Why are we here?

National *Interprofessional Initiative* on Oral Health  
*engaging clinicians, eradicating dental disease*

A **Systems** Change Initiative  
Advancing Interprofessional Education and Integrated Oral Health Care

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How Did We Get Here?

111 Million
People visit a medical provider but not a dental provider

27 Million
Visit a dental provider but not a medical provider

Flow of Information in Patient Care for Providers

Primary Care physician
Diabetes Screening

Diabetes, so endocrinologist

If heart attack, cardiologist
If stroke, neurologist
If chronic kidney disease, nephrologist

General Dentist
Periodontal Screening

Periodontal disease, so periodontist

If root canal, endodontist

Communication is tenuous, usually carried out by patient, if at all

Adapted from Powell and Din 2008
Health Professional Shortage Areas

45 million Americans live in dental health professional shortage areas = the population of the West Coast

Courtesy of Qualis Health
ERs: A Costly Dental Destination

• Preventable dental conditions were the primary diagnosis in **830,590** visits to hospital ERs nationwide in 2009

• Children accounted for nearly **50,000** of these ER visits

• Many ER visits are made by Medicaid enrollees or the uninsured

The Pew Center on States

Consortium: Funders, health professionals + national organizations
Vision: Eradicate dental disease
Mission: Engage primary care team
Focus: Integrate oral health into primary care education + practice

The Short Answer

NIIOH is a systems change initiative that provides “Backbone Support” and facilitates interprofessional agreement and alignment to ready an interprofessional oral health workforce for whole person care.
The Opportunity for Change

Interprofessional Competencies
The “What” and “How”

Collective Impact
Interprofessional Initiative Activities

**CULTIVATE LEADERSHIP**
- Oral Health Recognized Through
  - Accreditation
  - Licensure
  - Certification

**FACILITATE INTERPROFESSIONAL LEARNING & AGREEMENT**
- Curriculum Endorsements
  - Teach Oral Health
  - Adopt Interprofessional Culture

**DEVELOP TOOLS** (e.g., curriculum)

**Primary Care Clinicians Ready**
- To deliver oral health services
- To work with dentists

**Optimal Oral Health**

**External Factors**
- Access to Care
- Patient Motivation
- Appropriate Reimbursement

June 28, 2012
Smiles For Life

Smiles For Life: A National Oral Health Curriculum

Relationship of Oral & Systemic Health

Child Oral Health

Adult Oral Health

COURSE 1

COURSE 2

COURSE 3

LEARN ONLINE

TEACH CURRICULUM

Answering the Call: Joining the Fight for Oral Health

Watch the informative and inspiring video which outlines both the challenge and progress in improving oral health as a vital component of effective primary care. Click the full-screen icon in the bottom right corner of the video thumbnail to view in full-sized. This video is approximately seven minutes in length. An extended version (21 minutes) of this documentary is also available.

Acute Dental Problems

Pregnancy & Woman’s Oral Health

Caries Risk Assessment, Fluoride Varnish & Counseling

The Oral Exam

Geriatric Oral Health

COURSE 4

COURSE 5

COURSE 6

COURSE 7

COURSE 8
Resources

Patient Education Handouts

Click on the images below to download patient education handouts to display in waiting or examination rooms or to give to patients directly.

- **Dental Care Basics for Children Birth to Six Years (English)**
- **Dental Care Basics for Children Birth to Six Years (Russian)**
- **Dental Care Basics for Children Birth to Six Years (Vietnamese)**
- **Dental Care Basics for Children Birth to Six Years (Spanish)**
- **Oral Health And Diabetes (English)**
- **Oral Health And Diabetes (Spanish)**
- **Oral Health And HPV (English)**
- **Oral Health And HPV (Spanish)**
- **Oral Health And Older Adults (English)**
- **Oral Health And Older Adults (Spanish)**
- **Oral Health And You (English)**
Facilitate Interprofessional Agreement

Endorsing organizations representing

- Medicine
- PA’s
- Nursing
- Dentistry
- Dental Hygiene
- Pharmacy
- Community Health Centers
- And More!

Endorsed By

Each course in the Smiles for Life suite is endorsed by the following healthcare organizations who support the role of primary care clinicians in promoting good oral health:

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- National Association of Community Health Centers
- Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
- Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- American Academy of Physician Assistants
- American Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Physician Assistant Education Association
- American Association of Public Health Dentistry
- The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors
- American College of Nurse-Midwives
- American Dental Association
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- The National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
- National Association of School Nurses
- American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
- Academy of General Dentistry
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
A Growing Population of Users

Since the site launched in June 2010:
- 79,176 registered users
- 228,496 courses completed for CE credit
- 43,516 modules downloaded by educators

Exhibit 1. Discrete Site Visits
2010 – 2017

SMILES FOR LIFE CROSSES THE ONE MILLION MARK FOR DISCRETE SITE VISITS!
Smiles for Life Survey

Key Question:

• How does Smiles for Life influence practice?

How Does SFL Influence Practice?

Exhibit 5. Proportion of Providers Reporting Influence of Smiles for Life on Practice, by Oral Health Activity*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct caries risk assessments (n=248)</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct oral health exams with patients (n=203)</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide anticipatory guidance on oral health (n=385)</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply fluoride varnish when indicated (n=260)</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct oral cancer screening exams (n=95)</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer patients for dental care (n=417)</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Influence on practice means that providers reported that Smiles for Life influenced their practice of oral health activities in one or more of the following three ways: (1) led them to start performing oral health activities; (2) allowed them to perform oral health activities more regularly, and (3) helped them perform oral health activities better. The n’s on this chart indicate the number of providers who reported performing each activity.
Influence on 6 Key Activities

**Refer patients for dental care (n=417)**
- Started: 7%
- Do more regularly: 29%
- Do better: 38%
- No impact: 38%

**Provide anticipatory guidance on oral health (n=385)**
- Started: 13%
- Do more regularly: 35%
- Do better: 60%
- No impact: 14%

**Apply fluoride varnish when indicated (n=260)**
- Started: 47%
- Do more regularly: 22%
- Do better: 35%
- No impact: 15%
Influence on 6 Key Activities

**Conduct caries risk assessments (n=248)**
- Started: 19%
- Do more regularly: 32%
- Do better: 58%
- No impact: 11%

**Conduct annual oral exams with patients (n=203)**
- Started: 14%
- Do more regularly: 37%
- Do better: 60%
- No impact: 13%

**Conduct oral cancer screening exams (n=95)**
- Started: 14%
- Do more regularly: 23%
- Do better: 50%
- No impact: 25%
Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care

Oral Health Delivery Framework

5 actions primary care teams can take to protect and promote their patients’ oral health. Within the scope of practice for primary care; possible to implement in diverse practice settings.

ASK about oral health risk factors and symptoms of oral disease

LOOK for signs that indicate oral health risk or active oral disease

DECIDE on the most appropriate response

ACT offer preventive interventions and/or referral for treatment

DOCUMENT as structured data for decision support and population management

Preventive interventions:
- Fluoride therapy;
- Dietary counseling to protect teeth and gums;
- Oral hygiene training;
- Therapy for substance use;
- Medication changes to address dry mouth; chlorhexidine rinse.

Citation: Hummel J, Phillips KE, Holt B, Hayes C. Oral Health: An Essential Component of Primary Care.
Seattle, WA: Qualis Health, June 2015

Published June 2015
Field-Testing a Conceptual Framework

19 diverse healthcare delivery organizations: Private practices, Federally Qualified Health Centers; medical only and on-site dental
Adults with diabetes (12), pediatrics (5), pregnancy (1), adult well visits (1)
eCW (5), EPIC (8), NextGen (2), Centricity (2), Success EHS (2)

Using population health to address “missed opportunities”
Field-Testing Results Informed the Creation of the Implementation Guide and Tools

“Oral Health Integration Implementation Guide”
Toolkit for primary care teams (Released 10/10/16)

What’s in the Guide?

• Workflow maps
• Referral agreements
• Patient engagement strategies
• Patient/family education resources
• EHR templates
• Case examples
• Impact data and more

Resources available at:
CHW Linkages in the Medical Neighborhood

Peer Support in the Patient Centered Medical Home and Primary Care: Conference Report 2015
Patient Centered Primary Care Collaborative
SFL Modules for a Growing FLHW Workforce

Portions of this project were created in collaboration with Southwestern Connecticut AHEC, with funding support from the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH...
Modules & Objectives

Module 1. Introduction – Engaging Front Line Health Workers in Oral Health

- Describe the relationship between oral health & overall health
- Describe the prevalence and impact of oral disease
- Recognize barriers to maintaining oral health
- Identify ways to integrate oral health into FLHW practice
- Promote FLHW ownership and commitment to oral health

Module 2. Child Oral Health Module

- Discuss the relationship between oral health & overall health
- Describe the prevalence, causes and consequences of childhood tooth decay
- Understand prevention strategies and education tools to promote child oral health
- Identify the role of FLHWs in promoting child oral health
Modules & Objectives

Module 3. Pregnancy and Women’s Oral Health Module

• Review causes and risk factors of oral disease and tooth decay
• Understand how oral disease may affect pregnancy outcomes
• Understand how tooth decay can be transmitted from mother to child
• Recognize that dental care can be safe during pregnancy
• Highlight the role of FLHWs in promoting oral health in pregnant women

Module 4. Adult Oral Health Module

• Discuss the prevalence, causes and consequences of adult tooth decay and gum disease
• Describe how socioeconomic issues affect adult and senior oral health
• Understand the oral effects of common medications, alcohol and tobacco
• Consider how chronic medical conditions influence oral health
Mouth/Body Connection and Geriatric Oral Health

- Diabetes
- Respiratory Disease/Aspiration Pneumonia
- Osteoporosis
- Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke
- Chronic Oral/Systemic Conditions
- Nutrition
- Quality of Life/Psychosocial Health
- Anxiety/Depression and Other Disorders
- Cognitive Impairment

Facilitator Guide & Curriculum Resources

• Table illustrating curriculum content by module
• Annotated list of Interactive Activities by Module
• Supplemental Facilitator Guidelines for Interactive Activities
• Oral Health Resources
• Instructions for Getting Started and Preparing For Your Training Session
• Sample Agenda
• Sample Evaluation Form
Evaluation Comments from Participants

- Share this information with my clients and their physicians.
- Use the SFL app for education with my clients.
- Educate pregnant women on the importance of oral health.
- Visit the SFL website for more information prior to visits to get more information for each individual client.
- Share information with clients I am already talking to about their heart disease and diabetes.
- Do more outreach in my community to inform clients about what I learned.
- Educate my community about oral health; I didn’t know it was so important!
- Share this information with my clients and their physicians.
- Will be more informative with clients, ask them about dental care and stress its importance.
- Ask our dental clinic how we can improve access for our clients.
- Encourage clients to pass on this new information to family members.
What we have learned

• Organizational change process requires **system-wide intervention**

• Having the **right people, right place, right reason** can change ideas and practice

• A key is having the **right tools and strategies** to impact knowledge, skills and attitudes of providers

• We cannot achieve our vision of “**oral health for all**” unless we change our approach to oral health care

• **Integration and collaboration is key**, we can’t do this alone!