Changes to Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health
In January 2010, based upon guidance from the Advisory Committee to the Board on Strategic Planning (ACBOSP), the AAP Board of Directors (BOD) recommended the merger of SOPDOH and OHI. The goals of the combined section are summarized in Attachment 1.

Lauren Barone, MPH has been hired as our new section manager and she has been superb.

AAP Annual Leadership Forum
Martha Ann Keels, DDS, PhD, attended the AAP Annual Leadership Forum (ALF) in March 2010. At this event, resolutions are submitted by the membership and voted on by the AAP Chapter Leaders, Council, Committee, and Section Chairs. Approximately 80 resolutions are voted on and a top ten are selected from this pool. Following the meeting, The top ten resolutions from a field of approximately 80 resolutions are selected. The AAP BOD then devotes resources to the top ten.

The top ten for 2010 are:

Development of an Immunization Registry
Council on Obesity
Support for Chapters Opposing Anti-Immunization Efforts
Action Plan for Cough and Cold Medications
Childhood Obesity and Vending Machines in Schools
Concussion in Youth: Prevention, Treatment, and Return to Play Guidelines
American Board of Pediatrics Lifetime Certificate Holders
Teens Texting While Driving
Promotion of a National Safe Sleep Campaign
Pre-Participation Sports Examinations in the Medical Home

Publication
A Special Issue on Children’s Oral Health was published in the November –December issue of Academic Pediatrics. It was edited by Drs. Wendy E. Mouradian and Rebecca L. Slayton and included background papers from the AAP National Summit on Children’s Oral health, held November 7 – 8, 2008 in Chicago, IL. Commentaries by former US Surgeon General David Satcher, Rebecca L. Slayton, Harold Slavkin, and Peter Szilagyi (Editor-in Chief) were also included.
Reports of the SOPDOH Committees

Membership (Rocio Quinonez, DMD MS MPH – chair)
- Current membership status as of March 31, 2010 is 242 (192 DMD’s, DDS’s, and 50 pediatricians)
- Dr. Quinonez and AAP Staff developed a new membership brochure for the SOPDOH (see Attachment 2).
- Membership Initiatives: 1) link AAP Chapter Oral Health Champions with AAPD State Head Start Leaders 2) recruit residents 3) create academic links 4) increase pediatrician membership

Bylaws and Nominations (Paul Weiss, DDS MS – chair)
- Drs. David Krol, Adriana Segura and Rocio Quinonez are candidates for an additional 3-year term to the SOPDOH Executive Committee (EC). All three have agreed to accept additional 3-year terms.
- The EC will elect a new Chairperson effective October 2010.
- Several bylaws changes were approved by the membership of the SOPDOH to coordinate with the integration of the SOPDOH and the OHI. These changes include:
  - Amendments to qualifications to join the Section for allied health professionals and honorary Section members
  - Changes to the role of the immediate past Chairperson
  - Revisions to the composition of the Section EC
  - The inclusion of a general dentist liaison to the Section EC
  - Voting privileges for dentists in training
  - The development of multidisciplinary Section committees.

CME (Adriana Segura, DDS MS - chair)
- AAPD/ AAP session in Chicago at AAPD Annual Session on Saturday May 29, 2010
  - Topic: Update on Pediatric Infectious Diseases with Dr. Ken Alexander
- Oral Health educational sessions scheduled for the AAP 2010 National Conference and Exhibition (NCE) in San Francisco. These include:
  - Current Prevention Modalities in Oral Health (Jointly sponsored by SOPDOH, the OHI, and Council of Community Pediatrics)
  - Enamel Erosion from Dietary Acids and GERD (Jointly sponsored by SOPDOH and Committee on Nutrition)
- The SOPDOH is currently developing its first Section H Program for the 2011 NCE. The session will include a half day of educational sessions devoted to oral health as well as a luncheon for the Oral Health Service Award recipient.

Draft Agenda:

Overview: The Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health Program is holding its first educational program at the NCE! It is designed for all attendees including pediatric dentists, pediatricians, and other health professionals. The program will cover oral health issues including specific presentations on obesity’s link to oral health, payment for oral health services in the pediatric practice, oral health risk assessment and prevention, including
fluoride discussions, and the current status of children’s oral health in the US. A complimentary lunch will be provided with a question and answer session from the day’s speakers [dependent upon funding].

**Moderator:** Adriana Segura, DDS, MS, SOPDOH Program Chair

8:00 – 9:00 am  
Oral Health Overview

9:00 – 10:00 am  
Current Status of Oral Health – Lessons Learned from Healthy People 2010

10:00 – 11:00 am  
Payment for Physician Provided Oral Health Services – Medicaid and Private Payer Update

11:00 – 12:00 pm  
Obesity and Oral Health

12:00 – 1:00 pm  
Lunch, Oral Health Service Award , presentation from Awardee

**Publications** (David Krol, MD - chair)

*Focus on Subspecialties – AAP News*

Over the past few months there have been several articles related to oral health published in *AAP News* including:

- March 2010 - Fluoride Facts: What pediatricians need to know about fluoride agents for children, including supplementation – by Rebecca L. Slayton
- March 2010 – Prevention efforts can take bite out of dental trauma – by David L. Turpin and Martha Ann Keels.
- April 2010 – Oral Health Advocates FYI

**PDT** (the AAPD Member Magazine)

The SOPDOH has the opportunity to submit articles for consideration in *PDT*. It was suggested that Charlie Czerepak author an article highlighting the effective collaboration between the AAP and AAPD through the Community Access To Child Health (CATCH) program. This article could include a brief description of the CATCH program as well as some examples of CATCH oral health grants that the AAPD has funded.

**Other items under review:**

- AAP Patient Education Handout - How to Prevent Tooth Decay in Your Baby
- **AAP POLICY and GUIDELINES** (Rebecca Slayton DDS, PhD–chair)
- Revising the AAP Policy - Oral Health Risk Assessment Timing and Establishment of the Dental Home from May 2003 to be consistent with the most recent AAP Policy – Preventive Oral Health Intervention for Pediatricians from December 2008.
- A request to create a clinical report on Dental Trauma management for pediatricians has been submitted to the AAP- awaiting approval to proceed with writing the guideline.
- Collaboration has started on a policy statement *Early Childhood Dental Disease in Indigenous Communities* with the AAP Committee on Native American Child Health. The focus is on early childhood dental disease in indigenous communities particularly addressing American Indian/Alaska Native children living in remote areas of North America.
The Section on Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition (SOGHAN) submitted an intent for a policy statement related to dental enamel erosion and will be sending the next revision to SOPDOH for review.

Residents’ Section (Ann Welch, MD)
- Dr. Welch is working with Ms Barone to develop an article about the AAP Protecting All Children’s Teeth (PACT) CME modules for a future edition of the e-publication Director’s Digest, aimed at pediatric program directors.
- Dr. Welch is contacting the American Board of Pediatrics Foundation staff to investigate potential areas of collaboration. They will be funding 12-15 demonstration projects, and one could potentially advocate for the inclusion of oral health in pediatric residency training.

The AAP SOPDOH Oral Health Service Award for 2010
Guidelines for the Oral Health Service Award will be developed in accordance with other AAP awards. SOPDOH members have nominated two candidates for the 2010 award and the EC will select the recipient.

AAP Oral Health Initiative (OHI) Update (Suzie Boulter, MD)
- Funding for the AAP OHI Maternal and Child Health Bureau grant funding concludes at the end of April 2010. A request for a 9-month extension of grant funds has been submitted and the AAP is awaiting a reply from the MCHB. A tentative meeting of the OHI Professional Advisory Committee meeting is planned for June 17, 2010 in Washington, DC (contingent upon funding approval).
- Chapter Advocate Training On Oral Health (training program to educate oral health champions in each AAP Chapter) has one more year of funding from the American Dental Association (ADA) Foundation. Two thirds of the AAP State Chapters have identified a Chapter Oral Health Advocate (COHA) and those individuals have received the CATOOH training. The next CATOOH training session is planned for November 5 – 6, 2010 in Elk Grove Village, IL at the AAP Headquarters.
- The PACT (training module on oral health) is being piloted tested in a variety of pediatric medical residencies.

Governmental Affairs (Rocio Quinonez, DMD MS MPH – chair)
AAP’s interpretation of the Health Care Reform Law is included in Attachment 3.

Collaboration with Other AAP Entities
The SOPDOH EC felt it would be extremely useful to meet with representative from other Committees/Sections/Councils. At the NCE in October, SOPDOH met with:
- Dr. Jatinder Bhatia, Chairperson of the Committee on Nutrition (CON) outlined recent activities and discussed potential collaborative opportunities with the SOPDOH. Topics of mutual interest are obesity, acid erosion due to gastroesophageal reflux, and the role of vitamin D on tooth development.
- Dr. Ken Norwood, member of the Council on Children with Disabilities (COCWD) provided an overview of the COCWD, and indicated that the group is
AAP Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health, 2009-2010

quite active in policy development. He felt that while oral health is a major issue for children with disabilities, the topic of oral health has not come up in discussions among the COCWD. We will initiate writing a Statement together regarding oral health in Children with Disabilities.

- The SOPDOH EC will meet with the Section on Perinatal Pediatrics at the next NCE meeting in 2010.

**Future Action Items**
1) The Memorandum of Understanding between AAPD and SOPDOH comes up for review December 31, 2010.

**Next Meeting**
The next SOPDOH Executive Committee meeting will be held 2:00-6:00 pm on Saturday October 2, 2010 at the NCE in San Francisco, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Ann Keels, DDS, PhD
Chair, AAP Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health
AAP Strategic Planning for Oral Health

Over these past many years the AAPD and the AAP have been on a journey together to advance oral health in children, to strengthen our respective professions, and to strengthen the relationships and synergies between pediatric dentists and pediatricians. Like any journey, the path has had twists and turns, hills and valleys, but with the overall health and well-being of children squarely in mind, steady progress has occurred.

We have come a long way since 1999, when the AAP Section on Pediatric Dentistry was formed. Today, due largely to our joint efforts, and fueled by the AAP making Oral Health one of its top strategic planning priorities the past 5 years, there is much more recognition that addressing oral health needs will substantially improve a child’s overall health, especially for low income and minority children; that dental caries is the most common chronic disease of childhood; and that it is largely preventable through attention to preventive care (including fluoride, nutrition and oral health counseling). Further, there is increasing recognition that pediatricians can and do provide an essential layer in the screening, early treatment and referral process, and play a major role in facilitating access to dental care for children.

It is significant that in the few short years since the AAP began its focus on oral health, it is now considered a “go-to” organization when it comes to children’s oral health. Because of our efforts to increase the awareness of the role pedestrians can play in children’s oral health, (through the development of oral health educational tools and training, dissemination of the oral health information, our work on reimbursement to physicians for oral health preventive services, etc), the AAP is now viewed nationally as a leader in children’s oral health. This is evidenced by the meetings to which we are asked to send representatives, the presentations we are asked to make, the significant funding support we have received through the Oral Health Initiative (OHI), the number of national organizations that sit on the OHI Project Advisory Committee, the amount of visitors to the OHI Web site, number of subscriptions to the monthly Pediatric Oral Health E-Newsletter, and the number of technical assistance requests that come in from both members and the public.

But of course, there is still so much work to be done. We know for example, that while pediatricians increasingly recognize the need for oral health services in their patients and that they should play a role in the maintenance of their patients’ oral health, traditional pediatric education does not equip pediatricians with an adequate level of oral health knowledge to provide the level of oral health assessment and prevention that AAP policy recommends.

Over these many years there has been a gradual increasing integration of oral health into the fabric of the AAP, and the creation of much stronger collaborative bonds between the AAP OHI and the SOPDOH, as well as pediatricians and pediatric dentists working synergistically to do what is best for children. This gradual integration is also evidenced
by the recent evolution of the Section on Pediatric Dentistry to the Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health (SOPDOH) of the AAP.

The Oral Health Work within the AAP has come to an interesting crossroad. Oral Health is moving off the national agenda as an emergent implementation priority and into the realm of longer range “integration” thinking. The continued grant funding for the OHI is also up for review and evaluation. So, the leadership of the OHI and SOPDOH came together September 18-19, 2009 to do some longer range planning facilitated by AAP Director of Strategic Planning, Kenneth M. Slaw, PhD. This was a very productive session that helped us articulate our long term mission, core values, and priorities for children’s oral health. The top ranked priorities coming out of this meeting were:

Goal 1: Increase number of pediatricians providing quality assessment and preventive care.
- Advocate for payment, integrated/effective systems
- Complete, build and promote oral health quality improvement resource, i.e. utilization of eQIP module
- Advance oral health education with in medical school and residency
- Develop new models (web-based, tech assisted) to deliver education to pediatricians
- Develop “AAP cross section” approach to education on oral health
- Develop model to deliver “in office” training on a large scale

Goal 2: Reach families with effective messaging on importance of oral health
- Develop unified message in simple, culturally sensitive language
- Purse celebrity spokesperson
- Develop web 2.0 strategy and web communication strategy
- Maximize utilization of existing parent/public education opportunities

Goal 3: Promote healthy nutrition, including importance of fluoridated water
- Maximize linkages with AAP obesity, CON activities, existing AAP policy
- Collaborate with strategic partners (Family Voices, Reach Out and Read, etc.)
- Pursue “warning labels” strategy on food
- Develop and implement advocacy campaign to achieve fluoridated water in areas where it does not exist

Goal 4: Advocacy to remove barriers to child access to oral health care
- Increase number of providers of all professions
- Identify clear barriers (personal/patient, provider, and system) and develop strategy to address them
- PROS study on outcomes (outcomes, burden of existing disease in your practice, then the outcome of how it would improve)
- EMRs with oral health (to expand in to other HIT)
- Develop “next stage” state by state strategy to address payment
As we began to think through the optimal governance and infrastructure to achieve these priorities, there was strong consensus that the vision of the future is to build, strengthen, and maintain, one united oral health home in the AAP. All realized that this is the natural, fullest extension of the evolutionary path that we have been on, and it will take some time and hard work to build a structure that both achieves our priorities and also preserves the essential elements of the culture in our respective professions. Yet, there was overwhelming support that this is in the best of interest of children’s oral health.
JOIN THE SOPDOH

Pediatricians
If you are an AAP member in good standing, there is no cost for membership in the SOPDOH.
1. Go to www.aap.org and click on Member Center.
2. Enter your AAP ID number and birth date or password.
3. Under Member Community—click on “Join a Section or Council.”
4. Click on “Create Section Membership Application.”
5. Complete and submit.

Pediatric Dentists
Associate membership to the AAP is available to pediatric dentists who have received a certificate or a degree in the specialty of pediatric dentistry from a program accredited by council on accreditation of the American Dental Association and practice pediatric dentistry in the US, Puerto Rico and Canada. Associate members dues are $15 + year. All Associate Members automatically become members of the SOPDOH at no additional cost.
1. Go to www.aap.org and click on Member Center.
2. Under Join AAP—click on “Member Categories” and select “Associate Member.”
3. Complete the application form and submit.

Other Health Professionals
If you are eligible for AAP membership and you are a licensed health professional, you can become an Affiliate Member at a cost of $50. To apply for membership online, follow the steps below.
1. Go to www.aap.org and click on Member Center.
2. Under Join AAP—click on Member categories and sub categories and select “Section Affiliate.”
3. Under “Affiliate,” click on the Section Affiliate membership application. Complete and submit the application form and submit a copy of your certification or completion of a supported program.

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
PEDIATRICS

SECTION ON
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY AND ORAL HEALTH

Dentists and Physicians
Dedicated to Keeping Kids’ Smiles Healthy
About the SOPDOH

The Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health (SOPDOH) was founded in 1999 and focuses on improving children's oral health status through a collaborative effort between pediatric dentists and pediatricians. It provides a forum for discussion of the management of children's oral health, including prevention and treatment of dental disease.

The Section is open to pediatric dentists, pediatricians, general dentists, other physicians, and licensed health professionals.

SOPDOH Activities

Recognizing the importance of oral health in children's overall health, the AAP made it one of four child health priorities on its strategic plan, the Agenda for Children in 2006. The SOPDOH focuses on oral health through several activities including:

- Education: Working closely with pediatricians, the Section presents several educational sessions at the AAP's National Conference and Exhibition. These include general sessions, meet-the-expert, and workshops. SOPDOH strongly supports the work of medical students and residents by providing sessions specifically geared to the professional in training.

- Policy Development: The Section has published several policy statements which are accessible online at http://appolicyappublications.org/. These include:
  - Preventive Oral Health Intervention for Pediatricians
  - Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients During and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures
  - Oral Health Risk Assessment Training and Establishment of the Dental Home in Pediatrics

- Policy Review: The Section helps to ensure that oral health information included in various AAP materials and resources are consistent with the SOPDOH position.

- Publications: The section is very active in publishing materials that support oral health:
  - Provides articles for AAP News and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry newsletter, Pediatric Dentistry Today, on a regular basis.

- Bright Futures: The national health promotion and disease prevention program that addresses children's oral health needs in the context of family and community. The SOPDOH has partnered with Bright Futures to incorporate oral health into the most recent Guidelines found online at http://bhfutures.aap.org/web.

- SOPDOH has partnered with other AAP Committees and Sections to address specific oral health topics such as dental erosion, the link between obesity and oral health, and oral health care for children with special health care needs, early childhood caries in indigenous communities, etc.
Attachment 3 – AAP’s Snapshot of the Health Reform Law

What’s in the Law

In March 2010, President Obama signed into law The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) and an accompanying package of modifications to the law, including Medicaid payment reform.

The new law contains many strong child health provisions, a direct result of decades-long efforts by the Academy to urge Congress to prioritize children’s health needs on the national policy agenda. AAP members and staff advocated throughout the health reform debate to amplify the voices of children and pediatricians, and the resulting new law will improve the quality, affordability and accessibility of health care services for children and families.

Throughout the health reform process, the Academy has been focused on “the ABC’s” of fundamental priorities for children and pediatricians:

- appropriate payment rates and workforce improvements to allow real **access** to covered services
- age-appropriate **benefits** in a medical home
- health care **coverage** for all children in the United States

The current law addresses these issues in the following ways:

- **Access**: The law provides pediatric primary and subspecialty workforce improvements, including a new loan repayment program ($35,000 per year) for pediatric subspecialists who practice in subspecialty shortage areas. In addition, for the first time ever, a new $8.3 billion federal investment will bring parity to Medicaid and Medicare payments for primary care doctors. The increase applies to payments for evaluation and management codes recognized by Medicare starting in 2013, and is available to physicians with a specialty designation of internal medicine, family medicine or pediatrics.

- **Benefits**: All Bright Futures services will now be covered for children with private and public insurance as an immediate benefit for no co-pay. The law also includes new funding for Medicaid medical home demonstration projects.

- **Coverage**: The law projects that nearly thirty-two million children, parents and individuals will now gain insurance coverage. The law also prevents children from being denied health insurance due to pre-existing conditions, and allows young adults to remain on their parents’ insurance until the age of 26; both provisions will take effect in 2010. In addition, the law preserves the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) with funding until the end of fiscal year 2016 and includes a renewed federal funding commitment to states through 2019.

In addition to these reforms, the current law also reauthorizes the Emergency Medical Services for Children program, which provides grants to all 50 states to support activities and efforts related to pediatric emergency care.
Attachment 4 - AAP Oral Health Resources

Website:  http://www.aap.org/sections/peddentist, http://www.aap.org/oralhealth

How to join:

If you’re a pediatric dentist, simply visit: http://www.aap.org/member/Associatereq.htm to access our application.

If you are a pediatrician - an existing AAP fellow in good standing, your application to SOPDOH will be “fast-tracked.” You can join online **at no additional cost** by following the directions below:

1. Go to www.aap.org/moc and login with your AAP ID and password.
2. Click on “Join a Section or Council” under “Member Community”
3. Choose the Section on Pediatric Dentistry and Oral Health, answer a few questions and click “Submit”.

Policy Statements

- Oral Health Risk Assessment Timing and Establishment of the Dental Home, 2003 (http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;111/5/1113)
- Preventive Oral Health Interventions for Pediatricians, 2008 (http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;122/6/1387)

Trainings:

- *Oral Health Risk Assessment Training for Pediatricians*  
  http://www.aap.org/commpeds/dochs/oralhealth/screening.cfm

- *PACT – Protect All Children’s Teeth* -  
  http://www.aap.org/oralhealth/pact/index.cfm