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## Dental Quality Alliance Approves First Set of Performance Measures

American Dental Association

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**Dental Quality Alliance Approves First Set of Performance Measures**  
***Dental Caries in Children: Prevention and Disease Management***

**CHICAGO, Aug 23, 2013** — The Dental Quality Alliance (DQA), comprised of multiple stakeholders from across the oral health community, was established by the American Dental Association to develop performance measures for oral health care.

The DQA's first set, Dental Caries in Children: Prevention and Disease Management, includes 10 tested and validated performance measures in oral health care: use of services; preventive services; treatment services; oral evaluation; topical fluoride intensity; sealant use in 6-9 years; sealant use in 10-14 years; care continuity; usual source of services; and per-member per-month cost.

"Since its formation in 2008, the DQA has worked tirelessly at developing these consensus-based quality measures," said Dr. David May, chair of the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs. The DQA collaborated with the University of Florida Institute for Child Health Policy to evaluate and test the feasibility, validity, reliability and usability of each measure before issuing final approval. The data used to craft the measures came from the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, Texas Health and Human Services Commission and DentaQuest.

The testing was, in part, funded through a grant from the American Dental Association Foundation. “The ADA Foundation is very proud to be part of this significant effort to develop the first fully validated set of performance measures for dentistry,” said Dr. David Whiston, ADA Foundation president. “We believe it is consistent with our mission to help advance the quality of care for the good of patients.”

“As the only comprehensive multi-stakeholder collaborative,” said Dr. May, “the DQA is well-positioned to collaborate, coordinate and lead in measure development in dentistry through its members’ experience, expertise and support.”

To learn more about the DQA, visit [ADA.org](http://ADA.org) .

***Editor’s Note: Reporters are invited to follow the ADA on Twitter @AmerDentalAssn***

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**About the American Dental Association**

The not-for-profit ADA is the nation's largest dental association, representing 157,000 dentist members. The premier source of oral health information, the ADA has advocated for the public's health and promoted the art and science of dentistry since 1859. The ADA's state-of-the-art research facilities develop and test dental products and materials that have advanced the practice of dentistry and made the patient experience more positive. The ADA Seal of Acceptance long has been a valuable and respected guide to consumer dental care products. The monthly *The Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA)* is the ADA's flagship publication and the best-read scientific journal in dentistry. For more information about the ADA, visit [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org). For more information on oral health, including prevention, care and treatment of dental disease, visit the ADA’s consumer website [www.MouthHealthy.org](http://www.MouthHealthy.org).