Building a Culture of Health: Interprofessional Tools and Partnerships to Expand Oral Health Workforce Capacity

Initiative activities are made possible as a result of funding from the DentaQuest Foundation, the Washington Dental Service Foundation, and the REACH Healthcare Foundation
Medicine and Dentistry - Separate Systems

 Seeing the Dentist and the Physician, by Age Group

111 Million

27 Million

• **Consortium:** Funders and health professionals
• **Vision:** Eradicate dental disease
• **Mission:** Engage primary care team
• **Focus:** Integrate oral health into primary care education + practice
• **Function:** “Backbone” support organization
The Opportunity for Change

Interprofessional Competencies
The “What” and “How”

Collective Impact
Interprofessional Initiative Activities

Cultivate Leadership

Facilitate Interprofessional Learning & Agreement

Develop Tools (e.g., curriculum)

Health Professional Education Systems
- Teach Oral Health
- Adopt Interprofessional Culture

Primary Care Clinicians Ready
- To deliver oral health services
- To work with dentists

Optimal Oral Health

External Factors
- Access to Care
- Patient Motivation
- Appropriate Reimbursement

Collective Impact

June 28, 2012
A Growing Population of Users

Close to 1 million visits
183,993 courses completed for credit
Facilitate Interprofessional Agreement
Resources

Smiles for Life
A national oral health curriculum

Patient Education Handouts
Click on the images below to download patient education handouts to display in waiting or examination rooms or to give to patients directly.

English
Russian
Vietnamese
Spanish
Cambodian
Smiles for Life Survey

Key Question:
• How does Smiles for Life influence practice?
How Does SFL Influence Practice?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct caries risk assessments (n=248)</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct oral health exams with patients (n=203)</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide anticipatory guidance on oral health (n=385)</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply fluoride varnish when indicated (n=260)</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct oral cancer screening exams (n=95)</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer patients for dental care (n=417)</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Influence on practice means that providers reported that Smiles for Life influenced their practice of oral health activities in one or more of the following three ways: (1) led them to start performing oral health activities; (2) allowed them to perform oral health activities more regularly, and (3) helped them perform oral health activities better. The n’s on this chart indicate the number of providers who reported performing each activity.*
Influence on 6 Key Activities

Refer patients for dental care (n=177)
- Started: 7%
- Do more regularly: 29%
- Do better: 38%
- No impact: 38%

Provide anticipatory guidance on oral health (n=385)
- Started: 13%
- Do more regularly: 35%
- Do better: 60%
- No impact: 14%

Apply fluoride varnish when indicated (n=260)
- Started: 47%
- Do more regularly: 22%
- Do better: 35%
- No impact: 15%
Influence on 6 Key Activities

1. Conduct caries risk assessments (n=248)
   - Started: 19%
   - Do more regularly: 32%
   - Do better: 58%
   - No impact: 11%

2. Conduct annual oral exams with patients (n=203)
   - Started: 14%
   - Do more regularly: 37%
   - Do better: 60%
   - No impact: 13%

3. Conduct oral cancer screening exams (n=95)
   - Started: 14%
   - Do more regularly: 23%
   - Do better: 50%
   - No impact: 25%
Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care

Oral Health Delivery Framework

5 actions primary care teams can take to protect and promote their patients' oral health. Within the scope of practice for primary care; possible to implement in diverse practice settings.

Preventive interventions:
- Fluoride therapy
- Dietary counseling to protect teeth and gums
- Oral hygiene training
- Therapy for substance use
- Medication changes to address dry mouth
- Chlorhexidine rinse

Citation: Huramal J, Phillips KE, Holt B, Hayes C. Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care. Seattle, WA: Qualis Health; June 2015
19 diverse healthcare delivery organizations: Private practices, Federally Qualified Health Centers; medical only and on-site dental

Adults with diabetes (12), pediatrics (5), pregnancy (1), adult well visits (1)

eCW (5), EPIC (8), NextGen (2), Centricity (2), Success EHS (2)

Using population health to address “missed opportunities”
Field-Testing Results Informed the Creation of the Implementation Guide and Tools

“Oral Health Integration Implementation Guide”
Toolkit for primary care teams (Released 10/10/16)

What’s in the Guide?
• Workflow maps
• Referral agreements
• Patient engagement strategies
• Patient/family education resources
• EHR templates
• Case examples
• Impact data and more


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What we have learned

• Organizational change process requires system-wide intervention

• Having the right people, right place, right reason can change ideas and practice

• A key is having the right tools and strategies to impact knowledge, skills and attitudes of providers

• We cannot achieve our vision of “oral health for all” unless we change our approach to oral health care

• Integration and collaboration is key, we can’t do this alone!
Support From

LEARN MORE:

Resources available at:
www.QualisHealth.org/white-paper
www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org

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