

Why Adults Forgo Dental Care: Evidence from a New National Survey

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The ADA Health Policy Institute produces a rich collection of economic reports for the practicing community. In November 2014, they released this report which found:

* Cost and low perceived need are the top reasons why adults indicate they do not intend to visit a dentist in the next 12 months. This is true among adults of all ages and income levels.

*Other important reasons for not visiting a dentist include lack of time, difficulty traveling to a dentist, anxiety, and difficulty finding a dentist that accepts Medicaid.

*The prominence of "no need" as a reason for forgoing dental care may be driven by improvements in oral health, changes in oral health literacy, or a significant shift in the value proposition of dental care. Further research is needed in this area

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DEAN'S UPDATE TO THE IUSD COMMUNITY



First Friday.....January 9, 2015

IUSD is back in full swing despite the frigid sub-zero temperatures of early January. I hope you had a nice holiday break and are reinvigorated to move IUSD onward in 2015. A new year provides new opportunities to advance our mission and activities. How we respond and position the IU Dental School within the complex environment of dental education and practice as part of the overall health care system can advance our Mission and the Vision of IUSD to make Indiana..... *one of the best dental schools of the 21st century*. Compliance is now a significant component of what it means to be one of the best of the 21st century. *Wishing each of you a healthy new year in 2015!*

• Compliance 2015: IUSD and the Health Sciences Plan

Given the changing health care environment, IUSD is ramping up attention to Compliance in 2015. In mid-December 2014, the Health Science Schools at IUPUI all endorsed a new comprehensive plan to strengthen the oversight for each academic program. The health sciences are a highly regulated industry with increased oversight and enforcement including access to and use of health information, patient care, billing practices and research. The recent [Indiana Walgreen's court](#) decision unfavorable to employers regarding actions of their employees should have all dental offices reviewing their training and policies regarding compliance. The Plan applies to all Health Science community members, which include faculty, staff, and trainees (collectively "employees"), as well as students, of the health science schools. The Health Science schools (Schools) are currently comprised of the Schools of Dentistry, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Optometry, Public Health (Bloomington and Indianapolis) and Social Work.

Another change to enhance compliance is the enrollment of all faculty as Medicaid providers while serving as supervising dentists at IUSD. Forms will be sent out soon to all full and part time faculty to make enrollment an easy process. This status has no financial impact on a dentist who also has an extramural private practice as all IUSD authorized Medicaid procedures are billed under the IUSD Medicaid provider account number. As I mentioned on Tuesday at the Faculty Orientation, in the words of Bob Dylan—"the times are a changing" and we need to bring IUSD into better compliance.

• Dental Building Project Update

Last month, I shared with you the news that we spent much of calendar year 2014 consulting with the Smith Group JJR, the architectural planning group for IU working on: the Inter-Professional Education (IPE) project, master space planning needs for IU dentistry and options for IUSD on the former Wishard campus. For various reasons, it is not feasible to pursue the Wishard property option. Therefore, we now return to the original plan of expanding our existing structure for new clinical facilities and then renovating the remaining dental buildings. For 2015, we are taking on a new renovation project on the fourth floor of

First Friday....IUSD Dean's Update January 9, 2015

IUSD to renovate the lobby area, restrooms, dental hygiene clinic, and graduate operative clinics at the south end of the building. This will bring the remaining patient lobby area into a contemporary standard. In addition, this provides the opportunity to showcase what the new clinical facilities can look like when the new addition is constructed. The timeline calls for planning and design during spring 2015 with construction/renovation during summer 2015. We plan a grand opening September 2015 (hopefully). The entire project is being funded by the dental school from capital funds. No cash or pledges contributed for the new clinic facility will be used for this project as they are reserved for the new clinical facilities.

- **Chancellor Charles Bantz to Step Down August 2015**

Last November, Charles R. Bantz, who has guided the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus through a period of growth and unprecedented student success for more than a decade, announced that he will step down as chancellor effective Aug. 15, 2015. I thank Chancellor Bantz for his outstanding support of IUSD over the years and wish him well in the next phase of his career. [Read full story](#)

- **Faculty, Staff & Students Credentialing and Compliance....GIS**

In spring 2015, we plan to implement GIS, a web-based credentialing database program, at the School of Dentistry. This system has been created to simplify the process of record-keeping particularly as it relates to tracking faculty credentials and student immunizations. After the initial implementation of the system, the School plans to broaden utilization of GIS to all employees including staff. Information about GIS is available at the following link: <http://www.geninfo.com/>

- **Regenstrief Clinical Programs – New and Improved for 2015**

As part of our ongoing transition with clinical space, we have been granted access back into the Regenstrief dental clinical area while the University considers financing and building use for the former Wishard now IU-Regenstrief building. In addition to having space for the pre-doctoral oral surgery clinic, IUSD is now operating an emergency clinic for patients of record and will be opening an Honors clinic for D4 students who are well advanced in their clinical progress. This is a temporary re-opening as long-term plans call for much of Regenstrief to be renovated into Inter-Professional Education (IPE) space which is dependent on state funding.

- **Just for Fun...Businessweek Top 85..Great Trivia for 2015**

I have a broad span of reading materials so I thought I would share this fun and informative piece with you. To celebrate 85 years of publishing, Businessweek magazine has assembled its list of the best 85 ideas to become part of our society. Many of these have had a huge impact on society like the 401(k), OPEC, VCR, HTML, ESPN and DNA sequencing. Businessweek considers these 85 the most disruptive ideas over its lifespan and ranked them. Check out [the full list here](#). Gain some new trivia to share with your patients this year!

Thank you for your continued dedication and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD. Terry tells me he will be back next month with Friday morning coffee and donuts as I provide the February edition of *First Friday...Dean's Update*. *Wishing each of you a glorious New Year in 2015!*



-John

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