

Training Dental Professionals to Serve People with Disabilities



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Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities...

- People with IDD experience poorer health than the general population and have inadequate access to both health promotion and quality health care (Rimmer, et al, 2010; National Council on Disability, 2009).
- People with IDD have a significantly higher rate of poor oral hygiene and need for periodontal disease treatment than the general population, due to a wide variety of factors (Binkley, et al., 2014, Minihan, et al., 2012).
 - higher rates of chronic diseases,
 - requiring medications that cause gum swelling and accelerate tooth decay.
- Many people who have IDD rely on paid direct support professionals or family members to provide their routine oral health care directly
- Those who are able to perform their own oral hygiene tasks may require some assistance and supervision.
- Individuals with very limited cognitive abilities can become combative with caregivers
- While oral health care is part of the training that most paid direct support professionals receive, the current training is minimal, and is not standardized throughout the system.
- Family members may receive no training at all. (Binckley et al., 2014).



Dental Professionals...

- Often report difficulty treating individuals with IDD without using stabilization techniques.
- Estimate, on average, that 20% to 50% more time is needed.
- In many cases, support from additional staff is required.
- Report that cognitive functioning and communication pose barriers to access.
- Self-report a lack of knowledge and a need for additional training to treat patients with special needs.



Dental Students...

- Are inadequately prepared to provide services for people with IDD (Wolf, et al., 2004).
- Report receiving five hours or less of instruction devoted to care for people with IDD.



Improving Oral Health Care for People with IDD

- Funded by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City.
- Collaboration between UMKC Dental School, UMKC Institute for Human Development, EITAS, Missouri Oral Health Network, Missouri State Dental Director, and Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities.
- Together, these partners are working to **“ensure an oral health care system for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) that provides easy access to quality dental care, resulting in better oral health, better dental care, and lower costs.”**



Collaborators and Roles

Partner Organization	Key Skills & Resources	Project Role
EITAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 case managers serving 1850 individuals with IDD • Relationships with local disability providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project lead • Co-facilitate oral health collaborative • Outreach and coordination with providers, families, and individuals with IDD
UMKC Institute for Human Development (IHD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation design • Curriculum design • Facilitation of diverse partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation • Co-facilitate oral health collaborative • Develop training curriculum for providers, families, and individuals with IDD • Review of disability provider policies
UMKC Dental School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice dental interventions • Curriculum creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop training curriculum for dental professionals
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State authority for developmental disabilities • Oversees federal funding for services for people with I/DD • Assurances of health and safety for all individuals receiving HCB supports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach to providers of residential supports • Division-employed support coordinators outreach to and follow up with individuals with IDD and families
Missouri State Dental Director (Dr. John Dane)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of state public Health program for oral health care. • 30+ years experience in dental treatment for individuals with I/DD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Dane will consult on curriculum development • Dr. Dane will facilitate dental professional training
Missouri Oral Health Network (MOHN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide network of Safety Net dental clinics serving the underserved, uninsured and under-insured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate all logistics of dental professional training including contracts with trainers, scheduling and registration, and issuing continuing dental education credits

Develop Professional Oral Health Curriculum

The curriculum will develop competencies related to the following learning objectives:

- Identify the barriers to care experienced by people with IDD.
- Demonstrate techniques useful in providing dental care to patients with extraordinary needs.
- Identify scheduling parameters that must be followed when treating people with IDD.
- Evaluate the health histories of people with IDD in order to provide safe dental care
- Describe normal and abnormal oral conditions which are present in people with IDD.
- Demonstrate to caregivers proper techniques for oral hygiene care.
- Demonstrate skills in providing dental care to patients who actively resist treatment.
- Display useful techniques for providing dental care to patients unable to communicate.
- Sequence care in a way that accommodates the needs of people with IDD.
- Identify when care in routine dental environment is not possible and seek specialized services.
- List methods for reimbursement and funding of care for people with IDD.



Dental Professional Training

Pilot

- 50 dental professionals trained
- 45 individuals with IDD receive dental treatments

Evaluate and Revise

- Evaluate efficacy with trainees and trainers
- Revise the curriculum
- Develop a scale-up plan



Provide Oral Health Care Training

- For service providers, family caregivers, and individuals with IDD
- Focus on effective oral hygiene practices
- Learning objectives are:
 - Recognize the connection between oral health and overall health.
 - Describe the importance of oral hygiene.
 - Demonstrate skills in performing oral hygiene tasks.
 - Discuss the importance of routine dental care, how to obtain dental care, and importance of keeping dental appointments.



Form a Local Oral Health Collaborative

- Identify and improve policies and practices related to good oral hygiene
- Revise the existing Healthy Lifestyles Policy and Practice Review (HLPPR) Tool
 - Published tool
 - Implement with 5 DD support agencies
 - Five agencies adopt new policies and practices

