Minnesota and CODA: Moving Forward Together

National Oral Health Conference
Karl Self, DDS, MBA, FACD
Dental Therapy in Action

• Minnesota has been educating Dental Therapists since 2009

• Two Educational Programs
  – Metropolitan State University and Normandale Community College (MnSCU)
  – University of Minnesota School of Dentistry (UMN)

• All graduates eligible for Advanced Dental Therapy (ADT) certification
Dental Therapy Programs in MN

1. Prerequisites:
   - MN Licensed Dental Hygienist
   - Baccalaureate degree
   - Completion restorative functions training
   - 1,000 hrs. practice in DH
   - Professional portfolio submission

2. Length of Program: (Previously)
   - 18 months
   - Full-time commitment

1. Prerequisites: (Previously)
   - Baccalaureate degree
   - Pre-professional courses (32 credits)
   - History of academic success
   - History of volunteerism or community involvement

2. Length of Programs: (Previously)
   - 28 months
   - Full-time commitment
NEW Dual Degree Dental Hygiene/Dental Therapy Program

1. Prerequisites: (Previously)
   - Baccalaureate degree
   - Pre-professional courses (32 credits)
   - History of academic success
   - History of volunteerism or community involvement

2. Length of Programs: (Previously)
   - 28 months
   - Full-time commitment

1. Prerequisites: (Fall 2016)
   - Baccalaureate degree NOT REQUIRED
   - Pre-professional courses (32 credits)
   - History of academic success
   - History of volunteerism or community involvement

2. Length of Programs: (Fall 2016)
   - 32 months
   - Full-time commitment
### Minnesota DT: Graduates by Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>UMN</th>
<th>MNSCU</th>
<th>CUM TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016*</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017*</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Anticipated
MN Dental Therapist: Employment Stats

- 54 Licensed Dental Therapists (March 2016)
  - 21 of those have achieved ADT certification

- Pie chart showing the distribution of dental therapists:
  - Private practice: 44%
  - Non-profit clinic: 26%
  - Large group clinic: 10%
  - FQHC: 12%
  - Educational institution: 5%
  - Hospital: 3%
Dental Therapy Employment Sites by County

20 different counties!
MN Dental Therapy: Review of Impact and Effectiveness

- Decreased travel and wait times
- Clinics saw more new underserved and Medicaid patients
- Increased dental team productivity
- Reduced clinic operating costs
- No complaints or concerns about quality or safety
- DTs working in a variety of treatment settings
Request for Accreditation

- September 2009, MN Board of Dentistry (BOD) initiates formal request for accreditation process
  - Law required graduation from a dental therapy education program that has been approved by the board or accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or another board-approved national accreditation organization

- Separate requests from UMN, MN Dental Association, and MNSCU followed

- Requests were for an “expedited process” to consider accreditation
Input to CODA DT Standards

• Facilitated by the MN BOD, MN DT stakeholders submitted joint recommendations in 2013 and 2014 to the draft standards
  – MN Board of Dentistry
  – MN Department of Health
  – MN DH Association
  – MN DH Educators’ Association
  – MNSCU
  – UMN
Response to Criteria #2 & #5

- Facilitated by the UMN, same stakeholder group supported a joint response
- Response was comprehensive and included both US and International information
  - 1425 pages
  - 78 Supporting documents
MN DT Programs: Now What?

- BOD initially created “Program Requirements for Dental Therapist and Advanced Dental Therapist Programs in the State of Minnesota” for DT program approval

- Both dental therapy programs have met the BOD’s program approval process
  - 2010 provisional approval
  - 2013 final approval
MN DT Programs: Now What?

• MN “Program Requirements” vs CODA guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MN DT Requirements</th>
<th>CODA DT Standards</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Institutional Infrastructure</td>
<td>1 - Institutional Effectiveness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - Program Planning and Assessment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Education Program</td>
<td>2 - Educational Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - Program Administration, Faculty and Staff</td>
<td>3 - Faculty and Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - Educational Support Services</td>
<td>4 - Educational Support Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - Patient Care Services</td>
<td>5 - Health, Safety, and Patient Care Provisions</td>
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MN DT Programs: Now What?

- Comparison of two specific standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MN DT Requirements</th>
<th>CODA DT Standards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-1 “... program must develop a mission statement appropriate to oral health education that addresses teaching, patient care, scholarship and service.”</td>
<td>1-1 “... program must develop a clearly stated purpose/mission statement appropriate to dental therapy education, addressing teaching, patient care, research and service.</td>
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<td>3-18 “Graduates must be competent to apply interpersonal and communication skills to empathetically care for diverse patient populations and function within the health care environment.”</td>
<td>2-13 “Graduates must be competent in managing a diverse patient population and have the interpersonal and communications skills to function successfully in a multicultural work environment.”</td>
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MN DT Programs: Now What?

- Both dental therapy programs are currently “approved” until 2020
- UMN anticipates a thoughtful application process
Dental Therapy Nationally: Now What?

- Consistency in Education
- Guidance for Policy Makers
- Establishment of DT as a Profession
  - Opportunity for DT Professional Identity
  - Opportunity for DT Professional Cohesion
- Employment Portability
Dental Therapy Nationally: Now What?

• Opportunity to assess DTs contribution to the Quadruple Aim

• UMN efforts include:
  – Team based care
  – Rural Oral Health pro
  – Integrating ADT into a NP clinic
Questions?