

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE JULY 14-15, 2022 MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL ON ADVOCACY FOR ACCESS AND PREVENTION

CALL TO ORDER

The virtual meeting of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP) was called to order by Dr. Shailee Gupta, CAAP chair, at 9:00am, Central time, Thursday July 14, 2022.

ROLL CALL

Members: Dr. Karen Arsenault, (2024), First District;; Dr. Stephen Cochran,(2025), Seventeenth District, Dr. Molly Conlon, (2026) Ninth District, Dr. Chris Delecki (2024), Eleventh District, Dr. Kristi Golden, (2022), Twelfth District; Dr. Shailee J. Gupta, Chair, (2022), Fifteenth District; Dr. Huong Le, (2026) Thirteenth District ; Dr. Kathryn Kosten, (2025),Eighth District; Dr. James Mancini, (2024), Third District; Dr. Robert Margolin, (2024), Second District, Dr. Rodney Marshall, (2025),Fifth District; (2021), Dr. Jackie Nord,(2026), Tenth District, Dr. Michael L. Richardson (2022), Sixth District, Dr. Jessica Robertson, (2026) Fourteenth District, Dr. Elizabeth Simpson (2025), Seventh District; Dr. Shamik S. Vakil, (2022), Sixteenth District

Liaisons: Dr. James Stephens, ADA Board of Trustees (remote), Seventh District; Mr. Greg Mitro, Alliance of the American Dental Association; Dr. Brooke Fukuoka, Committee on the New Dentist, Ms. Onalee Sortino, Dr. Mark Vitale, Chair, council on Government Affairs (CGA), Dr. Dan Geske, vice chair, Council on Governmental Affairs

Council Staff: Mr. Michael Graham, senior vice president, Government & Public Affairs; Dr. Jane S. Grover, senior director; Dr. Steven P. Geiermann, senior manager, Access, Community Oral Health Infrastructure and Capacity; Ms. Kelly Cantor, manager, Preventive Health Activities; Dr. Elizabeth Lense, manager, Health Equity and Prevention; Me. Matt Zaborowski, manager, Preventive Activities, and Mr. Earl Sewell, Council Administrative Manager.

Other ADA Staff in attendance for all or portions of the meeting, include: Dr. Chelsea Fosse, senior policy analyst ADA Health Policy Institute , Dr. Diptee Ojha, Senior Manager, Office of Assessment and Quality Improvement, Mr. Chad Olson, Director, State Government Affairs, Mr. Paul O'Connor, senior legislative liaison, Department of State Government Affairs; Matt Rossetto, legislative liaison, Department of State Government Affairs, Mr. C. Michael Kendall, Senior Associate General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Ms. Katherine Merullo, Manager, Manager, Public Affairs and Advocacy Communications, Stephanie Moritz, Chief Information Officer, Ms. April Kates-Ellison, Vice President, Member and Client Services, Ms. Sandy Eitel, Director, Council on Membership, Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi, Director, Council on Government Affairs

Special Guests: Dr. Natalia Chalmers, Chief Dental Officer, Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Dr. Jill Keaton, Program Director, Department of Dental Hygiene, Big Sandy Community and Technical College, Ms. Kera Beskin, Ms. Lauran Barone, Ms. Hollis Russinof, Ms. Maureen Cooney, and Dr. Cheryl Dr Pinto, Senior Vice President of Primary Care and Subspecialty Pediatrics, American Association of Pediatrics (AAP), Dr. Rich Herman and Dr. Sid Whitman, former Council Chairs

ADA Disclosure Policy: Prior to conducting any business, Dr. Gupta referenced the ADA Disclosure Policy printed in the agenda and called for disclosures. No disclosures were made.

Approval of the Agenda and Consent Calendar: The Agenda and Consent Calendar was approved

Address of the ADA Executive Director: Dr. Raymond Cohlma, ADA Executive Director, gave a governance overview of the Association as a resilient organization facing challenges of the future. He outlined key areas of his focus such as member/ client service, fiscal responsibility, organizational nimbleness and global presence. He shared insights into upcoming leadership topics such as Strategic Forecasting and the role that Councils will play in this transition.

Report of the Senior Vice President: Mr. Michael Graham updated the Council on the legislative climate in Congress at the present time. He stressed that the major issue for the ADA now on Capitol Hill now is Medicaid which currently is being expanded in many states to include a robust adult dental benefit. He also covered the proposed concepts of a dental benefit in Medicare which has been shared for comments from ADA leaders.

Report of the Director: Dr. Grover shared with the Council the importance of sharing information about CAAP activities with their Districts as well as their role in sharing news from their communities with ADA.

Report of the Chair: Dr. Shailee Gupta shared her insights into a remarkable year as Chair of the Council which included several resolutions passing in the House of Delegates, a cyber - security incident, major Medicaid reform in many states, stronger alliances with other Councils and a presentation to the Board of Trustees about Health Equity and CAAP initiatives. She thanked the Council members personally for their dedication and advocacy to improve the oral health of the public and support the profession.

Report of Trustee Liaison: Dr. Jim Stephens, ADA Board liaison, shared insights from the Board in their continuing efforts to have the ADA focus on growing membership along with fiscal considerations such as the reimagined Smile Con. He mentioned the importance of the Culture of Safety work as well as conversations at the Board level about the role of oral health integration for overall health. He stated that a decision about the Give Vets A Smile follow up from the May Symposium will happen shortly.

Report of the Alliance of the ADA: Mr. Greg Mitro described the Alliance as the family support system of ADA membership which is focusing now on mental health and wellness. The Alliance will be having a meeting at the upcoming Smile Con which will include a charitable contribution project.

Report of the Council on Governmental Affairs: Dr. Mark Vitale and CGA Director Roxanne Yaghoubi provided an overview of CGA priorities including access to care for veterans through an MOU with the VA Center for Innovation. CGA is also examining workplace issues with current dental staff availability, designing a toolkit for dentists to keep their practices operational while called into military service

Report from State Government Affairs: Chad Olson provided the Council with an overview of the significant number of new state association executive directors throughout the tripartite. He also introduced Matt Rossetto, the new Manager for State Government Affairs, from Wisconsin. Paul O'Connor provided an update of state issues of particular concern to CAAP such as water fluoridation and health literacy bills. Of particular interest to the Council was the work related to insurance reform.

Communications Report: Ms. Katherine Merullo from Integrated Marketing and Communications reviewed outcomes from the “Oral Health is Health” campaign which offered education on ADA initiatives to beltway audiences. She covered the differences between earned and paid media while updating the Council on dentist who served as vaccinators during the past several months.

Dental Quality Alliance: Dr. Diptee Ojha and CAAP member Dr. Rob Margolin covered the newest developments within the Dental Quality Alliance, particularly the reality that quality indicator usage will be mandatory for practitioners in less than three years. This led to some robust conversation by the Council, with the result being a decision to focus significant time on this at the January 2023 Council meeting.

Special Order of Business: Dr. Natalia Chalmers shared the prioritization of health equity now within CMS. She covered the five pillars of activities within the framework of CMS which closely parallel the bullet points of the Health Equity resolution of CAAP which became policy last year.

This presentation was informational only and no action was requested

Report on Value / Values: Ms. Stephanie Moritz and Ms. April Kates Ellison shared with the Council the outcomes of a member survey on what matters to members. They covered the importance of understanding generational shift and how organizations must navigate this shift. This balance of organizational value offered and generational values represented within the organization is critical to growing membership. The role of the Councils is to help champion this change and transition.

Special Order of Business: Dr. Jill Keaton and a CDHC graduate offered perspective to the Council on the logistical importance of the Community Dental Health Coordinator program in Kentucky. The impact of this educational institution covers nearly half of the eastern portion of the state which adds relevance to the program. A recent graduate shared her moving story of helping connect children of incarcerated individuals to care and preventive home care materials.

Council Elections: Dr. Jim Mancini was elected Council Chair and Dr Liz Simpson was elected Vice Chair by acclamation

Report of the American Student Dental Association: Recent graduate Dr. Onalee Sortino shared how membership within ASDA has declined since some schools have dropped auto enrollment. Of the 68 ASDA chapters, 49 now have auto enrollment. Dr. Sortino also covered the advocacy items that ASDA has prioritized.

These reports were informational and no action was requested

Report of the Access and Advocacy Committee: Dr. Kristi Golden, Subcommittee Chair, provided an overview of this group which included the work of the Public Health Advisory and the Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee. Dr. Sid Whitman, Chair of the Medicaid Provider Advisory Committee and Dr. Rich

Herman, Chair of the Culture of Safety Workgroup shared updates from their respective advisory committees.

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 recommends that a state by state assessment of managed care organizations be conducted to determine what percentage of federal and state allocated Medicaid dollars is being spent annually for clinical dental services and what is being spent on program administration in order to determine an accurate dental loss ratio and establish a baseline for future evaluation, and be it further.

Resolved, that the American Dental Association recommends regular, documentable monitoring of the dental loss ratio, especially as differentiated from the encompassing medical loss ratio of the overall state Medicaid program, and be it further

Resolved, that the American Dental Association urges the Council for Dental Benefit Programs to revise its Medicaid Contract Toolkit template to include these recommendations in the request for proposals (RFPs) of managed care organizations to administer dental Medicaid programs.

Special Order of Business: Dr. Dave Preble, ADA Chief Strategy Officer, shared a background document which contained draft comments from ADA to CMS regarding medical necessity within the Medicare program for treatment of particular dental conditions. Follow up commentary from Council members would be gathered by Dr. Gupta for a formal Council response by the August 5th deadline.

Report of the Prime Subcommittee: Dr. Jim Mancini, Subcommittee Chair, offered the Council a comprehensive review of webinars offered since the January Council meeting and covered the importance of an HPV stakeholder group to be formed within this Subcommittee to prioritize the role of dental professionals in HPV vaccinations.

Upon vote, the Council approved modification of the resolution approved at the January Council meeting:

Resolved: that the ADA supports and encourages research and collaboration between dentists and other health care providers to help identify systemic diseases which are strongly suspected to have a direct relationship to a patient's oral health."

Update from the Health Policy Institute (HPI): Dr. Chelsea Fosse offered an update of recent developments in dental Medicaid programs and dental team staffing challenges. Key takeaways included the facts that dental practice schedules have been relatively full at 86% for the past few months and that dental team recruitment needs remains steady with roughly four in ten dentists recruiting assistants / hygienists.

Special Presentation: The Chair of the Council on Membership, Dr. Bogan, shared a resolution destined for the House of Delegates which expands ADA membership to dental team members. He presented survey data revealing member support for this concept. Some significant debate regarding the timing and details of this resolution were raised by CAAP members.

ADPAC Presentation: Dr. Brad Barnes, Chair of the American Dental Association Political Action Committee, shared the importance of advocacy for the dental profession during this election year. He covered the various aspects of ADPAC which oversee input from states about their advocacy priorities and mentioned the upcoming ADPAC Strategic Plan for the ADPAC Board to approve.

Dr. Barnes also shared his impactful and relevant veterans program which he holds in his office each year. This program was featured recently in the ADA Give Vets A Smile Symposium for its successful design and implementation.

Special Order of Business: Several staff representatives of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) shared a history and overview of the involvement of their organization in promoting oral health, preventive services and educational emphasis for pediatric residents. Specific attention was given to the Chapter Oral Health Advocates (COHAs) which was a program developed from 2008 with a grant from the ADA Foundation. These pediatricians are within a national network to support dental professionals in their local efforts regarding water fluoridation, Medicaid reforms and integration of oral health considerations within the primary care space.

Report of the Prevention Subcommittee: Dr. Shamik Vakil, Subcommittee Chair, offered the Council an overview of developments since the January Council meeting:

The 2023 National Children's Dental Health Month theme is "Brush Floss Smile" and showed the winning poster from the Columbia College Graphic Arts students. Discussion of the Sealant Workgroup goals for 2023 emerged as a core prevention strategy which aligns with the Healthy People 2030 plan from the Department of Health and Human Services.

This report was informational and no action was requested

Report of the New Dentist Committee – Dr. Brooke Fukuoka reported to the Council the impact of the "10 Under 10" awards which highlight the work of those dentists who are recent graduates yet are making significant progress in improving oral health in their communities.

Council Chairs Update: Several Council Chairs presented an update to CAAP about the initiatives within their Councils. Included in this segment were the Chairs of Dental Practice, Communications, Science as well as the Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs.

Smile Con Update: Many Council members will be attending and two current / former CAAP members will be serving on Reference Committees. Dr. Liz Lense gave a brief overview of the Health Equity Action Team launch which will be included in Smile Con activities.

Old Business: There was no old business

New Business: There was no new business

Review of Council Meeting Dates: Future meeting dates: January 12-13 2023 July 13-14 2023

The Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention was adjourned at 4:48 pm July 15, 2022.