Collaborative Supervision Changes Approved During the 2016 Legislative Session

Working in collaboration, several members of the South Dakota Oral Health Coalition successfully guided a dental bill through the legislative process. The adoption of the bill will allow more flexibility in the way dentists supervise dental hygienists working under collaborative supervision.

The bill added the term “oral health review” to the Dental Practice Act defining it as a “limited assessment of a person’s oral health through a dentist’s review of dental and medical history following a limited clinical inspection by a dental hygienist working under collaborative supervision.” Hygienists working under collaborative supervision will now be able to continue to provide services to patients beyond the initial 13 month period once a dentist has either examined the patient or has performed an oral health review. The bill’s prime sponsors were Representative Les Heinemann and Senator Jenna Haggar. The bill was supported by the South Dakota Oral Health Coalition including the Dental Hygienists Association, Delta Dental, the SDDA; and, the Community Health Centers Association.

Rosebud’s St. Francis Mission

Altruism is an integral part of practicing dentistry. SDDA members give to the less fortunate in many different ways. The fact is that there are as many different types of charitable dental care as there are dentists. So why then, with so many different ways to “give back”, would someone choose to volunteer at the St. Francis Dental Clinic on the Rosebud Reservation?

The need is great. The Lakota people living on Rosebud have tremendous dental needs. Rosebud is very remote. Poverty and unemployment are rampant. Transportation is a challenge for most.

Make a lasting difference. While there are many patients seeking triage-style care for pain relief, the clinic has an established based of patients that now seek routine dental care.

Adjunct Faculty. Several dental schools bring their students to the clinic one or more times a year. The schools need local dentists to supervise these students.

Flexibility. The clinic welcomes volunteers almost anytime. There is a lot of need for the full range of dental services, but the clinic could also use dentists who can do exams and supervise hygienists.

CE Credit. The South Dakota Board of Dentistry allows up to 30 volunteer hours per five-year license cycle.

(Continued) See St. Francis Pg 3
Annual Session Mixer
Friday, May 13, 2016, 6:30 pm - 11:00 pm
Come enjoy dinner and entertainment by the “Raw Nerve” Band. Raw Nerve is an eight-piece horn band, playing fun music from the 60’s through today. The band consists of two orthodontists, two oral surgeons, two general dentists, and two gentlemen that are professional musicians with nice teeth. Tickets are $30 each or buy a table for 10 for $270. To reserve tickets register on the enclosed Annual Session registration form.

Annual Session Table Clinics
Have you developed a new technique? Have you obtained exceptional results with a particular product or method? Have you something to share that might help the dental professional do its job better? Then by all means, make plans to present a table clinic during the 2016 Annual Session. Table clinics will be held in Rushmore A of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center on Friday, May 13 from 11:30AM to 12:30PM. If you’d like a Table Clinic application, call Brenda at the SDDA at 605-224-9133, or email brenda.goeden@sddental.org, or print off a form from the SDDA website at www.sddental.org; click on Annual Session.

Delta Dental to Continue Successful Grant Project as Part of Company’s Mobile Program
Pierre, SD – A special three-year project to improve children’s oral health on South Dakota’s Native American reservations showed significant success. Initially funded with federal grant money, Delta Dental of South Dakota is continuing the program on an ongoing basis as a new part of its mobile program.

“Our Circle of Smiles program increased kids’ access to dental care and showed preventive care can help reduce costs,” said Scott Jones, CEO of Delta Dental of South Dakota. “When that makes kids’ lives better, it’s that much more important to do. We can’t just quit when the grant ends.”

Funded by a $3.3 million grant from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Delta Dental worked with the nine Tribes in South Dakota to hire and place oral health staff on the reservations between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2015.

Jones said the primary goal of the program was to provide preventive care and education to children through age 9 before more painful problems and costly restorative care was needed. “Program staff provided care to 7,810 patients at 168 clinic locations and special events in schools, Head Start facilities, and other community locations,” he said.

Dental hygienists provided cleanings, fluoride varnishes and applied dental sealants. Community oral health coordinators also provided education and ongoing contact to encourage good health habits and dental visits. All patients were referred to a dentist; those needing restorative care like fillings were provided assistance to get to the appointment.

An analysis of claims data showed the program had notable impact in improving access to oral health care and reducing the average dental care costs per patient.

The percentage of children through age 9 who’d had a dental visit increased 64% during the program. The percentage who’d had a cleaning or fluoride varnish increased more than 75%, and the percentage who’d had dental sealants doubled. Over the same period, the average dental care costs per child decreased by 27%.

Delta Dental is continuing the work of the program and funding it by increasing funds to its charitable foundation. The effort will now become part of the company’s ongoing mobile program that has two mobile dental trucks that provide care to underserved kids across the state.

The combination of the programs creates efficiencies in delivery of services as the reservation-based staff will support mobile truck clinics in their region. No longer tied to the parameters of the original grant, reservation-based staff will also expand care to kids beyond age 9.

“We’re grateful we had the opportunity to establish a successful program and fortunate enough to continue the work,” Jones said. “When a child’s in pain because something in their mouth hurts, it means they may miss school or can’t concentrate in class. And they may not eat well, or get enough sleep. Nearly all of that pain is preventable with brushing, flossing, and regular preventive dental care.”
DENR Reduces the Amount of Fluoride Required in Drinking Water

PIERRE, S.D. – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has revised a state rule to reduce the levels of fluoride required in drinking water. The new rule stipulates a recommended range of 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) of fluoride with an optimal level of 0.7 ppm.

The rule revisions were based on a federal Health and Human Services recommendation to reduce the fluoride standard from a range of 0.7 to 1.2 ppm to an optimal level of 0.7 ppm. This is the first time the federal standard has changed since 1962.

Fluoride is a naturally occurring element in all South Dakota water supplies. Drinking fluoridated water keeps teeth strong and reduces tooth decay.

“This new lower fluoride level in drinking water is good news for people in South Dakota,” said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner. “The new lower fluoride level still protects oral health, but at the same time cuts chemical costs for drinking water systems by more than $400,000 per year.”

The rules requiring fluoridation of water apply to public water systems that serve populations of 500 or more people.

Under the old rule, 77 public drinking water systems in South Dakota have been required to add fluoride to their water to bring the levels up to the recommended range. Under the new rule, approximately 25 of those systems will be able to stop adding fluoride because the natural levels in their raw water will meet the new lower range. The remaining 52 systems will have to continue to add fluoride, but they will not have to add as much to meet the new lower level.

During the rules adoption process, two commenters were opposed to adding any fluoride to drinking water. But the new rule was supported by the SD Dental Association, Delta Dental, American Dental Hygienists’ Association – SD, and Community Healthcare of the Dakotas due to the benefits of fluoridation in preventing tooth decay.

St. Francis continued from Cover

Excellent Facilities. Unlike many of the facilities in which dentists practice when the do “mission dentistry”, the dental clinic at St. Francis is up to par. The facility resembles a low overhead practice, where charitable dollars are invested in the essentials needed to provide quality dentistry. There are five operatories, an X-ray unit and a Panorex. All of the safety and sanitary protocols of a regular dental office are followed.

Easy to Access. Rosebud is located in South Central South Dakota and easy to access. The mission clinic is an easy drive from anywhere in the state. No plane tickets to purchase, no waiting at the airport.

Room and Board. The St. Francis Mission (a Jesuit facility) provides housing and meals on site. Volunteers don’t need to invest a lot time and money arranging and paying for housing.

Indian Health Service. There is an Indian Health Service (IHS) dental clinic on Rosebud, but issues with funding, management and a lack of trust by many of the Lakota results in the IHS providing care to a limited number of people from Rosebud and manly those who’s pain has left them with no choice but to wait in line for care.

Dentists or staff who, want to volunteer should contact Marty Jones at the clinic by calling 605-747-2142 or 605-319-1275. SDDA members can also call Paul Knecht at the SDDA office at 605-224-9133 or email to paul.knecht@sddental. For more information about the dental clinic go to www.sfmdental.org.
CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

Spring 2016

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

SD DENTAL ASSOCIATION 2016 ANNUAL SESSION
Contact: Brenda Goeden 605-224-9133
www.sddental.org
May 12-14, 2016 Rapid City, SD
Registration forms are included in this issue of the 2016 Newsletter. For more information go to www.sddental.org; Annual Session.

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Contact: 605-718-2410
Third Friday of the Month, mornings
- American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals
Third Friday of the Month, afternoons
- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR Recertification

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Contact: Rhonda Bradberry 605-882-5284, ext. 214
bradberr@lakeareatech.edu

Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene 605-677-5379

Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application

STEPPING STONES TO SUCCESS
Contact: www.steppingstonestosuccess.com
- "Record Keeping Basics/Self-Study Program"

ADA CE ONLINE
Contact: www.ada.org/goto/ceonline

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