Review of Workforce Models

2010 Conference on Workforce Issues
Chicago, Illinois
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ADA American Dental Association®

Specific Workforce Model (SWM)

Location: State (Enacted, proposed, pilot)

Population: Public, private

Settings: Office, clinic, schools, unspecified

Education: Post secondary

Supervision: From direct to collaborative

Surgical: Yes, no

Diagnosis: Yes, no

Comment: Additional pertinent fact

Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)

Location: 27 states have some form of EFDAs

Population: Public and private

Settings: Clinic and Office

Education and/or OJT: Two years (Varies by state)

Supervision: Direct and/or indirect

Surgical: No

Diagnosis: No

Comment: Different states use different acronyms*

*(7 use EFDA, 5 use EDDA, 5 use DAQEF, 4 use RDAEF, 6 use unique acronyms)

Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT)

Location: AK (Not licensed by state)*

Population: 85,000 native people of all ages

Settings: Clinics in remote tribal villages

Education: Two years (DENTEX in Anchorage)

Supervision: Public health

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: Yes

Comment: DHAT scope is competency based

*(Certified under Tribal Health Authority)

Dental Therapist (DT)

Location: MN (Enacted 2009)

Population: Patients with access barriers*

Settings: Clinic and office

Education: Four to six years (28 month program)

Supervision: Indirect and collaborative

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: No

Comment: Scope differs with level of supervision

*(Low-income, uninsured, underserved)

Advanced Dental Therapist (ADT)

Location: MN (Enacted 2009; no ADTs yet)

Population: Patients with access barriers*

Settings: Clinic and office

Education: Two add. years? (Master's program)

Supervision: Collaborative

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: No (May assess, authorized by DDS)

Comment: Must be DT with 2000 hours to apply

*(Low-income, uninsured, underserved)

Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP)

Location: Proposed in several states

Population: Unspecified

Settings: Unspecified

Education: Six years (Two year MS degree)

Supervision: Collaborative

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: Yes

Comment: ADHA model, certified as ADHP

Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)

Location: OK, CA, PA (University pilot programs)*

Population: Underserved

Settings: Public Health

Education: 18 months (12 mo. didactic)

Supervision: Direct and/or indirect

Surgical: No

Diagnosis: No

Comment: Community health with dental skills

*(ADA pilot programs at U of OK, UCLA, Temple U)

Oral Preventive Assistant (OPA)

Location: Undetermined

Population: Unspecified

Settings: Office, Clinic, Schools

Education: Three month program post DA

Supervision: Direct, indirect (General for pt. educ.)

Surgical: No

Diagnosis: No

Comment: DANB is preparing to certify COPAs*

*(DANB functions: Coronal Polishing, Sealant Application, Fluoride Application, Topical Anesthetic Application, No Scaling)

Pediatric Dental Therapist (PDT)

Location: ME (State bill introduced in 2009)

Population: Limited to children age 0-12

Settings: Fed-designated dental shortage areas

Education: Two years

Supervision: Indirect

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: No

Comment: Licensed by dental board

Dental Nurse Practitioner (DAPRN)

Location: NYU (Proposed)

Population: Unspecified

Settings: Office

Education: Six years (Two year MS degree)

Supervision: Joint or independent practice model

Surgical: Unspecified

Diagnosis: Unspecified

Comment: NYU merge DDS & nursing students

Dental Hygienist Therapist (DHT)

Location: WA (will be discussed at WSDA HOD)

Population: Working poor, indigent

Settings: Clinics (Public health facilities)

Education: Three years (Assoc. hygienist + one)

Supervision: "Close" and limited general

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: No

Comment: Regulated by DQAC*

*(WSDA model would be regulated by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission)

Advanced Dental Hygienist Therapist (ADHT)

Location: WA

Population: Unspecified

Settings: Unspecified

Education: Five years (Bachelor hygienist + one)

Supervision: "Off-site supervision" via agreement

Surgical: Yes

Diagnosis: Yes

Comment: Regulated by DHEC*

*(WSDHA model would be regulated by a Dental Hygiene Examining Committee)

State of the States

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