Preparing the Next Generation: Collaboration Ready Workforce for Oral Health
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OBJECTIVES
Demonstrate how interprofessional education and collaborative practice can impact oral health by describing initiatives that:
1. Bridge the education to practice gap through activities that are spread across the educational continuum
2. Produce a workforce that is collaborative practice ready for oral health
3. Incorporate oral health interprofessional best practices in existing community-based primary care practices

COMPETENCIES
Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPECC, 2011)

- Competency Domain 1: Values/ethics for Interprofessional Practice
- Competency Domain 2: Roles/Responsibilities
- Competency Domain 3: Interprofessional Communication
- Competency Domain 4: Teams and Teamwork

EXEMPLARS

1. Bridge the education to practice gap through activities that are spread across the educational continuum

   University of Washington : i-TEETH (Interprofessional Teams Engaged in Education and Training in Health) Program
   - Sequential interprofessional curriculum designed for advanced practice trainees that bridges the gap between classroom to community-based collaborative learning
   - Part 1: online module with IPE and team training concepts, a group exercise, and growth and development of oral health content
   - Part 2: seminar with cases featuring children and teenage patients with special needs. Trainees create an optimal plan of care and discover the unique contributions of others
   - Part 3: half-day clinical experience at the Center for Pediatric Dentistry to teach each other oral health and assessment skills and jointly provide care to underserved children in the community

2. Produce a workforce that is collaborative practice ready for oral health

   Interprofessional Oral Health Training for Faculty and Student Champions
   - 2-day workshop designed to change the knowledge, skills and behavior of faculty in promoting the integration of oral health curriculum to produce a workforce that is collaborative practice ready
   - Day 1: didactic and experiential activities included strategies on incorporating oral health content into curricula, innovative teaching methods, and skills development
   - Day 2: applied newly learned skills through community service. Partnered with organizations such as Head Start and conducted oral health screenings, health promotion education and applied fluoride varnishes

3. Incorporate oral health interprofessional best practices in existing community-based primary care practices

   Smiles for Life
   - Partnership between American Academy of Pediatrics and American Dental Association Foundation
   - Using a train-the-trainer model, train pediatricians to address oral health in the community by:
     - Coaching practitioners to incorporate oral health into medical homes
     - Advocating for children's oral health issues at state and local levels
     - Serving as an oral health resource in their community
     - Building relationships with dental colleagues in their communities

CONCLUSION
Promoting oral health, preventing oral disease and reducing oral health disparities requires interprofessional teams of health professionals committed to working together for the ultimate goal of coordinated care. Interprofessional education and collaborative practice initiatives are an ideal platform from which to advance the oral health preventive agenda.

The Interprofessional Oral Health Care Model adapted from the WHO Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (2010) is useful framework to guide interprofessional education and collaborative practice initiatives to improve oral health.

RESOURCES
- http://www.niioh.org/
- http://ohnep.org/
- www.smilesforlifeoralhealth.org/