

CADPD Survey of Dental Hygiene Program Directors

Summary Findings and Conclusions

Cheryl Westphal

Assistant Dean for Allied Health Programs

New York University College of Dentistry

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Purpose of Survey

- To help CADPD Task Force determine short, immediate, and long range goals and actions
- To prepare the allied dental workforce for the future of dental education and social needs

Background of CADPD Task Force

- Task Force came out of the 2006 Allied Summit
 - Has members from all 3 disciplines (DH, DA, DLT)
 - Revised competencies
 - Helped develop allied dental policy survey
 - Wrote JDE editorial on appropriate language
 - Developing educational roadmap
 - Developing white paper on change
 - Planning future meeting

Survey Details

- Fielded November-December 2008
- 300 allied dental health program directors
- 58% response rate
- Includes ADEA and non-ADEA members
 - Program type
 - 71% Community, technical, vocational, & junior college
 - 29% University or four-year college

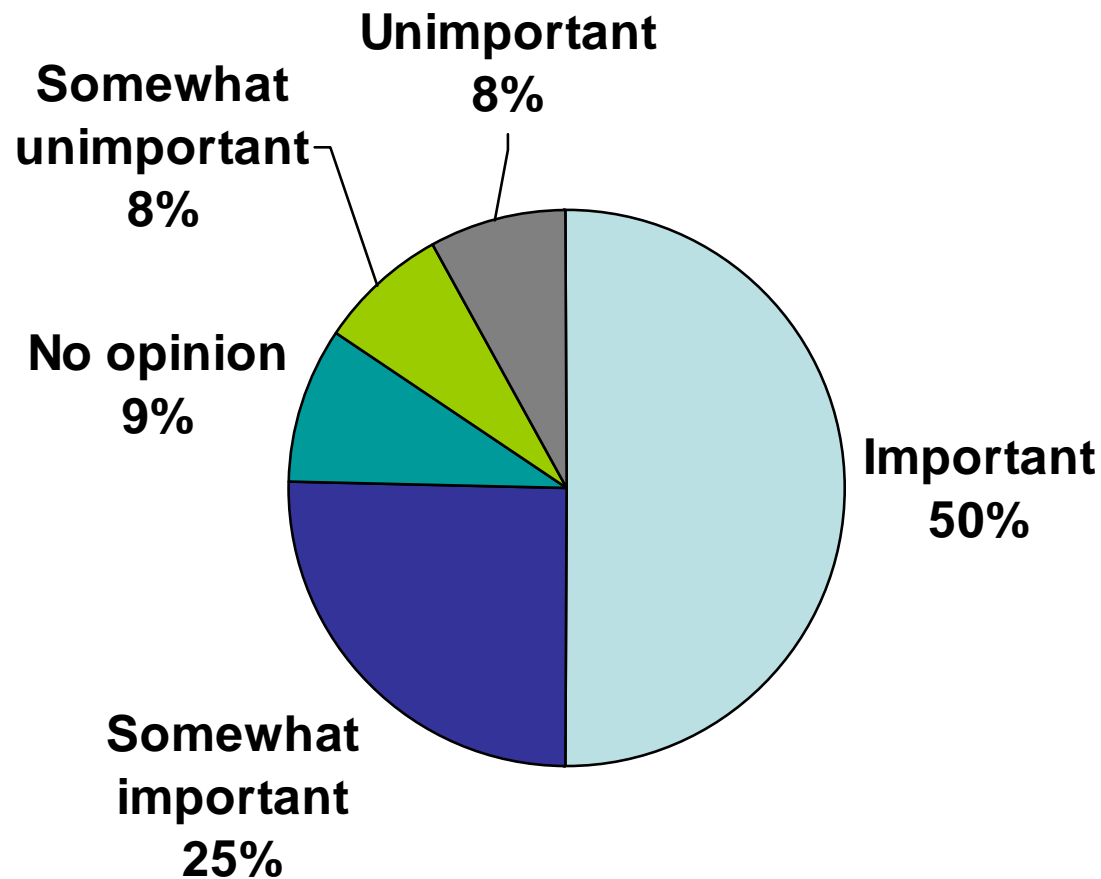
Major Topics of Survey

- 1. Raising Entry Level Education for Dental Hygiene*
- 2. The Importance of Transfer Articulation Agreements*
- 3. Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner*
- 4. Accreditation Review Process*

*Raising Entry Level Education
for Dental Hygiene*

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Importance of advancing the entry level dental hygiene program to the bachelor's degree level

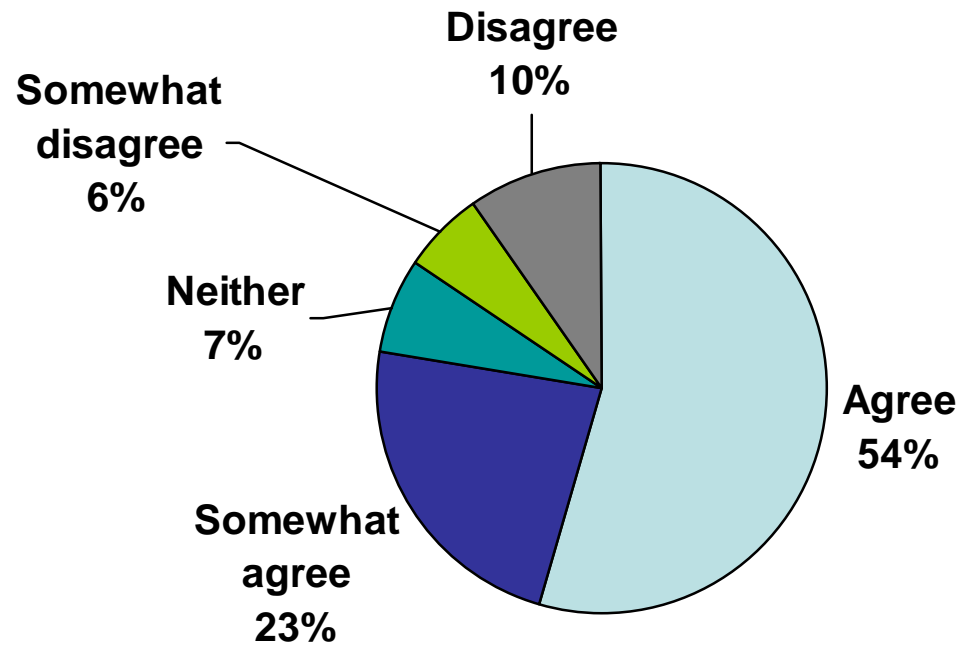


Slightly differing views.

Importance of advancing the entry level dental hygiene program to the bachelor's degree level

	University or four-year college	Community, technical, vocational, & junior college
Important	80%	37%
Somewhat important	16%	30%

The education required to be a dental hygienist should result in a bachelor's degree



Slightly differing views.

The education required to be a dental hygienist should result in a bachelor's degree

	University or four-year college	Community, technical, vocational, & junior college
Agree	84%	41%
Somewhat agree	10%	29%

Some agreement and some
disagreement on the issue

Where we all agree

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New educational models need to be created that incorporate both two-year and four-year schools

University or four-year college

Strongly agree
& agree
60%

Community, technical, vocational, & junior college

Strongly agree
& agree
64%

Associate and baccalaureate institutions need to work together to ensure students can seamlessly obtain an associate's or a bachelor's degree if they choose

University or four-year college

Strongly agree
& agree
88%

Community, technical, vocational, & junior college

Strongly agree
& agree
94%

Where we disagree

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There is a need and a place for associate and bachelor-level dental hygiene programs

University or four-year college

Strongly agree
& agree
38%

Community, technical, vocational, & junior college

Strongly agree
& agree
76%

All dental hygienists should attend a baccalaureate program

University or four-year college

Strongly agree
& agree
58%

Community, technical, vocational, & junior college

Strongly agree
& agree
22%

The dental hygiene programs offered at associate's degree institutions are adequate to meet the public's need for dental hygienists

University or four-year college

Strongly agree
& agree
33%

Community, technical, vocational, & junior college

Strongly agree
& agree
74%

**All policy proposals have
benefits and drawbacks**

Top 3 benefits of advancing entry level to the bachelor's degree

1. Improves the professional standing of dental hygiene. (4.45 out of 5)
2. Gives students more career options. (4.22 out of 5)
1. Recognizes students for their academic work. (4.14 out of 5)

Top 3 benefits of maintaining entry level at the associate's degree

1. Reduces financial barriers to students from low-income backgrounds...(3.81 out of 5)
2. Provides a needed dental hygienist workforce in areas not served by other types of institutions. (3.52 out of 5)
3. Provides the flexibility needed to facilitate greater access to non-traditional students. (3.51 out of 5)

Top 3 drawbacks of advancing entry level to the bachelor's degree

1. Many students will not have the ability to go into a dental hygiene program because of increased cost.
(3.39 out of 5)
1. Bachelor's programs will not be able to handle the increase in student demand because of lack of faculty.
(3.26 out of 5)
2. Bachelor's programs will not be able to handle the increase in student demand because of lack of facilities.
(3.06 out of 5)

Top 3 drawbacks of maintaining entry level at the associate's degree

1. The associate's curriculum...needs to expand to adequately cover all the necessary material. (3.94 out of 5)
2. The profession will not be able to advance its status within the oral health care community. (3.60 out of 5)
3. It will hinder... ability to have an impact on alleviating the public's increasing need for oral health care. (3.20 out of 5)

Do benefits outweigh the
drawbacks?

*The Importance of Transfer
Articulation Agreements*

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Program's with articulation agreements

44% have at least one

12% in pursuit

Programs without articulation agreements

57% said “no demand”

8% said “no incentive”

*Advanced Dental Hygiene
Practitioner (ADHA model)*

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Importance of Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

69% said “important”

19% said “somewhat important”

Level of education of Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

- University or four-year college program directors
 - Master's degree (86%)
 - Post-baccalaureate certificate (8%)

Level of education of Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

- Community, technical, vocational, & junior college program directors
 - Master's degree (51%)
 - Post-baccalaureate certificate (21%)
 - Baccalaureate degree (22%)

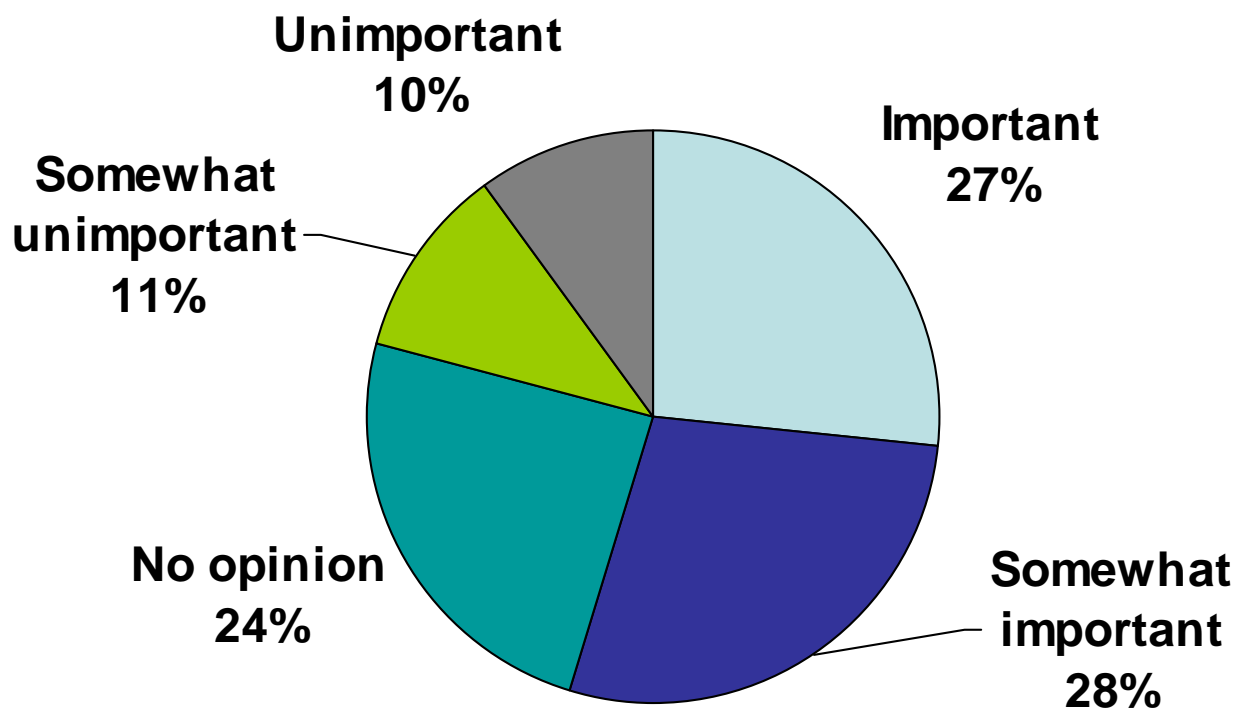
Top 3 benefits of having an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

1. It would help solve the problem of lack of oral health care in underserved communities. (89%)
2. It would fill an overall unmet need for oral health care. (85%)
3. It would allow dental hygienist more employment opportunities. (53%)

Top 3 challenges of having an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner

1. Resistance from organized dentistry. (94%)
2. Changing individual state practice regulations. (89%)
3. Resistance from local dentists and dental community. (81%)

Importance of the need for a doctoral program in dental hygiene.



Accreditation Review Process

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Any release time to prepare
for accreditation review

72% said “no”

Value of accreditation process

7.39 on scale of
1 to 10

*Desire for Additional
Competencies*

Importance of developing
competencies for baccalaureate
degree completion dental
hygiene programs

66% said “important”

21% said “somewhat important”

Importance of developing competencies for master's level and higher dental hygiene programs

63% said "important"

20% said "somewhat important"

Major Conclusions

- Need for transfer articulation agreements that provide students options.
- Advancing entry level education for dental hygiene to the bachelor's degree is desired if it can be done in a way that maintains a role for both levels of institutions.
- ADHP perceived to be very important to meet the oral health needs of the public.