Integrating Dental Hygienists into Community Health Centers
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Panelists:

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Presentation Overview

• ADHA’s New Strategic Plan 2015
• Discuss Barriers to Access
• Explore Various Roles of RDHs in Community Health Centers
ADHA Core Ideology

Lead the transformation of the dental hygiene profession to improve the public’s oral and overall health.
ADHA Vision Statement

Dental hygienists are integrated into the healthcare delivery system as essential primary care providers to expand access to oral health care.
ADHA Goals: Education – Alliances-Advocacy

- Prepare Dental hygiene professionals for the evolving scope of professional practice and settings.
- Better position the profession to be viewed as an integrated part of the healthcare system through strategic partnerships.
- Advance the profession of dental hygiene at the state and federal level.
Dental Hygiene Landscape Overview

- The workforce
  - Currently 150,000+ dental hygienists in the U.S.
  - One of the top 10 fastest growing health care professions

- The educational infrastructure
  - 335 entry level dental hygiene programs
  - 55 degree completion programs
  - 22 Masters programs

- States’ increasing recognition
  - 36 states allow hygienists to initiate care in community settings
  - 15 states directly reimburse hygienists
  - 1 Advanced Dental Therapist program in MN