Health Literacy in Dentistry Action Plan 2010-2015

National Oral Health Conference
April 26-28, 2010
Saint Louis, MO

ADA American Dental Association®
Presenter Disclosure

Gary D. Podschun

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

1. Employee, American Dental Association
Health Literacy in Dentistry: Definition

“...the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate oral health decisions.” 1, 2, 3

3 ADA House of Delegates (2006)
Health Literacy in Dentistry: Definition

“The ability to access, understand, appraise and communicate information to engage with the demands of health contexts to promote health.” ¹

¹ Rootman et al., 2005
HL in Dentistry Action Plan: Overview

- ADA Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations (CAPIR) in cooperation with its ad hoc advisory committee
- 2010-2015
- Set of principles, goals and strategies
- NOT a “to do list” *per se*
- Flexible and dynamic, not static
National Advisory Committee on HL in Dentistry

Philip Barbell, DDS (Co-Chair)
Ricky Bass, MD, MS, MPH
Phyllis Beemsterboer, EdD
Jill Griffiths
Alice Horowitz, PhD
James Hyde, MA
CAPT Arlene Lester, DDS, MPH
Linda Neuhauser, DrPH

Gary Rozier, DDS, MPH (Co-Chair)
Rima Rudd, ScD
Joanne Schwartzberg, MD
William Smith, EdD
Ex Officio
Heather B. Heddens, DDS (CAPIR)
Gayle Reardon, DDS (CC)
Dan Hammer (ASDA)
HL in Dentistry Action Plan: Focus Areas

1. TRAINING AND EDUCATION (Change Perceptions of Oral Health)

2. ADVOCACY (Overcome Barriers by Replicating Effective Programs)

3. RESEARCH (Build the Science Base and Accelerate Science Transfer)

4. DENTAL PRACTICE (Oral Health Workforce Diversity, Capacity, and Flexibility)

5. BUILD AND MAINTAIN COALITIONS (Increase Collaborations)
TRAINING AND EDUCATION: Increase the understanding of health literacy in relation to oral health and quality of life.
ADVOCACY: Persuade legislators, regulators and other key decision makers that health literacy is a priority public health concern, leading to increased funding and other practical support for health literacy related education, research and interventions.
RESEARCH: Build the science base and accelerate science transfer related to health literacy in dentistry and in cooperation with other health disciplines.
DENTAL PRACTICE: Improve communication and patient understanding in dental practice.
BUILD AND MAINTAIN COALITIONS:
Establish health literacy as a priority issue for dental and other health related organizations.
THANK YOU!

Gary Podschun, manager,
Community Outreach and Cultural Competence
American Dental Association
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

312-440-7487
PodschunG@ada.org