

ADHA

***The Advanced
Dental Hygiene
Practitioner***

teamwork

teamwork

ADHA Mission Statement

To improve the public's total health, the **mission** of the American Dental Hygienists' Association is to advance the art and science of dental hygiene by ensuring access to quality oral health care, increasing awareness of the cost-effective benefits of prevention, promoting the highest standards of dental hygiene education, licensure, practice and research and representing and promoting the interests of dental hygienists.



ADVANCED DENTAL HYGIENE PRACTITIONER



ADHP Policies

- The American Dental Hygienists' Association advocates the creation of an advanced dental hygiene practitioner who provides diagnostic, preventive, restorative and therapeutic services ***directly to the public***.
- The American Dental Hygienists' Association supports a ***standardized educational curriculum*** developed by the American Dental Hygienists' Association for the advanced dental hygiene practitioner.

Historical Perspective

Why is ADHA pursuing this?

- Access to oral health care crisis in the U.S.
- Heightened awareness for the need for a “mid-level practitioner”
- Compliments the ADHA’s commitment to resolve health care disparities
- Workforce Supply, Demand and Distribution



National Call to Action

- Identified the need to enhance oral health workforce capacity in the United States.
- ADHP – a proposed cost-effective response
- The ADHP will provide diagnostic, preventive, therapeutic and minimally invasive restorative services to the underserved public and **connect those in need with more advanced care.**
- June 2004: ADHA membership adopted the ADHP Resolution calling for development of a curriculum to prepare dental hygienists who will practice at an advanced level.
- This **master's level** curriculum builds upon the foundation of existing dental hygiene education.



ADHP Vision Statement

- The advanced dental hygiene practitioner will improve the underserved public's health and access to quality, cost-effective oral health care and appropriate referrals within multidisciplinary healthcare teams.

Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

Why Dental Hygienists?

- Projected growth in workforce
- Projected growth in educational programs
- Market forces creating advanced practice
- Advanced education already in place
 - 11 MSDH Graduate programs in place
- Avoid duplication in education and training
- Potential for cost-savings in cross training
- Opportunity to revise efficiency in delivery of oral health care

The ADHP ...

- Follows the Rapid Practice Changes in the DH Profession:
 - Affiliated Practice (AZ)
 - Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (CA)
 - Extended Care Permit RDH (KS)
 - Public Health Permit (ME)
 - Collaborative Practice RDH (MN)
 - Limited Access Permit with Public Health Supervision (MT)
 - Public Health Supervision (NH)
 - Collaborative Practice RDH (NM)
 - Public Health Endorsement (NV)
 - Public Health Supervision (IA)
 - Limited Access Permit (OR)
 - School Sealant Programs (WA)

The ADHP would ...

- Provide primary oral health care.
- Be competent in working with **populations with special needs:**
 - children
 - medically compromised
 - adolescents and geriatric populations.
- Be able to evaluate oral health needs of **populations with limited access to care.**
- Develop, implement and monitor dental hygiene care programs for these populations.
- Participate as a member of a comprehensive health care **team.**

The ADHP...

- From the **clinical** perspective:
 - Including but not limited to:
 - cavity preparation, performing pulpotomies and competency in atraumatic restorative therapy (a temporary filling) among other preventive and restorative therapies.

- From the **health promotion** perspective:
 - Including but not limited to:
 - Designing nutritional interventions, implement and evaluate smoking cessation programs and evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs for specific populations.



Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP) Draft Curriculum

ADHP Draft Curriculum



■ DOMAINS:

I. Provision of Primary Oral Health Care

II. Healthcare Policy and Advocacy

III. Management of Oral Care Delivery

IV. Translational Research

V. Professionalism and Ethics

DOMAIN I: Provision of Primary Oral Health Care

*The advanced dental hygiene practitioner demonstrates competence in providing primary oral health care and case management in **diverse populations**. Practitioners use the process of care and target the **underserved** including those with **special needs** using a multidisciplinary approach.*

DOMAIN II: Healthcare Policy and Advocacy

*The advanced dental hygiene practitioner contributes to health policies that address disparities in oral health and access to care for the **underserved**. The practitioner supports and applies health policy at the institutional, local, state, regional, and national levels.*

DOMAIN III: Management of Oral Care Delivery

The advanced dental hygiene practitioner integrates practice management, finance principles, and health regulations to analyze, design and develop initiatives that will improve clinical outcomes, the quality of care and patient safety. The practitioner demonstrates effective leadership for changing healthcare and practice environments.



Domain IV: Translational Research

The advanced dental hygiene practitioner uses sound scientific methods and accesses evidence-based information when making decisions and providing client care.



Domain V: Professionalism and Ethics

The advanced dental hygiene practitioner demonstrates professional behavior and clinical decision-making skills consistent with dental hygiene parameters of care, legal regulations and the ADHA Code of Ethics.

The advanced dental hygiene practitioner possesses the values and behaviors which promote service to the **public**, professional involvement, and lifelong learning.

ADHP Curriculum

- Collaboration
- Consultations
- Coordinating care
- Coalitions
- Multidisciplinary
- Referrals
- Referral networks
- Teamwork
- Therapeutic partnerships
- Triage
- Underserved



ADHP Task Force



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ADHP Advisory Committee

- Hispanic Dental Association
- National Dental Association
- National Association of Dental Plans
- National Rural Health Association
- Medicaid/SCHIP Dental Program Association
- Indian Health Service
- **National Association of State Health Policy**
- **Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors**
- **Special Care Dentistry**
- National Dental Hygienists' Association
- American Dental Education Association
- American Academy of General Dentistry
- **American Academy of Public Health Dentistry**
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Observers:
 - American Academy of Periodontology
 - American Dental Association

ADHP Commentary

“Additional flexibility and capacity of the oral health care workforce is sorely needed.”

A National Call to Action to Promote Oral Health, Office of the Surgeon General, June 2000

“The APHA actively supports innovative programs and practices to help alleviate the great unmet oral health need...”

American Public Health Association, December 2005

“The ADHP, a role comparable to the nurse practitioner, presents a timely and appropriate way to explore new approaches to oral health care delivery...”

Oral Health Section, American Public Health Association, March 2006

“It is time to find a new way to deliver oral health care services; it is time to test the feasibility of the ADHP concept.”

National Rural Health Association, January 2005

ADHP Report Language

“The Committee is aware that dental disease disproportionately affects our nation’s most vulnerable populations, including many in rural America. New ways of bringing oral health care to rural and underserved populations are needed. The Committee encourages HRSA to explore alternative methods of delivering preventive and restorative oral health services in rural America. Specifically, the Committee encourages HRSA to explore development of an **advanced dental hygiene practitioner** who would be a graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program and complete an advanced educational curriculum, which prepares the dental hygienist to provide diagnostic, preventive, restorative and therapeutic services directly to the public in rural and underserved areas.”

No single oral health care profession, by itself, can meet the needs of the public. Only through collaborative effort of all of us will the American public receive the oral care it needs and deserves.



Next Steps ...

- **ADHP Task Force**
 - November 2005
 - January 2006
 - March 2006
 - 3 meetings for 2006-2007
- **Pilot project funding**
- **Advisory Committee**
- **ADEA Allied Education Working Group**
 - June 2006
- **Your continued input!**



Questions?

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