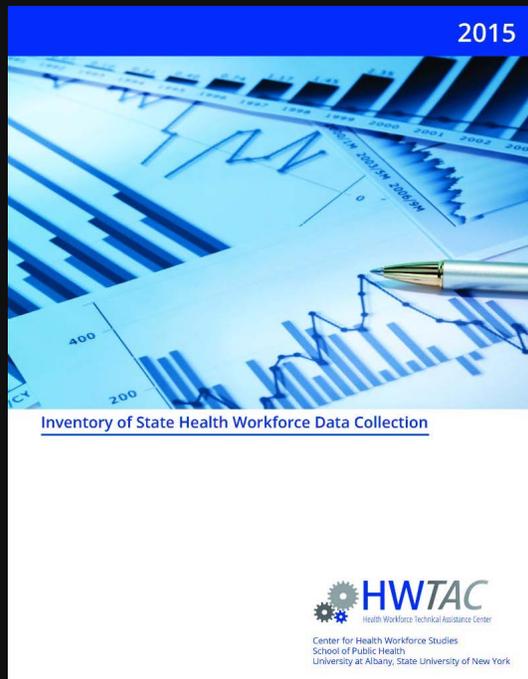




The Survey Results Are In



Inventory of State Health Workforce Data Collection

As the impacts of health reform are felt across the country, states are recognizing the importance of having timely, objective, and comprehensive data on their health workforce to inform decision-making. A growing number of states are developing or planning to develop health workforce monitoring systems to use for health workforce planning. In order to learn more about this, the Health Workforce Technical Assistance Center (HWTAC) at CHWS has been conducting an ongoing survey of states on their health workforce data collection and analysis efforts.

The results of the surveys completed in the first year of this project have been captured in our [Inventory of State Health Workforce Data Collection report](#), as well as a [visual map depiction organized by state](#), available on the HWTAC website. [A webinar](#) discussing the findings thus far can also be found on the HWTAC website. As surveys are completed in the upcoming year, the map on the website will be periodically updated. If your organization is currently collecting health workforce data, please [click here to complete our survey](#). Your participation in this ongoing effort is greatly appreciated.

Recently Released

Reports

Briefs



An Exploratory Study of the Use of Telehealth Services by Federally Qualified Health Centers and Hospitals in New York State

Recent federal and state health care reforms have resulted in a growing demand for health services, and, increasingly, health care providers are considering innovative treatment modalities, including telehealth. This is especially true in many rural areas of New York where the supply of health care providers tends to be limited, and telehealth is being used to successfully link patients to needed health care services. This report summarizes findings from a survey of New York's health care providers on their use of telehealth services. The study found that more than half of federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and hospitals who responded to the survey report using telehealth services.

[View Report](#)

Utilization of Oral Health Services by Medicaid-Insured Adults in Oklahoma, 2012-2013

The Oral Health Workforce Research Center (OHWRC) at CHWS conducted an exploratory analysis of Medicaid dental claims over a 2-year period in the state of Oklahoma, where the Medicaid program provides only a limited emergency dental benefit for eligible adults. This report helps understand the impact of Medicaid dental benefits and availability of providers on utilization of dental services.



A Profile of Oral Health Providers in New York State

Despite efforts to improve the oral health of New York's population, oral health disparities persist. Those at greatest risk for lack of access to basic oral health services include rural populations, racial and ethnic minorities, people with special needs, the elderly, and low-income populations. Many factors contribute to these disparities, among which is the supply and distribution of an oral health workforce to provide needed services. This research brief examines the dentist and dental hygienist workforce in New York, including counts and demographic characteristics, as well as practice characteristics.

[View Brief](#)

The Dental Assistant Workforce in the United States, 2015

Developed by OHWRC at CHWS, this brief summarizes key findings from the Dental Assistant Workforce report, specifically demographic and employment characteristics of dental assistants and gaps in data about this workforce.

[View Brief](#)

[View Report](#)

The Dental Assistant Workforce in the United States, 2015

Developed by OHWRC at CHWS, this report is a profile of the dental assisting workforce and examines the scope of practice statute and regulation in each of the states that recognize the workforce. The objectives of this study were to understand the demographic and employment characteristics of dental assistants, to describe the state-level regulatory climate for dental assisting, and to examine their potential contributions to improve patients' oral health education and access to care.

[View Report](#)

Peer-Reviewed Publications



CHWS Senior Research Associate Simona Surdu co-authored the paper, [Low Level Arsenic Contaminated Water Consumption and Birth Outcomes in Romania - an Exploratory Study](#), which was recently published in *Reproductive Toxicology*.



CHWS Director of Operations Gaetano Forte was published this month in the *Journal of the American Academy for Physician Assistants* for his commentary on [staffing patient-centered medical homes in New York](#).

In the News

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) highlighted our [Case Studies of 8 Federally Qualified Health Centers: Strategies to Integrate Oral Health with Primary Care](#) report in their story on Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, a New Hampshire based FQHC that is currently meeting a need in the community for more dental care:

The Desert Sun, part of the *USA Today* network, featured health sector employment projections from our recent tracking report:

<http://www.desertsun.com/story/news/health/2015/11/25/health-careers-coachella-valley/76373018/>

Works in Progress

Nurse Practitioner Data Collection in New York

As part of mandatory data collection, CHWS is collecting nurse practitioner (NP) data on a quarterly basis. Data collection for the last quarter of 2015 was collected in early January. Data from the survey is currently being assessed to determine how many NPs who registered during that time period did not fill out the survey.

Rapid Cycle Quality Improvement

In recent months, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Health Workforce has been encouraging its grantees to use rapid cycle quality improvement (RCQI) in their efforts to meet the goals and objectives of their grant programs. HWTAC at CHWS has been asked to provide assistance to help HRSA project officers and grantees better understand RCQI and its application in grant programs administered by the Bureau of Health Workforce. RCQI consists of systematic and continuous actions that lead to measurable improvement in health care services and the health status of targeted patient groups. RCQI is a continuous process that employs rapid cycles of change over time. Several [RCQI resources are currently available](#) on the HWTAC website, and related RCQI materials will be continually added.

Teledentistry

Teledentistry is an emerging model for oral health service delivery. The modality links consulting dental providers with other clinicians or patients through telecommunication to facilitate determination of treatment plans. The use of teledentistry has the potential to improve oral health outcomes for underserved populations, particularly those living in rural communities. OHWRC at CHWS is in the early stages of planning for 6 case studies of innovative teledentistry programs in different states. The case studies will explore the technology that is used in each program, funding for infrastructure and services, and workforce configurations including oral health clinical staff and health information technology staff. To the extent that data are available to support an assessment, the impact of teledentistry on oral health outcomes will be examined. Another goal of the project is to identify structural and regulatory barriers to the use of teledentistry including licensing requirements and reimbursement policies that impede its use.

Georgia Workforce Modeling

CHWS is currently working with the University System of Georgia to better understand current demand for registered nurses (RNs) in Georgia, particularly associate degree RNs (ADNs) compared to bachelor's degree RNs (BSNs). The assessment of current demand

for ADNs and BSNs in the state will be completed through a survey of RN education program deans and directors, a sample survey of recent ADN and BSN graduates, and a sample survey of nurse employers. Findings from this study will be used by the University System of Georgia to make strategic decisions regarding size and type of health workforce training programs it supports.

Events

Presentations



CHWS Senior Program Manager Robert Martiniano was the presenter for HWTAC's most recent webinar, [Developing Medicaid-Based Primary Care Rational Service Areas](#), on December 16th. [Slides of this presentation are available](#) on the HWTAC website.



OHWRC team members Margie Langelier, Jean Moore, and Bridget Baker presented [Workforce Innovations in Oral Health](#) on December 10th for the Health Workforce Institute Speaker Series, hosted by the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University.



CHWS Director Jean Moore presented at the National Governors Association Health Workforce Policy Academy's closing meeting in Washington, DC this past October 22nd, on [Building Blocks to Health Workforce Planning: Data Collection and Analysis](#).



Rakkoo Chung, Robert Martiniano, and Cassandra Bruce of CHWS each presented a research poster at the United Hospital Fund's 26th Annual Symposium on Health Care Services in New York at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center in New York City on October 20th. Topics included:

- [Trends in Subspecialization Among Physicians Completing Training in New York](#)
- [Developing Rational Service Areas for Needs Assessments: Network Analysis of Medicaid Data in New York State](#)
- [Medicaid Patients' Utilization of Outpatient and](#)

[Emergency Department Services for Cardiovascular and Diabetes-Related Conditions in New York State](#)



On October 19th, CHWS Senior Research Associate Bridget Baker presented [Growing Our Own: Care Coordination Strategies in New York](#) at the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) 2015 Statewide Conference and Clinical Forum in Lake George.

Mark Your Calendar

JANUARY 28th: [AcademyHealth's 2016 Health Workforce Interest Group Meeting Abstract Submission Deadline, 5pm EST](#)

FEBRUARY 1st: [AcademyHealth's National Health Policy Conference \(NHPC\) Breakout Session, 2:45pm EST](#)

CHWS Director Jean Moore will be speaking during the breakout session, entitled *State Scope of Practice Laws: Alternative Care Providers in Primary Care*.

FEBRUARY 10th: **HWTAC Webinar, [Data Visualization: Strategies, Tips, and Tools](#), 2pm EST**

Presenter: Matt Jansen



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