

DESTINATION: INTEGRATE ORAL HEALTH INTO PERSON-CENTERED HEALTH HOMES¹



The Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN) is building power in states and communities to create the change needed to make our nation as healthy as it can be. We know that healthier mouths mean healthier people. And healthier people mean stronger communities. This DESTINATION is one of five on which OPEN is working collectively to achieve by 2020, in order to create a just oral health system – one where everyone has an equitable chance to thrive.

Target: Oral health is integrated into at least 50% of emerging person-centered care models through payment/coverage and health care service delivery and coordination.

COMMUNITY TACTICS

- ❑ **Conduct ongoing community needs assessments** to demonstrate the need for person-centered, integrated care.
- ❑ **Develop local and state alignment** to develop local and state alignment around effective models, promotion of equity, and improvement of oral health literacy by engaging a broad range of community partners.
- ❑ **Cultivate community leadership capacity** to test integration care models; focus on community-based organizations that serve vulnerable populations.
- ❑ **Support collaboration** to advance oral health integration in non-dental and community-based settings among local medical and dental providers, care coordinators, and consumer advocates
- ❑ **Drive the integration of oral health** into community and economic development efforts by providing technical assistance to local community organizations.

STATE TACTICS

- ❑ **Encourage states to support the integration of oral health** in Medicaid ACOs and other demonstration models.
- ❑ **Promote integrated care delivery in safety net** and other settings to state dental associations, primary care and rural health associations, and oral health coalitions.
- ❑ **Ensure that the design on state PCMH, ACO, and other payment reform models reflect input** from dental providers and associations, and primary care and rural health associations.

¹Person-centered care is a health care delivery system where all aspects of patient (“person”) care between health care providers (medical, dental and behavioral) and community resources are integrated and coordinated in a manner that is valuable and meaningful to the patient, with the goal of improving health care quality and outcomes, while lowering health care costs.

NATIONAL TACTICS

- ❑ **Encourage federal agencies (e.g., NIH, HRSA, CMS) to support:** (1) health policy and clinical research into the relationship between oral health and general health outcomes; and (2) health services delivery and demonstration models that promote care integration.
- ❑ **Engage national dental providers and payer associations** in decision-making and regulation of PCMH, ACO, and other emerging payment reform efforts/models.
- ❑ **Develop alignment** around characteristics of effective person-centered care models that promote integration of medical, dental and behavioral health.
- ❑ **Develop clinical referral guidelines and performance measures** accepted by national organizations (e.g., NCCA and AHRQ) that promote patient-centered care.
- ❑ **Include consumer satisfaction measures** in assessments of person-centered care models.
- ❑ **Develop consolidated medical/dental electronic health records** that can be used within and across provider systems for patient and population health in partnership with national health IT vendors, health service delivery systems, and networks, as well as users.
- ❑ **Create an online resource** with examples of successful efforts to integrate oral health into person-centered care and practical tools examples of integrated electronic health records, referral arrangements, metrics, etc.
- ❑ **Promote the inclusion of oral health access and outcomes on the agendas of national organizations** that promote healthy families and communities and health literacy.
- ❑ **Encourage incorporation of oral health in products and coverage** among federal health care providers (e.g., CMS, HRSA, IHS, VA), insurance companies, and health plan administrators.

TACTICS THAT WORK ACROSS ALL LEVELS

- ❑ **Encourage testing of oral health integration models**, including metrics, financing and practice reform, by local and state-based integrated care organizations.
- ❑ **Promote awareness about the impact of poor oral health on overall health** across health sectors and describe the related costs for insurers, policymakers, legislators and employers.
- ❑ **Identify and engage oral health champions** in primary care and other health professions to prioritize the integration of oral health education and access across the lifespan, including prenatal, maternal, pediatric, adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients.
- ❑ **Build and expand interprofessional education resources** that include oral health for a broad range of health care professions; promote Smiles for Life.
- ❑ **Develop resources that promote oral health literacy** and empower people to discuss oral health with medical, oral, and behavioral health care providers.

NOTES, IDEAS, AND PLANS

Check off the tactics you plan to use in getting OPEN to this goal. Work with your team, stakeholders and partners to design a pathway to action.


