Moving Forward with Remote Supervision

Last year, the VDHA House of Delegates voted on the definition of remote supervision. The definition we have added to our glossary states: Remote supervision – A dentist has periodic communication with a dental hygienist regarding patient care. The dentist shall not be required to have previously examined the patient and need not be present when the dental hygiene services are provided.

This internal policy change was part of a process toward working on pro-active legislation to expand how and where Dental Hygienists may practice under Remote Supervision. Working with VDA over many months, VDHA came to a consensus to initiate a remote supervision bill, which passed unanimously through the entire legislative process. The Governor signed SB712 on March 25th 2016. Read the full bill here: http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?161+ful+CHAP0497

I will share some excerpts from the bill:
A dental hygienist shall only practice under remote supervision at a community health center, charitable safety net facility, free clinic, long-term care facility, elementary or secondary school, Head Start program, or women, infants, and children program.

While this step forward has clear limitations on sites of service, our belief is that this will open up access to care for more Virginians. We hope that some new, innovative agreements between dentists, hygienists, and other stakeholders will take place as a result of this bill.
President’s Message (continued)

The bill also states:
*After conducting an initial oral assessment of a patient, a dental hygienist practicing under remote supervision shall consult with the supervising dentist prior to providing further dental hygiene services if such patient is medically compromised or has periodontal disease.*

This was one of the more restrictive portions of the bill. We will be working hard to make this more feasible and understandable for all who wish to practice under remote supervision. As a result of questions from VDHA members, we have already had a positive dialogue with the VDA about how to clarify this section.

If hygienists out there are interested in working in a free clinic, long term care facility, or any place outlined in the bill please take the time to review this bill and see how it might work for you and your employer dentist. VDHA leadership is eager to hear about creative approaches and best practices that we can share and duplicate.

We will continue our efforts to make this new law work better and continue to remove roadblocks to oral health care for all people of Virginia. We appreciate the support of our members and stakeholder partners as we advance workable improvements to Virginia’s laws and regulations.

Susan Reid-Carr, BS, RDH
President VDHA
New Resource: Oral Health Integration Toolkit

Dental providers have a unique opportunity to address their patients’ comprehensive health care needs by integrating clinical services into the dental practice. Services such as diabetes and blood pressure screening and substance abuse identification can improve patient wellness and underscore the relationship between oral health and overall health. Dental hygienists are particularly poised to improve public health and provide oral health education, due to their strong background in health protection, disease prevention and health promotion.

Health providers from multiple disciplines outside of dentistry can deliver oral health services, education and referrals in most care settings as well. Integrating oral health into all aspects of health care can expand access to oral health services and enhance comprehensive care. In many instances, oral health services like fluoride varnish application and oral health assessments are reimbursable. In all instances, integrating oral health and clinical services supports collaborative care and whole-body health.

The Virginia Oral Health Coalition (VaOHC) has put together a new resource for dental and medical providers who are interested in integrating oral health and clinical services: the Integration Toolkit. The toolkit is hosted on VaOHC website and is accessible from their homepage (www.vaoralhealth.org).

The Integration Toolkit is an online resource that walks you through key steps of integration, from identifying your patients’ major health care needs to analyzing financial models, and more. The toolkit includes:

- Sample oral health integration models;
- Prompt questions to consider with your team;
- Clinical practice tools for the dental office; and,
- Continuing education opportunities for dental and medical providers.

VaOHC developed the Integration Toolkit with grant funding from the Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, in partnership with The Daily Planet and Community Health Solutions. For questions and feedback about the toolkit, or to submit additional resources, please contact Sarah Bedard Holland at 804.269.8721 or sholland@vaoralhealth.org.
Upcoming Calendar Dates:

HOD and Professional Development Workshop
2016 September 15-18
Four Points Sheraton, Richmond

Executive Board Meeting

July 16, 2016 1024 Carrington Place, Charlottesville

Join us on Facebook!
https://www.facebook.com/groups/vdha.net/
On behalf of the VHypAC directors, we would like to thank all of you who came out to have a great evening and fund-raise for VHypAC at the Scientific Session.

VHypAC Directors:
Maureen P. McCann, RDH, Chair
Joyce Flores, RDH
Jessica Elmore, RDH
Tracey Martin, RDH
Gail Stone, RDH
Tammy Ridout, RDH

With seed money provided from the VDHA Foundation, the VHypAC, held an amazing reception at the Spring Scientific Session on Friday, March 18, 2016. We had a DJ and dancing, plus and exciting bucket raffle. We had contributions from the components (we had jewelry necklace and earrings, a Pandora bracelet, ski packages, wine baskets, chocolate baskets...) and used some of the funds from the Foundation for a “big item”, a tablet with a detachable keyboard. Anyone who became a member got tickets to put in the bucket in front of the items that they were interested in. The Foundation provided food, the room and a cash bar. A good time was had by all!! We made $1290 for the VHypAC. We look forward to future celebrations and fundraising events. We thank all who contributed to the event and made it such a great success. My directors were awesome! Thanks for all of the help and great ideas. We have already been given seed money to hold another event at the Spring Scientific Session, 2017, so we look forward to another great event.

In the mean-time, if you would like to join VHypAC, please send your checks (payable to VHypAC) to Maureen P. McCann, VHypAC chair at 309 N.Pope St. Bridgewater, VA 22812.

Please include the following information with your check: your occupation and employer, your address and email. We have to report all contributions and need the information for reporting to the state board of elections. Thank you!
Component Reports:
Thanks to all of the component leaders who have sent in reports on the activities in your area! We appreciate your leadership in VDHA! The following reports and photos were submitted by the components. If you have information you would like to include in the next issue of The Curet, please email it to smotley01@gmail.com.

Component Two:

Spring 2016 Greater Richmond DHA News

In honor of Children’s Dental Health Month, GRDHA offered a 2-hour CE on Orthodontics and Pediatric Care in February. The participants were treated to dinner and laminated handouts that will be very useful in recognition of adolescent early intervention needs.
Emilie Bonovitch did an excellent job as Scientific Session Planning Chair working closely with the VDHA Planning and Development Council and committee chairs. She executed the logistics, menu selection, and communication with the Hilton like a pro. Special thanks to the members who took turns manning the registration desk all weekend and for those who helped with sales of the Hu Friedy Instrument basket and the Crown Stool Raffle tickets for the VDHA fundraiser.

The CE for March provided information and instruction on MELT, a method of rehydrating areas of inflammation in the body and healing connective tissue. Also, Lisa Williams, Hygiene Educator, spoke to us about air polishers, ultrasonic instrumentation and the FAQs on care and usage of each. Dentsply sponsored Lisa and provided a wonderful dinner.
GRDHA celebrated with the VCU senior students at the Garden Grove Brewery. This is an event full of food and door prizes. Our future hygienists mingle with local professionals as they offer advice on career options.

We will be gearing up soon for the Fall House of Delegates, held at the Four Points Sheraton in Midlothian in September, and would love to hear from anyone who thinks they might be interested in serving as Delegate or attend the Professional Development Workshop.

If you would like to know more about meetings, CE courses, volunteer opportunities or how to get involved, please give me a shout and I will be glad to get you connected.

Happy Spring!

Melanie Bartlam, RDH
VDHA 02 Trustee, Greater Richmond
Component 9
A Spring CE is planned for April 29, 2016 with Cathy Berard on “2016 Bloodborne Pathogens & Hazard Communication Standards & OSHA Update” and Kami Piscitelli on “Dental Care Considerations for Individuals with Special Health Care Needs & Early Childhood.”

A Fall CE is schedule for October 7, 2016 with Dianne Watterson on “Prevention vs. Prosecution—Patient Care Issues in Dentistry” & “Ten Things You Should Never Say to Patients: Communication Tools You Need.”

President – Moe Thompson
Vice-President – Rita Phillips
Treasurer/Secretary – Margaret Martin
Trustee – Margaret Martin
Legislative Chair—Rita Phillips

Margaret Martin
09 Trustee
The monthly CE topics well received by both student and practicing dental hygienists encompassed the innovative applications of xylitol as an effective approach for total health, revisiting the positive outcomes of non-surgical periodontal therapy contingent upon patient compliance, and a hands-on experience with lasers enabling evidence-based decision making for one’s future utilization in soft tissue management were. Conducting the February CE on the students’ turf at Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC) allowed them to proudly lead a tour of their state-of-the-art clinical facilities and respond to attendees’ inquiries.
On March 21st, during school hours, Trustee Green visited with the TNCC senior class and engaged in group dialogue on the benefits of tripartite, professional membership, visions of their future as professionals and opportunities for them to advance their influence and impact as leaders. The students were presented with exam gift bags containing a wealth of delectable treats and supportive supplies for their upcoming boards.
President Suedbeck, Trustee Green and VDHA President Reid-Carr participated in the ODU Awards and Pinning Ceremony on April 17th. President Elect, Keith Duron will present the PDHA Future Leader Award along with VDHA President, PDHA’s President, Immediate Past President, Martin and Trustee conducting the TNCC Pinning Ceremony supported by VDHAF sponsorship on May 10th.

Installation of the 2016-17 Leadership Team will be conducted by VDHA President in combination with the May 16th Spring Social of free appetizers, Listerine and Ultradent exhibitors, door prizes and decorative cupcakes celebrating our new colleagues, the 2016 graduates of TNCC and ODU.

Great fun has been had by many in networking, lifelong learning, and celebrating the successes of Remote Supervision advocacy and dental hygiene graduates preparing to transition to professional membership and practice.
Congrats to PDHA's Future Leader Award recipient, Hailey Chohany, 2016 Graduate of TNCC
Left to right, Keith Duron, PDHA President Elect, Hailey Chohany, 2016 Graduate of Thomas Nelson Community College Dental Hygiene Program, Marge Green, ADHA Past President, Julie Martin, PDHA Immediate Past President

Hailey was also the recipient of the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association Award.

Hailey served with excellence in her positions as President of the TNCC Student Chapter of ADHA and Student Delegate to the VDHA House of Delegates.

Congratulations to Victoria Ashe who has been selected to be the reporting student delegate for ADHA's House of Delegates.
Greetings from Component 10! Hope everyone has enjoyed the rain that will bring the flowers. We are still 33 members strong but will hopefully be adding more with the event of LFCC graduating 17 new hygienists.

Students from Lord Fairfax Community College participated in the Warren County Health Fair held at Warren County High School on April 16, 2016 educating the public and handing out oral hygiene products.

10 LFCC dental hygiene students attended the Scientific Session this March and the Northwest component contributed $25 per student for their registration fee. It's encouraging to see so many rising stars taking a higher interest in their profession.

A continuing education course will be held at LFCC in November with Carol Jahn and Jim Overby of Biolase Surgical who is a laser specialist. More details to come.

NWVDHA Component provided the LFCC graduating class of 2016 with a gift bag and a frame for their licenses which will be handed out at their ceremony. We are very proud of our graduates especially due to the high number of graduates this year. We are already preparing for the new round of hungry dental hygiene students this August for the Class of 2018!!

The Northwest component meetings are held at Sal's Restaurant in Edinburg the third Thursday of the month. All hygienists and hygiene students are welcome to join us at 6:30pm for dinner or 7:00pm for the business meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Whitney March, RDH
Trustee Component #10
The Virginia Dental Hygienists’ Association Foundation: A Legacy of Leadership, Service, and Lifelong Learning

Do you know the inspiring story of Benefactor, Alice Hinchcliffe Williams, RDH, MS, and her legacy?

Alice was a dental hygiene educator in Roanoke and a practitioner in Lynchburg, Virginia. Following graduation from Eastman School of Dental Hygiene in Rochester, NY, Alice worked as a school dental hygienist serving 20 schools in Liverpool, NY. Her leadership skills as President of the Dental Hygienists’ Association of the State of New York became an asset of the Virginia Dental Hygienists’ Association in her service as Trustee. With her Masters degree in Science Education from UVA, she then moved on to become the founder and director of the Dental Hygiene Program at Virginia Western Community College in 1975. Her passion for scholarship and lifelong learning for dental hygienists is exemplified with her long-standing, generous and visionary support of the VDHA’s continuing education speaker’s fund.

As the benefactor of the Virginia Dental Hygienists’ Association Foundation (VDHAF) in 1994, Alice endowed the perpetual fund, establishing it to provide lifelong learning experiences for current and future generations of dental hygienists throughout Virginia. The members of the VDHA responded to the gift by raising matching funds that is today administered through the Alice Hinchcliffe Williams Continuing Education Fund. When you make your tax-deductible donation to VDHA’s Foundation, you are fully supporting the continuance of Alice’s legacy and the foundation’s performance of charitable, educational, research and scientific activities.

Marge Green, RDH, MS, co-founding director and treasurer of the VDHA Foundation, says, “Alice was a very special colleague and friend who warmed the hearts of all who knew her. Her long-standing support has enriched the professional development of students and practitioners and the advancement of the dental hygiene profession. The qualities that made her a wonderful person contributed to her many leadership accomplishments and passion for lifelong learning and scholarly activity in our profession. Her legacy lives on in our many accomplished VDHA leaders, grant and scholarship recipients who have benefited from her generosity and vision.” After her retirement from education in 1980, Alice went on to serve her community through Altrusa, the Order of the Eastern Star, her church, and as president of the Adult Care Center of Central Virginia. In 1988, the YWCA recognized her with the Academy of Women Award for Human Services.
In addition to funding professional development programs with leading oral health and leadership subject matter experts, the VDHA Foundation has also provided:

- VDHA’s Annual Scientific Session and Networking Social events
- Speaker Sponsorship grants for Component continuing education programs
- Rally Day program materials and support of transportation enabling component, student and faculty participation
- Leadership development opportunities for dental hygiene students, such as participation in the VDHA’s annual House of Delegates and Professional Development Workshop
- Support of VDHA membership recruitment and retention efforts
- Ongoing fundraising in support of VDHA’s educational and career development goals
- Support for the Institute of Oral Health of the American Dental Hygienists’ Association
- Graduate Student Scholarship
- Educational and Community Service grants

The VDHA Foundation and the legacy of Alice Hinchcliffe Williams lives on in all of Virginia’s dedicated oral health practitioners and the populations they serve. All contributions enable the VDHA Foundation to continue to make a significant difference in the lives of many. Tax exempt donations may be sent to Marge Green, VDHA Foundation Treasurer, 1919 Old York Hampton Highway, Yorktown, VA 23492-4143.
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VDHA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTERED by:
ADHA INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH

Alice Hinchcliffe Williams, RDH, MS Graduate Merit Scholarship - Funded by the Virginia Dental Hygienists’ Association Foundation to honor their deceased colleague and benefactor who enabled establishment of the VDHA Foundation. The scholarship supports the part-time or full-time student pursuing a graduate degree in Dental Hygiene or in accredited studies related to the professional roles of the dental hygienist. While the applicant must possess an active DH license and Virginia residency, the degree seeking endeavor does not require the applicant to attend school within Virginia. For additional information, and to apply, please visit the ADHA website at:
http://www.adha.org/iod-graduate-scholarships
Virginia continues to be a leader in fundraising for the Institute for Oral Health. Virginia has made significant contributions through overall donations and also through participating in the Red Hot Chili Stepper 5K for District III.

The following have generously given donations during the time period of November 2015-April 2016. Watch for the next issue for updates to the list.

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For additional information on the Institute, please visit the website at [www.adha.org/institute-for-oral-health](http://www.adha.org/institute-for-oral-health)

Rita A. Phillips, BSDH, RDH, PhD  
Virginia Dental Hygienists’ Association IOH Liaison