

Assessing Impacts of Training Opportunities in the Safety Net For Dental Students and Residents

Presented by: **Jean Moore, DrPH**
Oral Health Workforce Research Center
Center for Health Workforce Studies
School of Public Health | University at Albany, SUNY

Health Workforce Research Center Symposium
Washington, D.C.

October 2, 2018



The Oral Health Workforce Research Center

- A cooperative agreement between the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) and the Health Resources and Services Administration
- Created as a partnership between CHWS and the University of California, San Francisco in 2014
- Supports workforce research aimed at expanding access to oral health services for vulnerable populations
 - An available, competent, and well distributed professional workforce is required to meet unmet need for oral health services
 - The work of the OHWRC is designed to inform workforce planning for the delivery of oral health services

Acknowledgements/Disclaimers

- OHWC researchers participating in these studies:
 - Survey of FQHC Directors/Dental Directors: **Margaret Langelier; Simona Surdu and Carol Rodat**
 - Survey of Post Graduate Dental Residency Completers: **Ginachukwu Amah, Matthew Jura, Elizabeth Mertz**
- These studies were supported under the Oral Health Workforce Research Center Cooperative Agreement (U81HP27843)
- The information, conclusions and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent positions of HRSA

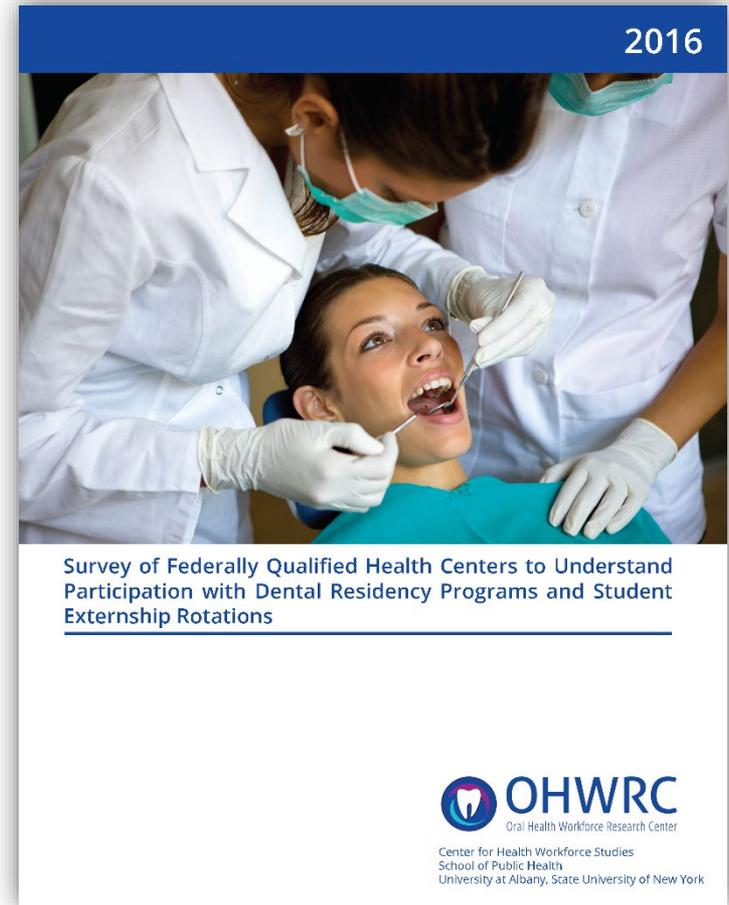
Oral Health in the Safety Net: What's Changing?

- In 2016, HRSA awarded \$156 million in oral health expansion grants to over 400 FQHCs
- At the same time, there is growing attention to community service for oral health students, including clinical training opportunities in safety net settings
 - Dental schools are placing strong emphasis on community service learning
 - The Commission on Dental Accreditation requires dental, dental hygiene and dental assisting schools to provide more 'extramural' learning

1. Survey of FQHCs on Participation in Dental Residencies and Dental Externships

Purpose of the study

- To assess the extent to which FQHCs support clinical training opportunities for dental students and dental residents and to identify:
 - Barriers to participation
 - Benefits of participation



Survey Findings

- 2016 survey of FQHC Directors/Dental Directors - 26% response rate
 - 81% of respondents provide direct dental services to their patients
 - 15% participate in dental residencies
 - 39% participate in dental student externship programs
- Barriers to participation
 - Lack of structural capacity (operatories and staff)
 - No sponsoring academic institutions available
- Reasons to participate
 - Expanded capacity to serve patients
 - Opportunity to recruit new dentists

2. Survey of Post-Graduate Dental Residency Completers

Purpose of the study

- To examine practice decisions of graduates of longstanding primary care dental post-graduate training programs with a history of HRSA funding
 - Assess impacts of training experience on current practice and access to care
 - Measure the long-term impact of these programs on improving the capacity of dentists to meet the needs of the underserved

Currently underway

Methods

- Identified post-graduate dental training programs that received HRSA funding
- Recruited a sample of 9 geographically diverse institutions encompassing 17 individual programs (AEGD, GPR, Pediatrics, Public Health)
- Conducted key informant interviews with program faculty to learn more about the programs
- Completed a literature review to identify similar studies and surveys used in these studies
- Drafted and pilot tested a program participant survey
- Launched survey of program completers (currently in the field with 7 of 9 institutions)

Survey Content

- Program attended and year
- Educational background
- Motivations for pursuing post-graduate dental (PGD) training
- Professional activity since completion of dental training
- Opinion of and satisfaction with the program
- Initial practice/employment after PGD training
- Current practice/employment information
 - For those in clinical care – specialty, time spent, payment sources, patient information - population and counseling
- Demographics

Key Informant Interviews: Characteristics of Participating Programs

- **Program Type**
 - Hospital based (3)
 - Health Center/Community-based (1)
 - Dental School (8)
- **Applicant Source**
 - Mostly Local (3)
 - Mostly Regional (2)
 - National (7)
- **Location**
 - Predominately Urban (10)
 - Predominately Suburban (2)
 - Predominately Rural (0)
- **Trajectory of Program**
 - Grown over time (3)
 - Remained the same (9)
 - Reduced in size (0)
- **Other funding**
 - Yes (11)
 - No (1)

Source: Interviews of Program Directors at Participating Institutions

Includes 12 programs from the 7 participating institutions that have fielded surveys.

Key Informant Interviews: How is HRSA Funding Used?

- **Program Growth**
 - New programs
 - Expand resident class size
 - Open new sites
 - Increase resident lines and locations
- **Operations**
 - Run operating rooms
 - Run programs
- **Faculty**
 - Loan Repayment
 - Hire and develop faculty
- **Development**
 - Develop MPH and other Masters programs
 - Allow residents to learn and research public health matters
 - Improve curriculum
 - Permanently improve didactic training
 - Become self-sustaining
- **Resources**
 - Tuition support and stipends
 - Purchase equipment

Source: Interviews of Program Directors at Participating Institutions

Programs included are from the 7 participating institutions that fielded surveys.

Participant Survey Response N & Rates

Institutions	Weeks in Field	Response Rate (9/24/2018)	Response N (Total=739)
Institution 1	10	75%	442
Institution 2	5	10%	49
Institution 3	4	59%	40
Institution 4	1	9%	6
Institution 5	6	15%	58
Institution 6	8	86%	83
Institution 7	8	70%	61

Questions?

Study of FQHC Participation in Dental Residencies and Dental Student Externships

To view report, click [here](#)

mlangelier@albany.edu

Survey of Post-Graduate Dental Residency Completers:

Elizabeth.Mertz@ucsf.edu

Visit Us:

www.oralhealthworkforce.org

