



Oral Health in Primary Care
Center for Rural Health
University of North Dakota



Implementing Medical-Dental Integration in North Dakota

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Housekeeping Items

- All attendees are muted and attendees cannot share video during this session.
- Remember to ask questions using the chat box.
- Slides and resources for today's session can be accessed on our [program website](#).
- Continuing education credits are available for today's session. To receive a certificate for continuing education, you must complete the evaluation.
- We have made every attempt to make today's presentation secure. If we need to end today's presentation unexpectedly we will follow-up with you using your registration information.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

[UND Land Acknowledgement Statement](#): Today, the University of North Dakota rests on the ancestral lands of the Pembina and Red Lake Bands of Ojibwe and the Dakota Oyate - presently existing as composite parts of the Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, White Earth Bands, and the Dakota Tribes of Minnesota and North Dakota. We acknowledge the people who resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Ojibwe and Oyate people permeates this land. As a university community, we will continue to build upon our relations with the First Nations of the State of North Dakota - the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Nation, Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

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Objectives for Today



- Identify where and how to implement medical dental integration in a clinical setting in North Dakota.
- Discuss the benefits of medical dental integration with leadership and patients.
- How to work with dental team members in order to ensure whole-person care in clinical settings.



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Medical Dental Integration

The Why:

Health of the mouth has historically been separated from overall health. Individuals who are low income, underinsured, uninsured, or on public assistance are less likely to visit a traditional dental clinic but more likely to need dental services. Recognizing this health inequity, the North Dakota Department of Health Oral Health Program hired a public health hygienist.

- Improve oral health in North Dakota
- Increase access to preventive care and dental care
- Teach benefits of interprofessional communication and collaboration



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Medical Dental Integration

In 2018, the [North Dakota Department of Health \(NDDoH\) Oral Health Program \(OHP\)](#) integrated me an RDH working as a Public Health Hygienist (PHH) into the [University of North Dakota Center for Family Medicine Clinic](#) (UND CFM) in Bismarck, North Dakota. UND CFM is a teaching clinic that helps educate doctors specializing in Family Medicine. During a patient's initial visit, they may be seen by a resident physician (a doctor who has completed medical school and is in residency training) and/or a faculty physician, who will instruct the resident if present.



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Medical Dental Integration

The How:

Levels of Integrated Medical-Dental Health Care

<https://www.health.nd.gov/prevention/oral-health-program/medical-dental-integration>

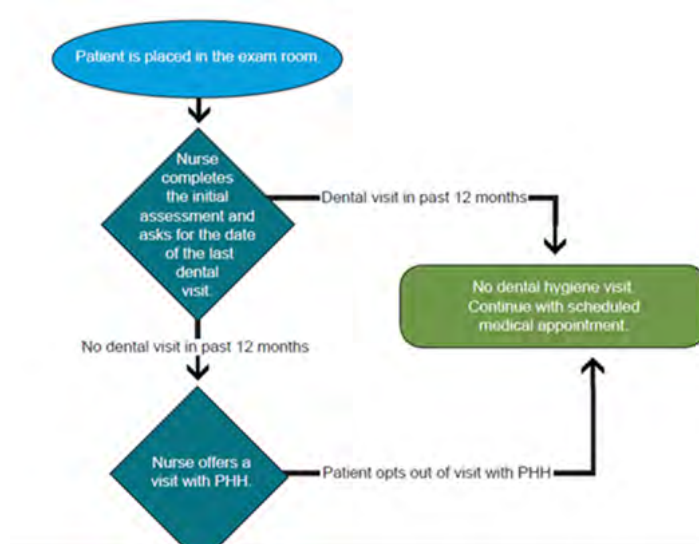
- Staff considerations
- Workspace
- Workflow
- EMR



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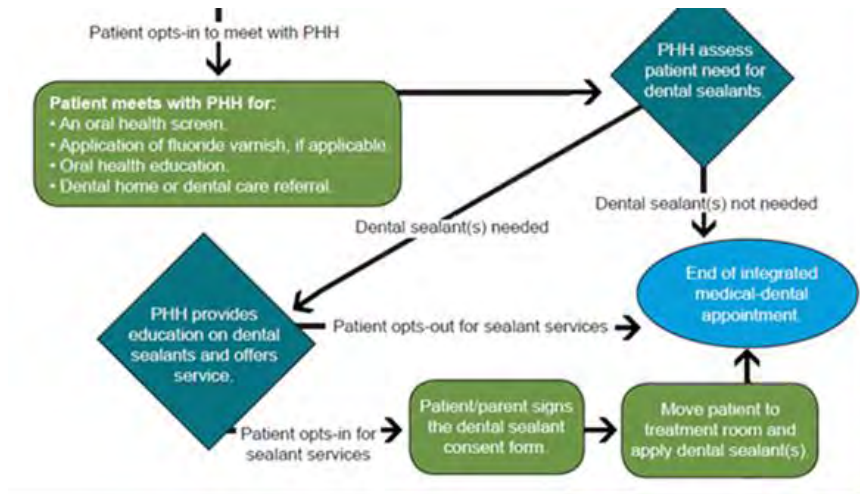
Workflow



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Workflow



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Oral Health Screening Process

- An oral health screening (screening of the health of the mouth and teeth).
- Application of fluoride varnish.
- Application of dental sealant(s) (if patient meets requirements).
- Oral health education.
- Care coordination.
- Dental home or dental care referral.



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Integrated Medical-Dental Records

An integrated medical-dental record allows both medical and dental providers to view the full patient history. This integration promotes well-informed care and treatment planning



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Charging and Billing Services

Charging and billing for dental services will depend upon state laws and regulations. For the MDI pilot project, the patient was not charged a fee for the services provided by the hygienist. These services were covered by a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The EMR system used at UND CFM was also designed to drop charges when a patient was referred to the hygienist and when a patient received fluoride varnish. Currently, primary care clinics and providers in North Dakota can bill for:

- Fluoride varnish application
- Case management/care coordination
- Oral health screen



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Smile for life Teaching Curriculum

Topics

1. Relationship of Oral to Systemic Health
2. Child Oral Health
3. Adult Oral Health
4. Acute Dental Health-Gust Speaker
5. Pregnancy & women's Oral Health
6. Caries Risk Assessment Fluoride Varnish & counseling
7. The Oral Exam
8. Geriatric Oral Health



[Teach Curriculum | Smiles for Life Oral Health](#)



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Challenges and Changes



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The Success:

Of the 298 patients from both the main clinic and the asthma clinic screened:

- 61% received an educational brochure from the PHH.
- 95% were given verbal oral health education from the PHH.
- 77% received dental supplies from the PHH.
- 67% received an application of fluoride varnish.
- 37% were referred to a dentist.



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Example

Patient Name: Jack

Age: 4

Reason for appointment: Well-child Appointment

Jack presents at today's appointment with his mother. While the nurse is rooming patient and taking vitals the nurse asks when was his last dental appointment. Mom says Jack has never been to a dentist, but he brushes his teeth everyday. With that Jack responds to his mom that they have been out of toothpaste for a few days and his mom needs to buy some more.



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Recourses:

- Medical-Dental Integration Manual
<https://ruralhealth.und.edu/assets/3816-16057/medical-dental-integration-manual.pdf>
- Evaluation of Medical-Dental Integration at the University of North Dakota Center for Family Medicine
<https://ruralhealth.und.edu/assets/3815-16054/medical-dental-integration-und-cfm-brief.pdf>



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Questions??



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Thank you!

Time for Questions & Answers



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Upcoming Clinics

**Working with Patients Who Are American Indian or Alaska Native:
Oral Health Screening, Referral, and Education**

August 12, 2021

12:00 – 1:00 pm, Central

REGISTER HERE:

<https://echo.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvceioqT8uGtXL4L1QOkYwXcZLgppi3HD>

CONTACT INFORMATION



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