

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON DENTAL PRACTICE
ADA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, CHICAGO
May 9-10, 2024**

1 **Call to Order:** The meeting of the Council on Dental Practice (CDP/the Council) was called to order by
2 Dr. Jeffrey Ottley, chair, at 1:00 p.m., May 9, 2024, Central Time.

3 **Roll Call:** The following Council members and liaisons were present for all or part of the meeting:
4 Drs. Jeffrey C. Ottley (chair); Shane A. Ricci (*vice chair*); Chad Leighty (*Trustee liaison*); Richard W.
5 Barnes; Douglas T. Chang; Kamila L. Dornfeld; Amanda L. Fitzpatrick; David L. Fried; Margaret S.
6 Gingrich; Payam Goudarzi; Steven C. Hollar; James "Jimmy" W. Hollingsworth; Michael J. Korch;
7 Nicholas A. Papadea; Princy S. Rekhi; Derrick K. Ross; Michael A. Saba (via Zoom), Jennifer L.
8 Thompson; Camryn Ruggeri Bryant (*New Dentist Member*); and Ms. Emma Wilkinson (*American Student*
9 *Dental Association*).

10 Following the roll call, the presence of a quorum was noted.

11 **ADA Staff (for all or portions of the meeting):** Dr. Raymond A. Cohlma (via Zoom); Mr. Robert
12 Quashie; Mr. Jeffrey Fraum, Esq.; Mr. David Linn (via Zoom); Mr. Chad Olson (via Zoom); Mr. Matt
13 Rossetto (via Zoom); and Ms. Jennifer Donahue (via Zoom).

14 **Practice Institute Staff:** Dr. Krishna Aravamudhan; Dr. Hana Alberti; Dr. Jane Grover; Ms. Rebekah
15 Fiehn (via Zoom); Dr. Diane Metrick; Dr. Neel Shimpi (via Zoom); Ms. Sharon Stanford; Ms. Barbara
16 Ferriter (via Zoom); Ms. Felicia Bloom; Ms. Laura Jarosz; Ms. Karen Ann Danca; and Ms. Stacy Starnes.

17 **Guest Present:** Dr. Linda Edgar (ADA President).

18 **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

19 **Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement and Confidentiality Statement:** Dr. Ottley, chair, referenced
20 the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement and Confidentiality Statement included on the agenda and
21 called for disclosures of potential conflicts of interest and stressed the importance of confidentiality. Mr.
22 Fraum provided reminders including confidentiality obligations and that the ADA Division of Legal Affairs
23 is available to assist with questions.

24 **Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda was approved with permission for the chair to reorder items as
25 needed. Dr. Ottley added a new report to be included in the Policy portion of the agenda at the request of
26 the Board liaison, Dr. Chad Leighty, regarding the Large Group/ Multi-site Practice Task Force.

27 **Approval of Consent Calendar:** A consent calendar was prepared to expedite Council business. Council
28 members could remove any item from the consent calendar for consideration during the general meeting.
29 One report, Council Meeting Dates, was removed from the consent calendar.

30 **Consent Calendar:** The Council adopted the following resolutions.

31 **Resolved,** that the resolutions contained with the following reports be approved by consent:

- 32
 - Recording of Results of E-ballots

33 **Resolved,** that the resolutions contained with the following reports to be filed:

- 34
 - 2024 Practice Institute Operating Plan
 - 35 • Standard Developing Organization and Compliance in Practice
 - 36 • Dental Quality Alliance

1 **Recording of Mail Ballots:** The Council adopted the following resolution through the consent calendar.

2 **Resolved**, that the actions approved through E-ballots since the CDP March 8, 2024, meeting be
3 recorded in the minutes of this meeting.

4 E-ballot 2024-01: **Resolved**, that the Council on Dental Practice (CDP) approve the
5 Council on Dental Practice March 8, 2024, meeting minutes.

6 E-ballot 2024-02: **Resolved**, that the Council on Dental Practice approve to Amend the
7 policy titled, Dental Office Wastewater (*Trans.2003:387*) and be transmitted to the 2024
8 House of Delegates.

9 E-ballot 2024-03: **Resolved**, that the Council approve to retain as written the policies
10 under routine review and added to the annual report: Ownership of Dental Practices
11 (*Trans.2000:462*); Regulating Non-Dentist Owners of Dental Practices (*Trans.2011:491*;
12 2019:255); Statement Regarding Employment of a Dentist (*Trans.2013:353*; 2018:357;
13 2019:251); and Certification or Approval of Dental Care Facilities (*Trans.1993:689*).

14 **CDP chair opening remarks:** Dr. Ottley welcomed the Council and thanked the Council for the
15 significant work accomplished regarding the wellbeing strategy. Achievements include the growth of the
16 Wellness Ambassador Program and the expansion of the Well-Being Index. The goal is to decrease the
17 barriers to providers seeking mental healthcare. He acknowledged the many stressors dentists and their
18 team's experience and noted that the dentalcare workforce is not immune to burnout. Challenges with
19 lack of interoperability on both the administrative and clinical data side impact workflow and patient care
20 in an environment already stressed with workforce shortages. The Council continues to move forward
21 with their work on interoperability specifically with DICOM and ePDMP as priority topics. He expressed
22 gratitude to the Council for sharing their personal goals to collectively unify the council in its strategy
23 development to address the challenges of the workforce shortage. He requested a high level of
24 engagement to assist the Council in establishing a meaningful pathway and actionable next steps to
25 address workforce shortages.

26 **Trustee Liaison remarks:** Dr. Leighty expressed his gratitude for all the hard work completed through
27 the Council on Dental Practice including efforts through Standards and thanked the Council for their
28 leadership on Wellness efforts. He provided an update on the activities of the Board of Trustees including
29 the ADA Large Group and Multi-site Practice Engagement Task Force.

30 **2024 Practice Institute Operating Plan:** The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an
31 informational report detailing the status of the 2024 Practice Institute Operating Plan highlighting new and
32 continuing programs.

33 **EMERGING ISSUES**

34 **Workforce Strategy Session:** Dr. Ottley opened the session by restating the goal -- to develop a
35 strategy to address the dental team workforce shortage. The Council continues to research various roles,
36 funding opportunities and levels of education of the allied team. Dr. Alberti reported that a dentist-facing
37 version of the [Emerging Workforce Models](#) toolkit has been developed and posted to the ADA website.

38 Despite variations in state level educational requirements, licensure, and responsibilities of Allied Dental
39 Team, the Council was unified in prioritizing the availability of adequate workforce to increase utilization of
40 dental services and achieve operational efficiencies. Some members of the Council suggested various
41 actions including school-based recruitment; staff retention strategies; and sustainable educational
42 pathways for recruitment, education, and career advancement; as well as the completion of a
43 comprehensive policy review to reflect a consistent ADA philosophy.

44 After comprehensive discussion, the Council adopted the following resolution:

45 **Resolved**, that workforce related policies be reviewed and consolidated to provide a clear ADA
46 stance relating to Allied Dental Team, and be it further

1 **Resolved**, that comprehensive research be conducted to identify:

- 2 1. successful state and local initiatives for funding, recruitment, and training of assistants
- 3 and hygienists
- 4 2. gaps in workforce roles along with potential scope, training needs and other aspects
- 5 necessary to support states in their endeavor to implement other roles in the dental team
- 6 3. apprenticeship models to increase the pipeline of hygienists and dental assistants.
- 7 4. potential-career progression pathways for assistants, and be it further

8
9 **Resolved**, that an action plan be developed and presented to the November 2024 meeting of the
10 Council on Dental Practice for further action.

11 **Workplace Safety:** Dr Ottley discussed recent acts of violence in dental offices and the potential role of
12 the ADA. After shared concerns, the Council unanimously approved the following resolution:

13
14 **Resolved**, that the Dental Team Wellness Advisory Committee (DWAC) explore opportunities to
15 address workplace violence and safety, as part of dental team well-being and provide CDP a
16 report for its November 2024 council meeting.

17 PRACTICE AND POLICY TOPICS

18 **Standard Developing Organization and Compliance in Practice:** The Council accepted, through the
19 Consent Calendar, an informational report on the status of the provider and patient safety activities of the
20 American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), National Fire
21 Protection Association (NFPA), Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP) and Centers for
22 Disease Control (CDC).

23 **Use of “Allied” instead of “Auxiliary” in ADA Policy:** Dr. David Fried, the Practice & Policy
24 Subcommittee chair noted the subcommittee’s discussion related to the term “auxiliary” team member
25 used in several ADA policies. He noted that the Speaker had been consulted and had opined that the
26 Council could request an editorial change to the use of this term throughout the policy book. After
27 discussion, the Council supported use of the term “allied” throughout all Current ADA Policies for
28 consistency. On vote, the Council approved the following resolution:

29 **Resolved**, that with confirmation by the Speaker of House a change from the term “auxiliary” to
30 “allied” that is referenced in ADA Policy is editorial and therefore, the Council wishes to request
31 that CEBJA (Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs), as the appropriate agency, assist in
32 making editorial changes in the appropriate policies.

33 **Statement on Electronic Health Records and Data Exchange:** The Council approved the proposed
34 new Statement on Electronic Health Records and Data Exchange in Dentistry, which includes the
35 consolidation of policies that will be subsequently rescinded, and adopted the following:

36 **Resolved**, that proposed Statement on Electronic Health Record and Data Exchange be
37 transmitted to the 2024 House of Delegates.

38 **Policy Proposal from Large Group/ Multi-site Practice Engagement Taskforce:** Dr. Leighty reported
39 on activities of the ADA Large Group and Multi-site Practice Engagement Task Force. He emphasized the
40 desire of the Taskforce to convey broader support for inclusion of dentists in all practice models. The
41 Council discussed and suggested amendments to the proposed policy. Dr. Leighty thanked the Council
42 for their consideration and reported the Task Force will return the amended policy to CDP to finalize and
43 vote after input from other Councils.

44 DENTAL TEAM HEALTH WELLNESS & WELL-BEING

45 **Wellness Ambassador Program:** Current ambassadors are increasing awareness with state and local
46 societies, and with State Boards of Dentistry regarding health and wellness and intrusive language in
47 licensure. The third group of ambassadors will be onboarded in September and help expand and

1 transition the Wellness Ambassador Program to at least three states utilizing ADA resources and best
2 practices.

3 **Well-Being Index (WBI):** The Council was shown a WBI [video](#) that is available to help communicate the
4 availability of this free, confidential, screening tool. The Dental Team Wellness Advisory Committee
5 (DWAC) will review aggregate data quarterly to understand the trend in data and to recommend solutions
6 to increase awareness of the data and reduce the percentage of distressed providers and students by
7 promoting resources.

8 **Resolution 517H-2023 Preventing Unfair Discrimination Update:** The pilot program includes the state
9 dental associations from Florida, New Jersey, and Wisconsin. State leaders met with a licensure reform
10 expert from the American Medical Association to learn how to read applications for stigmatizing language.
11 A toolkit highlighting lessons learned from states that achieved licensure reform will be posted to
12 ADA.org/Wellness.

13 ADA STANDARDS PROGRAM

14 Ms. Stanford highlighted the increasing recognition of the ADA Standards program with the American
15 National Standards Institute (ANSI). The Food and Drug Administration recognizes and uses
16 conformance with these standards as criteria to demonstrate safety and efficacy for clearance to market
17 products in dentistry.

18 **Interoperability and Data Exchange:** The Digital Dentistry Technology and Innovation (DDTI)
19 Subcommittee is chaired by Dr. Thompson, who updated the Council on collaborative efforts of the
20 subcommittee and the newly reorganized ADA Standards team. Two new ADA Standards, No. 1114
21 *Implementation Requirements for the Effective Use of DICOM in Dentistry* and No. 1116 *Dentistry*
22 *Interoperability with Regulatory Compliance in EHR Systems*, have been approved and will respond to
23 Resolution 308 *Promoting Use of DICOM In Dentistry* and Resolution 313 *Incorporating Prescription Drug*
24 *Monitoring Program (PDMP) into Practice*. Dr. Thompson shared appreciation for all the efforts of
25 standards volunteers.

26 Dr. Thompson reported that the ADA's March 13 [webinar](#), titled "Federal Regulatory Panel on Dental
27 Interoperability and Data Exchange", was well attended with representation from industry, federal
28 agencies, providers, and payors. Post webinar survey results expressed great interest in the topic and
29 requested additional topics for consideration to continue the prioritization of interoperability. A response
30 [webinar](#) titled "Dental Interoperability and Data Exchange," scheduled June 12, will include panelists from
31 industry, academia, and practice to continue the discussions from the previous webinar.

32 RELEVANT ADA INITIATIVES

33 **ADA Executive Director Presentation:** Dr. Cohlmya presented *Catching Up: How the ADA is moving*
34 *quickly to address the challenges of today*. He highlighted ADA's challenges and initiatives including
35 generational transitions and emerging group practice models. ADA's values that drive the future are
36 customer and member focus; sustainability, innovation, nimbleness, and global presence. International
37 growth will be achieved through standards, licensing, research, partnerships, and innovation. ADA's
38 conversion to Fonteva and Salesforce will take place on July 8. In 2025 the new membership model will
39 be implemented with three categories launched in a six-state pilot. ADA Forsyth will serve our members in
40 streamlined operations, raising brand recognition, research expansion, innovation, and a global network.

41 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

42 **Division of Government and Public Affairs:** Mr. Linn provided an update to the Council regarding CGA
43 activities and federal government affairs initiatives. he addressed various topics including access to care
44 and dental benefit programs; Medicaid and CHIP; Medicare, private insurance, dental team shortages,

1 health information exchange, the corporate transparency act, health information technology, public health,
2 education and dental research, debt, diet, nutrition, and tobacco use.

3 **State Government Affairs update:** Mr. Olson provided highlights to the Council on state government
4 affairs. He addressed various topics including key workforce legislation in various states, licensure
5 compact, and teledentistry enacted into law, or pending legislation.

6 **LIAISON/ CONSULTANT REPORTS**

7 **American Student Dental Association (ASDA):** Ms. Wilkinson presented an informational report and
8 provided updates on various ASDA activities and initiatives.

9 **New Dentist Committee (NDC):** Dr. Bryant updated the Council on behalf of the NDC's activities.

10 **Dental Quality Alliance (DQA):** The Council accepted, through the Consent Calendar, an informational
11 report detailing the status and it includes CMS Core Set Reporting, State Oral Healthcare Quality
12 dashboard, PCM development workgroup, patient-reported outcomes performance measure
13 development, and collaborative work.

14 **COUNCIL OPERATIONS**

15 **Council Meeting Dates:** The Council was informed of a conflict affecting the CDP November 2025
16 meeting. ADA policy directs that CDP plan an alternative date. Alternative options include meeting
17 December 4-5; December 11-12, 2025; or consider virtual with changing schedule of in-person meetings.

18 **Election of Chair and Vice Chair:** The council approved the election of Dr. Shane A. Ricci to serve as
19 chair and Dr. Jennifer L. Thompson to serve as vice chair, Council on Dental Practice, until the close of
20 the 2025 meeting of the ADA House of Delegates.

21 **Recognizing Retiring Council Members:** Dr. Ottley expressed his gratitude for the knowledge, interest,
22 and time shared by Dr. Julia Townsend during her service on the Council. He recognized the council
23 members concluding service in 2024 including Dr. Barnes, Dr. Dornfeld, Dr. Fitzpatrick, Dr. Rekhi, Dr.
24 Leighty, and Ms. Wilkinson. Dr. Ricci highlighted Dr. Ottley's work as chair.

25 **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. CT on Friday, May 10, 2024.