CODA and DHAT

Mary Williard, DDS
Director, DHAT Educational Program

National Oral Health Conference
Wednesday, April 20, 2016
Cincinnati, Ohio
DHAT Students Kate Kohl, Trisha Patton dissecting a cow heart
The principles, competencies, and curriculum for educating dental therapists: a report of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry Panel

jphd_263 9..19, Caswell Evans, DDS, MPH
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry, Associate Dean for Prevention and Public Health Sciences

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN DENTISTRY: ADDRESSING ACCESS TO CARE

Volume 71 - Supplement 2 - Spring 2011
Commission on Dental Accreditation

Accreditation Standards for Dental Therapy Education Programs

Commission on Dental Accreditation
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2678
(312) 440-4653
www.ada.org/en/coda
Effective: February 6, 2015

*Allied health program*
STANDARD 2-EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (CODA)

2-1
• The curriculum must include at least three academic years of full-time instruction or its equivalent at the postsecondary college-level.

2-11
• Biomedical science instruction in dental therapy education must ensure an understanding of basic biological principles, consisting of a core of information on the fundamental structures, functions and interrelationships of the body systems in each of the following areas:
  • a. head and neck and oral anatomy b. oral embryology and histology c. physiology d. chemistry e. biochemistry f. microbiology g. immunology h. general pathology and/or pathophysiology i. nutrition j. pharmacology
• *Didactic dental sciences content* must ensure an understanding of basic dental principles, consisting of a core of information in each of the following areas within the scope of dental therapy:
  - a. tooth morphology
  - b. oral pathology
  - c. oral medicine
  - d. radiology
  - e. periodontology
  - f. cariology
  - g. atraumatic restorative treatment (ART)
  - h. operative dentistry
  - i. pain management
  - j. dental materials
  - k. dental disease etiology and epidemiology
  - l. preventive counseling and health promotion
  - m. patient management
  - n. pediatric dentistry
  - o. geriatric dentistry
  - p. medical and dental emergencies
  - q. oral surgery
  - r. prosthodontics
  - s. infection and hazard control management, including provision of oral health care services to patients with bloodborne infectious diseases.

• 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.
At a minimum, graduates must be competent in providing oral health care within the scope of dental therapy practice with supervision as defined by the state practice acts, including:

- a. identify oral and systemic conditions requiring evaluation and/or treatment by dentists, physicians or other healthcare providers, and manage referrals
- b. comprehensive charting of the oral cavity
- c. oral health instruction and disease prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis
- d. exposing radiographic images
- e. dental prophylaxis including sub-gingival scaling and/or polishing procedures
- f. dispensing and administering via the oral and/or topical route non-narcotic analgesics, anti-inflammatory, and antibiotic medications as prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider
- g. applying topical preventive or prophylactic agents (i.e. fluoride), including fluoride varnish, antimicrobial agents, and pit and fissure sealants
- h. pulp vitality testing
- i. applying desensitizing medication or resin
- j. fabricating athletic mouthguards
- k. changing periodontal dressings
- l. administering local anesthetic
- m. simple extraction of erupted primary teeth
- n. emergency palliative treatment of dental pain limited to the procedures in this section
- o. preparation and placement of direct restoration in primary and permanent teeth
- p. fabrication and placement of single-tooth temporary crowns
- q. preparation and placement of preformed crowns on primary teeth
- r. indirect and direct pulp capping on permanent teeth
- s. indirect pulp capping on primary teeth
- t. suture removal
- u. minor adjustments and repairs on removable prostheses
- v. removal of space maintainers
The program director must be a **licensed dentist (DDS/DMD)** or a licensed dental therapist possessing a master’s or higher degree. The director must be a graduate of a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and who has background in education and the professional experience necessary to understand and fulfill the program’s mission and goals.
4-3  

- Admission of students with **advanced standing** must be based on the same standards of achievement required by students regularly enrolled in the program. Advanced standing requirements for career laddering into a dental therapy program must meet advanced standing requirements of the college or university offering advanced standing for dental therapy.
The process of preparing for CODA will lead to many good things for DHAT!

- Mobility
- Student loan eligibility
- Foreign students
- Other avenues for funding
- Transferable credits

DHAT instructor
Anthony Brusca, DDS,
supervising student
Melanie Harris
### DRAFT

#### YEAR 1 (ANCHORAGE)

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General Education Courses taken through Iḷisaġvik to be distributed over the course of the six semesters:

- **COMM 131** (3cr)
- **BUS 109** (3cr) or **ENGL 111** (3cr)
- **MATH 194** (3cr) or **MATH 105** (3cr) or **MATH 107** (4cr)
Dental Therapy Education: How much is enough?

• Historically- 2 years

• Trend- 3 years for dually qualified Hygiene/Therapist

• one 2-year program with multiple entry points and prior learning credit.

“Education is more than a luxury; it is a responsibility that society owes to itself.” ~Robin Cook
OUR VISION:
Alaska Native people are the healthiest people in the world.

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