

Indiana Oral Health Coalition (IOHC) Minutes
Friday, June 10, 2022
Hosted by the
Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA)

Mission: The IOHC is a collective voice of individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses working together to promote, protect and provide for the oral health of the residents of Indiana.

PRESENT

Leila Alter	Amber Lenwell	Bianca Mizimakoski
Heather Waldron	Melanie Brune	Miranda Spitznagle
Tonya Stewart	Ronnie Coleman	Natalie Rivich
Jae Chul Lee	Megan Graue	Anu Shukla
Nelly Chawla	Nancy Ward	Stefanie Vestal
Karen Ellis	Chrissy Stephan	Katherine Matteson
Candace Ervin	Gerardo Maupome	Jill Burns
Karla Marin	Michelle Kohler	Charles Poland
Holli Seabury	Doug Bush	Teresa Russell
Isaac Zeckel	Ed Rosenbaum	
David Austin	Tyler Kimmel	

WELCOME

The Indiana Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA) hosted a ninth meeting for the IOHC through Zoom. Everyone appreciates what IPHCA has done in providing us a safe way to meet during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. Leila Alter, Chair, began the meeting at 10:00 a.m. welcoming everyone and recognizing new attendees. Everyone introduced themselves and stated who they represented.

REVIEW MINUTES

Dr. Alter asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the January meeting; there were none. Dr. Alter asked for a motion and second to approve the minutes. A motion and second were offered and the Indiana Oral Health Coalition minutes from the January 14, 2022, meeting were approved as submitted by a unanimous voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW STATE ORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR - Dr Nelly Chawla

- Dr Nelly Chawla, the new state oral health director, introduced herself. She started her career in India and then worked at UNC and saw firsthand the impact poor oral health had on children. She previously worked as an epidemiologist at ISDH. She would like to collaborate with IOHC to improve oral health. In North Carolina she worked with Early Head Start and Head Start throughout the state doing screenings and referrals.
- Dr Alter mentioned the Head Start groups in southern IN have trouble getting their screenings done and it would be good to do a pilot program to increase their rates. Discussion was had about Community Dental Health Coordinators and Community Health Workers as part of the solution. The lack of providers who will do age one dental visits was discussed and the difficulty of getting dentists to attend trainings on this subject. Dr. Taylor suggested implementing what other states have done and reimbursing physicians and nurses for oral health risk assessments. The lack of opportunity to see infants during dental school was discussed, Dr Shukla said the dental students are now doing rotations at FQHCs and have an outstanding HRSA grant proposal which would allow for rotations at more sites.
- Dr Alter said it would be helpful if the data from Medicaid could be analyzed for children 0-5 to determine where the need is using geolocation.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Update of Annual Oral Health Coalition Meeting – Dr Holli Seabury

- Holli attended the ANOHC (American Network of Oral Health Coalitions) annual meeting that is held at the NOHC conference. There were about 30 states represented and the coalitions range from having a full-time executive director and staff to being volunteer led like Indiana. Many of the coalitions are very involved in state legislation. This group is an excellent source of ideas and resources. Both Holli and Leila are on their list-serve, which is very active. Karla Marin will be the IOHC representative for the ANOCH Brown Bag conference calls.
- Indiana also will be submitting a response to the ANOCH survey on CDC priorities that was previously sent to IOHC members.

b. Tobacco and Vaping Update – Miranda Spitznagle

- Miranda discussed the updated Indiana Quitline which dentists can refer patients to (or patients can self-refer). Patients do not need to take advantage of all services, but can pick and choose what they want.
- The FDA has proposed removing menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars from the market. This is huge for the prevention/cessation movement. Menthol is more addictive and harder to quit and is advertised to marginalized communities. There is opportunity for public comment through the first week of July.
- The Vape Free Indiana has a number of resources and education for schools and youth groups and products related to nicotine addiction treatment. Live Vape Free is an interactive text messaging program for teens. More pediatricians are becoming comfortable with prescribing nicotine replacement medications to help teens quit – there is more nicotine in vaping devices so it is harder for teens to quit without help.

c. Brush Update – Chrissy Stephan

- Chrissy attended a few different conferences to promote Brush. Brush continues to expand with McMillen creating resources for those with disabilities and their caretakers, especially for adults with disabilities. They also have had requests to develop materials for the aging population. Dr Chawla reached out to WIC and their staff will be getting trained on Brush.

d. Medicaid Updates – Dr. Leila Alter

- Effective July 20, 2022, Indiana Medicaid providers can bill D0140 (limited emergency exam) and D1320 (tobacco counseling) by telehealth. CareSource, DentaQuest, Envolve and United Healthcare have not released bulletins on their telehealth policy
- Indiana Medicaid received feedback on their CMS PERM audit and the number one error was documentation errors by the provider.
- Indiana was cited by CMS for discrepancies in fee schedules between the different Medicaid programs and will be making those fees the same. Provider meetings will be held for input.
- OR availability continues to be a difficult situation. In Kokomo the pediatric providers were told by their local hospital that they are stopping oral health surgeries. They are trying to get this reversed. Many dentists have lost the blocks they had in ORs during COVID-19 and have not gotten them back.
- The issues of dental homes by age one was discussed, ideas included assigning a dental home through Medicaid the way some states do and that way the dentist office is proactively reaching out to schedule visits.
- Amber shared the link to Colorado's *Cavity Free at Three* website ([Join us and help Colorado kids become | Cavity Free At Three](#))
- Having pediatricians refer for dental visits was also discussed. Most children see their primary care provider several times their first year but most pediatricians are not referring for a dental visit. Also having Head Start be more proactive and how to work with them was discussed.
- Doug asked if a rate adjustment to Medicaid to see very young children could be helpful. Leila said that would be a directive that would come from the state. Dr Chawla suggested surveying the Medicaid providers to see what's stopping them from seeing young children. Doug said the state has robust funding and the IDA will be advocating for public oral health.
- Leila said the dental codes need to be reviewed because there are discrepancies, like the \$98.50 reimbursement for SDF. Discussion was held about the rates needing to be raised overall in order to increase dentist participation. The reimbursement majority of Medicaid codes in Indiana have not changed since 1999.
- Ronnie emphasized that if we don't let the legislators know what we want they are unlikely to do it. He encouraged advocating for an increase in Medicaid rates. Leila suggested being clear about the coalition's goals so people all give the same message and make sure people are trained for how to do a legislative visit.

e. Access to Dental Care for Those with Disabilities – Dr. Jae Chul Lee

- Dr Lee has been working on his current project, Hoosiers with Disabilities, since 2018, which builds on his work in Delaware. He and his team have done surveys and interviews of dentists, those with disabilities and caregivers. He has developed three training modules for caregivers and four training modules for dentists. Training will be June 24 in Indy and July 15 in Fort Wayne. Trainings will be recorded and available. He has a promotional video he can share. Doug offered to have the IDA promote the trainings.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- In 2022 we will continue the regular meeting schedule by Zoom unless there is feedback to change.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Next IOHC Meeting

Friday, September 9, 2022 @ 10AM to Noon

Future IOHC Meetings

Friday, December 9, 2022 @ 10AM to Noon