Community, Access, Reach, & Education in Pediatric Dentistry
POLICY & ADVOCACY

Policy & Advocacy
Course Syllabus

Course Title: Policy & Advocacy – DS307.43

Course Enrollment: Pediatric Dental Residents & Advanced Clinical Trainees (ACTs)
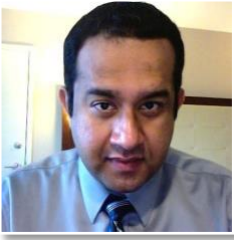
Course Co-Chairs

Francisco Ramos-Gomez, DDS, MS, MPH
Francisco J. Ramos-Gomez is a Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at UCLA, Executive Director for the UCLA Center for Children's Oral Health, and Director of the Community Access Reach Education in Pediatric Dentistry (CARE-PD) Program. In over thirty years as a pediatric dentist, his research has focused on Early Childhood Caries (ECC) prevention, oral disease risk assessment, and community health with an emphasis on underserved populations. In addition to clinically based interventions, Dr. Ramos-Gomez has pioneered protocols in early detection, intervention and prevention of ECC. He co-founded the Center to Address Disparities in Children's Oral Health to identify the cultural, environmental, workforce, behavioral, and biologic factors associated with health disparities among ethnic/racial groups in order to enhance health professionals' ability to target children likely to be at risk for dental caries. Currently, Dr. Ramos-Gomez is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a board member of the AAPD Government Council, the Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Council, the Oral Health Action Coalition (OHAC), and the California State Dental Health Alliance.
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Vinodh Bhoopathi, BDS, MPH, DScD
Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi., BDS, MPH, DScD is an assistant professor in the Division of Public Health and Community Dentistry at UCLA school of dentistry. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Dental Public Health with a Doctorate of Science in Dentistry in Dental Public Health degree from Boston University. Dr. Bhoopathi's research interests include oral health disparities, access to care, workforce issues, and nutrition and obesity's impact on oral health. Email: vbhoopathi@dentistry.ucla.edu

Sarah Blenner, JD, MPH
Sarah Blenner is the project Manager at Public Health Training Program on Population Health Advocacy for the Office of the Associate Dean of Public Health Practice at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She has extensive experience in Policy and Advocacy Development.
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Course Description
This course covers the policy and advocacy components of the program with presentations and exposure to health policies at national, state, and local levels as well as professional and organizational policies. Dental professional's role in advocating for optimal oral health will be discussed.

Course Competencies
- Demonstrate the ability to describe the US policy and advocacy legislative processes.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate and collaborate with relevant stakeholders to advocate for policies that impact oral and general health for individuals and populations.
- Demonstrate the ability to participate in inter-professional care across the lifespan of people from diverse communities and cultures.

Course Objectives
On successful completion of this course, residents will be able to:
- Residents are expected to become knowledgeable in the overall federal and state health policy making process, current policies in place, and strategies applied in advocacy.
- Describe how laws and policies and developed and implemented in the US.
- Identify the role of the dental profession in advocating for optimal health for the US population, including underserved and vulnerable populations.
- Describe the roles of dental public health organizations in oral health advocacy.
- Educate and promote awareness about the importance of oral health to policy makers and regulatory agencies and officials.
- Discuss the US policies that regulate or affect the provisions of oral healthcare, including coverage of dental care and state practice acts.
- Describe the role of inter professional collaborations in advocating for policies that prevent and treat dental diseases.

Instructional Method(s) used in this course (Check all that apply)

✓ Lecture
Seminar
✓ Literature Review
Resident Presentation

Clinical Rotations
Projects
Grand Rounds
✓ Other: __Applied Learning Experience__

GME Competencies addressed by this course (Check all that apply)

Patient Care
Medical Knowledge
Practice-based learning and improvement

Interpersonal & Communication Skills
Professionalism
Systems-based practice

CODA Standards addressed by this course (Check all that apply)

Biomedical sciences
Behavior guidance
Growth and development
Oral facial injury and emergency care
Oral diagnosis, oral pathology, & oral medicine
Prevention and health promotion
Comprehensive dental care

Management of a contemporary dental practice
Patients with special health care needs
Hospital dentistry
Pulp therapy
Pediatric Medicine
✓ Advocacy
Teaching

Evaluation Criteria/Methods

- MedHub course evaluation and active class participation

Remediation Policies

- A customized remediation program will be designed to address areas of deficiency

Learning Resources & Readings:

All required reading materials are uploaded into UCLA MedHub prior to each class.

- Harry Snyder and Matt Iverson, Advocating for Change: Understanding How to Impact Health Policy, Center for Healthy Communities, The California Endowment (2006), pp. 1-5, 28-41. Avaialabe at: http://www.racialequitytools.org/resourcefiles/AFC_Manual_01.pdf

Njeri M. Thuku, Kelly Caulli, Stacy Costello, Harold S. Goodman, "Breaking the Cycle in Maryland: Oral Health Policy Change in the Face of Tragedy," Journal of Public Health Dentistry 72: S7-S13 (2012).

Course Schedule

Part A
Offered yearly to 1st years during the winter quarter.

Title	Lecturer	Hours
Introduction to AAPD Advocacy Days & Setting Up Appointments	Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez	2
Policy-Making Process & Beyond Legislation I	Dr. Sarah Blenner	2
Policy-Making Process & Beyond Legislation II	Dr. Sarah Blenner	2
Health Disparities, Inequities, and Inequalities	Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez	1
Measuring and Assessing Oral Health & Population Health	Dr. David Avenetti & Dr. Scott Tomar	1
Organization of Healthcare and Oral Health Care Delivery	Dr. James Crall	1
Overview of Advocacy, Policy, & Legislation	Dr. Colleen Greene	1
Education and the Future Workforce	Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez	1
Health Economics, Insurance, and the Quadruple Aim for Quality Improvement	Dr. Burton Edelstein	2
AAPD Policy & Advocacy I	Scott Litch, Esq.	1
AAPD Policy & Advocacy II	Robin Wright	1
Advocacy, Outreach, & Leadership in the Community	Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi	2
Final Preparation for AAPD Advocacy Days	Dr. Francisco Ramos-Gomez	2
Annual AAPD Webinar	AAPD	2

Part B
Offered yearly to 2nd years during the winter quarter.

Title	Lecturer	Hours
Policy & Advocacy Toolkit	Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi	2
Moving Towards a Better Healthcare System	Dr. James Crall	2
Policy & Advocacy Simulations I	Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi & Eileen Espejo	2
Policy & Advocacy Simulations II with Debrief	Dr. Vinodh Bhoopathi & Eileen Espejo	2