

CODA and DHAT



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Mary Williard, DDS
Director, DHAT Educational Program

National Oral Health Conference
Wednesday, April 20, 2016
Cincinnati, Ohio



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[Yup'ik performer](#) during the presentation by Chuna McIntyre and the Nunamata Yup'ik Eskimo Dancers at the Library of Congress. Photo by Jim Hardin, November 12, 2003. AFC 2003/049: p. 24.



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DHAT Students Kate Kohl, Trisha Patton
dissecting a cow heart



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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**

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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



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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



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2-12

•**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.

2-13

•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



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2-20

•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 DTEP Standards -29- 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



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3-2

- 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.



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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.



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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



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DRAFT

YEAR 1 (ANCHORAGE)					
Summer		Fall		Spring	
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	Course	Cr
Infection Control	1	Intro to Dental Therapy I	3	Intro to Dental Therapy II	1.5
		Human Biology	4	Diagnosis and Treatment Plan I	0.5
		Anat/Phys/Path of Head/Neck	2	Local Anesthesia	1
Dental Therapy Lab I	1	Behavioral Sc: Oral Hlth Promo II	1	Comm Oral Health Education I	1
Behavioral Sc: Oral Hlth Promo I	1	Basic Restorative Function	2	Operative Dental Therapy	3
		Tobacco Treatment Specialist	1	Hygiene/Periodontology for DT	1
		Cariology/ Min. Invasive Dentistry	1	Infection Control Lab I	1
				Dental Therapy Lab II	3
Total Credits	3	Total Credits	14	Total Credits	12
YEAR 2 (BETHEL)					
Summer		Fall		Spring	
Course	Cr	Course	Cr	Course	Cr
Prof. DHAT Practice I	1	Common Medical Problems II	1	Advanced Dental Therapy II	1
Advanced Dental Therapy I	2	Prof. DHAT Practice II	1	Community Clinical Rotations II	1
Adv. Diag. Treatment & Planning II	1	Community Clinical Rotations I	1	Comm Oral Health Education II	1
		Comm Oral Health Education II	1	Advanced Dental Therapy Clinic II	5
Pharmacology I	1	Advanced Dental Therapy Clinic I	5	Infection Control Lab III	1
		Infection Control Lab II	1	Pharmacology II	1
Common Medical Problems I	1	Adv. Diag. Treatment & Planning II	1		
Total Credits	6	Total Credits	11	Total Credits	10
Entire program credits					56

General Education Courses taken through Iḷisaḡvik 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)



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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

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OUR VISION:

**Alaska Native people are the
healthiest people in the world.**

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