

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON DENTAL PRACTICE
ADA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, CHICAGO
May 18-19, 2023**

Call to Order: The meeting of the Council on Dental Practice (CDP/the Council) was called to order by Dr. Manish Chopra, chair, at 8:00 a.m., May 18-19, 2023, Central Time in the Executive Board Room of the American Dental Association (ADA) Headquarters in Chicago.

Roll Call: The following Council members and liaisons were present for all or part of the meeting: Dr. Manish “Manny” Chopra (*chair*); Dr. Jeffrey C. Ottley (*vice chair*); Dr. Richard W. Barnes; Dr. Kamila L. Dornfeld; Dr. Amanda L. Fitzpatrick; Dr. David Fried; Dr. Margaret S. Gingrich; Dr. Payam Goudarzi; Dr. James W. Hollingsworth; Dr. Ralph L. Howell, Jr.; Dr. Michael J. Korch; Dr. Princy S. Rekhi; Dr. Shane A. Ricci; Dr. Genaro Romo, Jr.; Dr. Michael A. Saba; Dr. Lindsay A. Smith; Dr. Jennifer L. Thompson; Dr. ArNelle R. Wright (*New Dentist Member*); Dr. Brett H. Kessler (*Trustee*); and Mr. Gil Barahman (*American Student Dental Association*).

Following the roll call, the presence of a quorum was noted.

ADA Staff (for all or portions of the meeting): Dr. Raymond Cohlma; Mr. Robert Quashie; Dr. Dave Preble; Ms. April Kates-Ellison; Thomas Elliott, Jr., Esq.; Jeffrey Fraum, Esq.; Ms. Roxanne Yaghoubi; Mr. Chad Olson; and Mr. Matt Rossetto.

Practice Institute Staff: Dr. Krishna Aravamudhan; Dr. Hana Alberti; Dr. Diane Metrick; Dr. Jane Grover; Dr. Neel Shimpi; Ms. Sharon Stanford; Ms. Rebekah Fiehn; Ms. Barbara Ferriter; Mr. Paul Bralower; Ms. Kathy Medic; Ms. Felicia Bloom; Ms. Katie McManus; Ms. GraceAnn Pastorelli; Ms. Stacy Starnes; and Ms. Nicole Tarbor.

Guests Present: Mr. Bennett Napier, CAE, chief staff executive, National Association of Dental Laboratories (NADL); Ms. Heather Voss, CDT, MBA, president, NADL; Dr. Natalia Chambers, chief dental officer, Office of the Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS); Robert McNeill, D.D.S., M.D., dentist wellness key opinion leader; Dr. Linda Edgar, president-elect, ADA; Dr. Bruce Burton, chair, Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs (CEBJA); Dr. Dan Gesek, chair, Council on Government Affairs (CGA); Dr. Jim Mancini, chair, Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention (CAAP); Dr. Stacey Gardner, vice chair, Council on Dental Benefit Programs (CDBP); Dr. James Nickman, chair, Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL); Dr. Purnima Kumar, vice chair, Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA); and Dr. Nipa Thakkar, chair, Council on Membership (CM).

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement and Confidentiality Statement: The Chair referenced the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement included on the agenda and called for disclosures of potential conflicts of interest. The Confidentiality Statement was also discussed.

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was unanimously adopted and approved by general consent with the permission for the chair to reorder items as needed.

Approval of Consent Calendar: A consent calendar was prepared to expedite the business of the Council. Council members had the opportunity to remove any item from the consent calendar for consideration during the general meeting.

Consent Calendar: The Council adopted the following resolutions.

Resolved, that the resolutions contained with the following reports be approved by consent:

- Recording of Results of E-ballots

1 **Resolved**, that the following reports be filed:

- 2 • 2023 Practice Institute Operating Plan Update
- 3 • Guidance on 3D Printing Technology
- 4 • ASB 40 Standard 133:2022 Standard for Age Estimation in Forensic Anthropology
- 5 Update
- 6 • Dental Office Piping Regulations: NFPA Update
- 7 • Air Quality in Dental Offices: ASHRAE Update
- 8 • Guidelines for Practice Success—Financial and Dental Team Management Module
- 9 Updates
- 10 • Design Innovation Award Update on Selection Criteria
- 11 • Resolution 304H-2022 Social Media Reviews and Reputation Management
- 12 • Resolution 303H-2022 Advocacy for Dentists to Refer to Tobacco and Vaping
- 13 Cessation Quitlines
- 14 • Allied Organization Reports
- 15 • Wellness Ambassador Program
- 16 • ADA Health and Well-Being Summit
- 17 • Resources for Pregnant Dental Professionals
- 18 • Opioid Prescribing
- 19 • Resolution 212H-2022 Insurance and Extended Paid Leave

20 **Recording of Mail Ballots:** The Council adopted the following resolution through the consent calendar.

21 **Resolved**, that actions approved through E-ballots since the CDP November 2022 meeting be
22 recorded in the minutes of this meeting.

23 E-ballot 2023-01:

24 **Resolved**, that the Council on Dental Practice approve the CDP November 10-11, 2022 meeting
25 minutes.

26 **Dr. Manny Chopra, chair:** Dr. Chopra welcomed the Council and encouraged the CDP to be engaged
27 and assist communication of CDP content, such as the promotional videos, throughout the states in their
28 district.

29 **Dr. Brett Kessler, trustee liaison, Eighth District:** Dr. Kessler updated the Council on the outcome of
30 the Board retreat which included a “why” statement of “we make people healthy”. The Board has
31 established a Task Force on The Future of Oral Health and a Sugar Task Force to study the effects of
32 sugar on oral health. Dr. Kessler serves as chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and
33 encourages Council members to join the Champions Network and make recommendations for
34 participants in the Institute for Diversity and Leadership. As Board Committee chair of the ADA Science
35 Research Institute, he discussed the significance of research in Chicago and Maryland. As the Board
36 liaison to the Standards program, Dr Kessler shared the significant impact of this program to daily working
37 of dentists and described how all of these experiences collectively allow the ADA to be the voice of the
38 profession.

39 **Dr. Linda Edgar, president-elect:** Dr. Edgar notes that the ADA is transforming organizational
40 processes through strategic forecasting. She noted the need to clearly state value of ADA membership
41 and requested feedback from the Council on this effort.

42 **2023 Practice Institute Operating Plan Results:** The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar,
43 an informational report detailing the status of the Practice Institute 2023 Operating Plan.

44 **RELEVANT ADA INITIATIVES**

45 **ADA Executive Director Presentation:** Dr. Cohlma presented on Continuing the ADA’s New Day
46 Defining Our Future. He reported on the structure of the ADA and several trends in dentistry, which

1 include changing technology, dentist demographics, patient expectations, declining ownership and
2 continued practice consolidation. He also updated the Council on the ADA strategic forecast plan and
3 how the ADA will use evolving technology within the strategic plan.

4 **EMERGING ISSUES**

5 **Culture of Change:** Ms. Kates-Ellison presented on the ADA's efforts to improve its diversity, equity and
6 inclusion initiative to welcome the younger generation of dentists who embrace both organizational value
7 and values. She encouraged the Council, who are part of ADA leadership, to complete the Spectra
8 Assessment (self-assessment tool), join the ADA Champions Network, take the one-hour CE Course,
9 "Culture of Change: Building a Coalition for the ADA's Future," listen in on past Amplifying Voices
10 webinars, and promote the why for Culture of Change across the tripartite.

11 **Medicare:** Dr. Aravamudhan updated the Council on the recent CMS regulations that include payment for
12 dental services prior to certain medical procedures like cardiac value replacement, head and neck cancer
13 therapy, etc. She noted that the CDBP will be moving policy revisions to the 2023 House of Delegates
14 seeking to clearly state ADA position on inclusion of a dental benefit for medically compromised
15 individuals.

16 **DIGITAL DENTISTRY TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

17 **Federal Government Dental Interoperability:** Dr. Chalmers presented "Oral Health: An Evidence and
18 Data-Driven Approach to Achieve Better Health, Equity, and Fiscal responsibility" including the
19 government's approach to interoperability. She noted that CMS has included oral health as a cross-
20 cutting initiative across all its programs, a significant achievement for dentistry. .

21 **Dental Informatics and Interoperability:** Dr. Saba, Ms. Fiehn, and Ms. McManus presented preliminary
22 findings from the Dental Provider Survey on Health Information Technology in the Dental Office. Results
23 from the survey will be published and will be utilized to establish a baseline understanding of the use of
24 electronic dental records and practice management software. Dr. Saba led discussion on emerging
25 issues in health information exchange. Topics included dental provider participation in Health Information
26 Exchanges (HIEs), dental procedures in United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI), and ADA's
27 engagement with federal health information technology regulations and agencies. Dr. Chopra urged the
28 Digital Dentistry, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee to continue to understand the status of ADA
29 standards on these topics.

30 **Ethics in Augmented Intelligence:** Dr. Burton, chair and Mr. Elliott, director, CEBJA discussed CEBJA's
31 approach to provide guidance on ethical considerations in the use of Augmented Intelligence (AI) in
32 Dentistry. Dr. Robert Faiella had presented to the CEBJA meeting in April. CEBJA asked CDP to
33 collaborate on this topic.

34 **Guidance on 3D Printing Technology:** The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an
35 informational report on Guidance on 3D Printing Technology.

36 **National Association of Dental Laboratories (NADL) Update:** Mr. Napier and Ms. Voss responded to
37 questions from the chair, regarding lab fabrication trends and Certified Dental Technician training for
38 digital workflow. The chair welcomed them to continue exchanging information on these topics with an
39 invite to a future Digital Dentistry technology and Innovation subcommittee meeting.

40 **ADA STANDARDS PROGRAM**

41 **Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI) and Standards Committee on Dental Products**
42 **(SCDP) Reorganization:** Ms. Stanford reported that many standards being developed by the SCDP and
43 SCDI were increasingly overlapping in subject matters. She also noted the significant overlap between
44 national and international standards activities. She presented the proposed reorganization of the ADA
45 Standards program and noted that it was developed to prioritize items, streamline the development and
46 adoption of standards and U.S. representation in international standards, and ensure that standards
47 being developed have appropriate subject matter experts voting on the content. Upon discussion, the

Council adopted the following resolutions.

Resolved, that the restructure of the ADA Standards Program and adoption of the Operating Rules be transmitted to the ADA Board of Trustees.

Resolved, that the newly established ADA Standards Program Oversight Committee be authorized to monitor and adopt changes to the Operating Rules, as necessitated by the American National Standards Institute Essential Requirements.

SCDI and SCDP Report: Ms. Stanford provided a report on activities of the products and informatics standards committees.

ASB 40 Standard 133:2022 Standard for Age Estimation in Forensic Anthropology Update: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on ASB 40 Standard 133:2022 Standard for Age Estimation in Forensic Anthropology.

Dental Piping Regulations: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Update: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the activities of NFPA.

Air Quality in Dental Offices: American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Update: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the activities of ASHRAE.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

Guidelines for Practice Success (GPS)—Managing Finances Module Update and Managing the Dental Team Module Update: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on GPS—Managing Finances Module and Managing the Dental Team Module Updates.

Design Innovation Award Update on Selection Criteria: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the Design Innovation award update on selection criteria.

Resolution 304H-2022 Social Media Reviews and Reputation Management: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on Resolution 304H-2022.

Review of CDP Policies: In accordance with Resolution 170H-2012, Reaffirming Existing ADA Policy, all Association policies are to be reviewed every five years. The Council's Subcommittee on Policy and Emerging Issues Subcommittee is charged with reviewing the policies assigned to CDP and forwarding its recommendations to the Council. Forty-one policies were reviewed with 39 policies retained and two policies amended.

Resolved, that the identified ADA policy recommendations be retained and included in the Council's annual report to the 2023 House of Delegates.

The Council reviewed proposed recommendations to retain, amend or rescind policies submitted by the CGA, CSA and CDBP.

Resolved, that the proposed recommendations to retain, amend or rescind the policies submitted by the CGA, CSA and CDBP be approved and that the respective Councils be notified.

Use of Environmentally Conscientious Measures in the Production, Packaging and Shipping of Dental Products (Trans.2013:314): Dr. Fried proposed that the ADA promote this policy to help dental offices become more sustainable. Upon discussion the Council adopted the following resolution.

Resolved, that the Practice and Policy Subcommittee identify the activities of other healthcare organizations, associations, academic centers and industry related to reduction of pollution and waste generated from healthcare setting and assess this information to determine potential role for ADA to reduce waste from dental practice settings.

Policies Sent to the HOD: The Council reviewed proposed amendments to two CDP policies.

Resolved, that the amendment to the policy titled Statement to Encourage U.S. Dental Schools to Interact with U.S. Dental Laboratories (*Trans.*2010:547), be transmitted to the 2023 House of Delegates.

Dr. Thompson proposed an edit to the proposed amendment Guiding Principles for Dentist Well-being Activities at the State Level for consistent language, (additions are underscoring and deletions ~~stricken~~).

State Constituent and component dental societies are encouraged to engage with state regulatory agencies in their mission to protect the public and providing support for dentists by eliminating barriers to reducing stigma associated with seeking services needed to address mental health challenges.

Resolved, that the amendment to the policy, with edit, titled Guiding Principles for Dentist Well-Being Activities at the State Level (*Trans.*2005:330; 2012:442), be transmitted to the 2023 House of Delegates.

Resolution 303H-2022 Advocacy for Dentists to Refer to Tobacco and Vaping Cessation Quit Lines: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on Resolution 303H-2022.

Allied Organization Report: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the American Dental Assistant Association.

LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY UPDATE

Division Of Government and Public Affairs/ Washington Office Report: Dr. Gesek reported that the CGA advocates for issues relevant to the work of CDP, such as workforce shortages, health IT and mental health. Ms. Yaghoubi provided an update on ADA Dentist and Student Lobby Day in Washington D.C., the Bio Preparedness Work Force Pilot Program and several bills that CGA is working on of interest to CDP, such as the MATE Act, Substance Abuse Disorder prescriber rules and how they align with HIPAA, and social media reviews. She encouraged the CDP members to become involved in advocacy through the Grassroots Advocacy Action website.

State Government Affairs Update (SGA): Mr. Olson reported that SGA is focused on dental insurance reform and workforce issues. Mr. Rossetto provided an update on current workforce legislation in various states, which include dental assistant examinations bill, dental assistant licensing expansion bill, dental hygienists loan forgiveness program, Expanded Functions Dental Assistant and Dental Therapy bills and the Dentist and Hygienist Licensing Compact.

ELDER CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

National Elder Care Advisory Committee (NECAC) Update: Dr. Dornfeld informed the Council that all NECAC projects are complete, and no immediate future needs have been identified. Upon discussion, the Council adopted the following resolution.

Resolved, that the Council appreciates NECAC's valuable work and understands that all planned activities are now complete.

And be it further,

Resolved, that NECAC be placed on an indefinite hiatus until further needs emerge.

DENTAL TEAM HEALTH WELLNESS & WELL-BEING (DWAC)

Dr. Robert McNeill: Dr. McNeill presented on dental team health, wellness and well-being. As a key advocate on wellness, he encouraged CDP to be proactive with regards to wellness initiatives that includes both the perspective of the state boards of dentistry and dental associations. Dr. McNeill summarized the 2018 Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) report on physician wellness and burnout which include:

- Considering whether it necessary to include probing questions about mental health, addiction, or substance use
- Focusing only on current impairment
- Approaching from a non-punitive perspective offering “safe have” non-reporting options, and
- Making meaningful contributions to the ongoing national dialogue

The FSMB recommends that professional medical societies and organizations representing physicians work with state medical boards to raise awareness among the public about the importance of physician wellness, not only because of its inherent value to physicians themselves, but also as a significant contributor to patient safety.

ADA Wellness Strategy: Proposal: Dr. Kamila Dornfeld, chair, DWAC presented information reviewed by DWAC that forms the basis of the wellness strategy. Many existing efforts of the ADA, including surveys, webinars, the Wellness Ambassador Program, use of the Mayo clinic Well-being Index, coalition building via new annual Health and Well-Being Summit, align with the National Plan priority areas as outlined by the National Academy of Medicine. Inclusion of non-dentists, such as hygienists, psychologists, and alliance members of DWAC and dentists of various practice modalities serving as Wellness Ambassadors, assists in building a broader dental team approach to this serious topic. She led the discussion with CDP on this proposed strategy as barriers need to be addressed to allow providers to utilize needed assistance. Dr Thompson requested that CDP assist in collecting information as to what the states are asking on licensure application renewals to help move strategy forward. Dr Ricci asked about opportunities for repeated “just in time” messaging promoting available assistance. Dr. Dornfeld presented the following as the proposed strategy to address wellness issues.

Engage in the following activities in addition to the Wellness Ambassador program and the Health and Well-Being Summit:

- Continue to identify and develop resources for the dental team to prevent wellness issues
- Evaluate “Utilization of Well-Being Programs” as measure of success for Ambassadors and any state legislative activity
- Pilot use of Ambassadors as a means to educate state dental boards on issues related to wellness
- Identify “just in time” touchpoints both within ADA tools and state agency tools to promote availability of resources
- Explore possibility of creating a provider self-screening tool
- Identify pilot states interested in advocacy and support any state-level advocacy to:
 - Encourage dental licensing boards, credentialing bodies, and professional liability insurance carriers to support at least one of the following approaches for application disclosure:
 - Implement an Attestation Model that offers “safe haven” non-reporting option for those who are under treatment and in good standing with a recognized physician health program or appropriate provider.
 - Ensure that the application health disclosure question is consistent with the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) recommended language that addresses all mental and physical health conditions as one, with no added explanation, asterisks, or fine print as follows:
“Are you currently suffering from any condition for which you are not being appropriately treated that impairs your judgement or that would otherwise adversely affect your ability to practice medicine in a competent, ethical, and professional manner? (Yes/No)”

- Secure funding for training programs to reduce and prevent burnout
- Secure funding to identify best practices for policy changes in the state
- Prevent insurance companies from punitive credentialing decisions for providers seeking support for disorders if licensing board policies are followed
- Support adoption of The Federation of State Physician Health Programs best practices for treatment of providers in recovery
- Compile a toolkit for advocacy in additional states around wellness issues

Upon further discussion and vote, the Council adopted the following resolution.

Resolved, that the health disclosure question, on applications of dental licensing boards, credentialing bodies, and professional liability insurance carriers, use language consistent with the Federation of State Medical Boards or implement an Attestation Model that offers “safe haven” non reporting option for those who are under treatment and in good standing with a recognized physician health program or appropriate provider,

And be it further,

Resolved, that the approach to improve dental team wellness as outlined by the DWAC be approved.

Wellness Ambassador Program: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the activities of the Wellness Ambassador Program.

ADA Health and Well-being Summit: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the activities of the ADA Health and Well-Being Summit.

Resources for Pregnant Dental Professionals—Updating GPS Module on Managing Pregnancy and Webinar on Postpartum Depression: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the resources for pregnant dental professionals.

Opioid Prescribing: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on opioid prescribing.

Resolution 212H-2022 Insurance and Extended Paid Leave: The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational report on the activities on Resolution 212H-2022.

LIAISON/CONSULTANT REPORTS

American Student Dental Association (ASDA): Mr. Barahman updated the Council on the activities of ASDA, which includes membership statistics, national initiatives, national meetings and its strategic plan. He requested that ASDA have representation at the ADA Dentist Health and Well-Being Summit scheduled for September 8, 2023 at the ADA. He also asked that the Well-Being Index be opened to dental students.

New Dentist Member (NDC): Dr. Wright reported that the NDC submitted recommendations to the ADA Board of Trustees related to increasing membership and communication outreach efforts. NDC engages with new dentists through its new online townhall series, held quarterly. The NDC and Diversity and Inclusion Committee collaborated to create the “Amplifying Voices” series of open conversation on diversity and inclusion topics. The NDC has begun Connect, Huddle and Talk (CHAT) conversations, which have included talks on depression, student debt and other topics. The Committee also supports new dentists’ transition into practice and organized dentistry.

Dental Quality Alliance (DQA) and Registry: Dr. Aravamudhan provided the history of the DQA. At the request of CMS, ADA established DQA as a way to provide scientifically sound measures for quality of oral health care to be used by CMS. She encouraged the Council to review the online state oral health care dashboard and for CDP to share at state level.

COUNCIL OPERATIONS

Council Meeting Dates: The May 2024 meeting dates have been changed from May 16-17 to May 9-10 due to a meeting conflict with the ADA Board of Trustees.

Election of Council Vice Chair: The Council elected, by acclamation, Dr. Shane Ricci, Fifteenth district to serve as CDP Vice Chair until the close of the 2024 meeting of the ADA House of Delegates.

Election of Council Chair: The Council elected, by acclamation, Dr. Jeffrey Ottley, Seventeenth district, to serve as CDP Chair until the close of the 2024 meeting of the ADA House of Delegates.

Council Chair Remarks: Several ADA Council chairs were invited to share updates on activities within their councils via Zoom.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the Council meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon CT on Friday, May 19, 2023.