margolin, NY
Dr. Rodney Marshall, AL
Dr. Jackie Nord, ND
Dr. Michael Richardson WV
Dr. Elizabeth Simpson, IN
Dr. Shamik Vakil NC
Dr. Brooke Fukuoka, ID (Committee on the New Dentist representative)

Council Liaisons:

Dr. James Stephens (ADA Board of Trustees)
Mr. Greg Mitro, FL (Alliance of the American Dental Association)
Dr. Onalee Sortino, SUNY ASDA Representative
Dr. Mark Vitale, NJ (CGA chair)
Dr. Dan Geske, FL (CGA v.chair)