

I-Smile™: A *Two-Tier* Dental Home Model

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What is a Two-Tier Dental Home?

- Consists of both standard modeling – **vertical** (Private Dentists) and **dispersed** (horizontal – preventive, early detection, **earlier treatment**, and community centered

I-Smile

Ongoing and Future Events?

Dispersed level = *Integration AND Preventive Focus*

- ☀ Physician trainings/expand primary care role in early oral health detection
- ☀ Statewide oral health promotion
- ☀ Open mouth school entrance screenings
- ☀ Dental Hygienists as Care Coordinators in public health settings
- ☀ **Legislative request to improve the dental Medicaid program**

I-Smile: The Future?

Increase Vertical Component

- Improving Medicaid
 - 3rd party payer carve out
 - 75 percentile or higher UCR rates
 - Carve-out dental payment structure for both primary care and dental providers
 - Improve state student loan repayment structure

WHY? We Need Providers of Care in the Dental Home

The I-Smile Dental Home



I-Smile: The Future Dental Home?

“Fill in the Gaps”

- Create new dental workforce of preventive and *cheaper/deployable* early treatment providers
- Reinstate Bachelor Degree Program for Dental Hygienists in Iowa
 - Public health/prevention emphasis
 - Partner with new Oral Health Practitioner programs at Metropolitan State University and U of Minnesota
 - Other new mid-level deployments (CDHC, Pediatric Dental Therapists?)
 - Create a new mid-level training model in Iowa? (DMU)

Why Dental Hygienists?

- More flexible to public health applications
- Strong potential for educational advancement
- Numbers projected to rapidly exceed dentists
- Focus on prevention and population-based services – *will talk to patients!*
- More likely to remain in Iowa and rural states!
- More comfortable with very young children

Why Hygiene Advancement Now?

- Access issue worsening for underserved
- Technology advances improves potential service outreach to non-traditional settings
- New scope –of-practice laws recognizes non-traditional settings
- Linkages with dentists no longer require physical presence in private practice
- Rural communities need alternative models

The Time to Act is *Now!*

The Dental Home must become part of the overarching Healthy Community!

QUESTIONS!