

The 2011 IOM Report: Improving Access to Oral Healthcare for Vulnerable and Underserved Populations – Implications for Dental Education



**NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
MILWAUKEE, WI
APRIL 30, 2012**

**Caswell A. Evans, DDS, MPH
University of Illinois at Chicago**

IOM: Institute of Medicine of the National Academies



- Independent, non-profit organization working outside government to provide unbiased and authoritative advice to decision-makers and the public

National Academy of Sciences



- Chartered by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863

National Academy of Sciences Expanded into the National Academies

- National Academy of Sciences
- National Academy of Engineering
- National Research Council
- Institute of Medicine (1970)

IOM Reports



- **Dental Education at the Crossroads (1995)**
 - Controversial
 - Improve access to care for underserved
 - NHSC preparation
 - Modernize courses
 - Medically based models of care
 - Integrate basic sciences with medical education
 - Future shortage of dentists
 - Among many others

Improving Access to Oral Health Care for Vulnerable and Underserved Populations



- **Statement of Task**

- Assess the current U.S. oral health system of care
- Explore strengths, weaknesses and challenges
- Describe a desired vision for improvement including public, private, and safety net sources
- Recommend strategies to achieve the vision

Recommendations Pertinent to Education, cont'd



- Increase recruitment of URM and rural students
- Develop a set of core competencies regarding oral for inclusion in the education and training of non dental health care professionals
- Recruit faculty with experience in caring for underserved and vulnerable populations

Recommendations Pertinent to Education, cont'd



- HRSA should provide support for community placement of students
- HRSA should provide support for residency training in community-based settings
- States should require a minimum 1 year residency prior to licensing

Recommendations Pertinent to Education, cont'd



- Public and private support for research into new methods, models of practice and technologies to better address unmet needs