OHNEP Initiative Started Its Second Year

As we embark on the second phase of the Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice initiative we wish to thank our colleagues for supporting this important national initiative to create an educational infrastructure for the nursing profession that advances nursing’s contribution to eliminate oral health disparities across the life span. In 2012, the OHNEP initiative will build upon the outcomes achieved in its first year, and focus on the national dissemination of strategies for developing oral health competencies in undergraduate and graduate nursing education, and integrating oral health best practices in RN and APRN clinical settings.

Integrating Oral Health in Medical Education

Maria Dolce received a curricular development award from the Association of American Medical Colleges to support Integrating Oral Health in Medical Education. The development award is supported through HRSA grant funding (Building Oral Health Training Capacity in Medical Education grant #U44MC20223). Building on the Smiles for Life curriculum, a standardized patient case for an interprofessional simulation will be developed to address core competencies in oral-systemic health.

Visit our new website! www.ohnep.org

U.S. National Oral Health Alliance

Maria Dolce, OHNEP Project Director, and Donna Hallas, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Mental Health Specialist at NYU College of Nursing, were among 125 participants at the U.S. National Oral Health Alliance First Leadership Colloquium held on November 7-8, 2011 in Washington, DC. The First Leadership Colloquium focused on building medical and dental collaboration to advance oral health care in America. Several themes emerged from the collective contributions of leaders in oral health:

- Stay focused on the overall health of the individual.
- Strengthen interprofessional and patient education.
- Integrate delivery and financing systems.
- Examine the role for medical and dental records in patient-centered care.
- Expand the dialogue on oral health.

For more information on upcoming Leadership Colloquia, please visit the U.S. National Oral Health Alliance website:

www.usalliancefororalhealth.org

Left to right: Tracy Garland, Director of the National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health, Judith Haber, OHNEP Co-Executive Director, and Maria Dolce, OHNEP Project Director, at New York University College of Nursing 21st Annual Estelle Osborne Recognition Ceremony on February 15th, 2012.
Oral Health Matters!
Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice Newsletter

Smiles For Life:
A National Oral Health Curriculum

SFL iPhone Application now available!

Use the QR Scanner on your iPhone to download the Smiles for Life free application:

![QR Code](image)

Smiles for Life curriculum is recognized by the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA), American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), American Nurses Association (ANA), National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) and National Association of School Nurses (NASN).

In 2011 over 285 SFL courses were completed by 157 nurses and nurse practitioners. There was an increase in the percentage of nurse and nurse practitioner users from 6% in 2010 to 14% in 2011.

Publications


National Oral Health Nursing Workgroup

The National Nursing Workgroup on Oral Health, chaired by Judith Haber, was first convened in December 2011. The Workgroup, comprised of 18 members, serves as an expert advisory committee providing input related to nursing’s role in advancing a national oral health agenda.

Spotlight

A member of the National Oral Health Nursing Workgroup, Marguerite DiMarco, PhD, RN, CPNP, Associate Professor, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at University of Akron College of Nursing was appointed as the Nursing representative of an interprofessional team to review the work of the American Academy of Pediatrics on an oral health risk assessment tool designed to assess the oral health status of children (0-20 years). The goal of this review process is to develop a risk assessment tool that can be used by all primary care clinicians who provide care to pediatric patients.