

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking in a firm grip. The hand on the left is wearing a dark suit jacket, and the hand on the right is wearing a white lab coat. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a clinical or office environment with blue and white tones.

Partnering for Patient Safety: A Collaborative Approach

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF DENTIST HEALTH PROGRAMS

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Disclosures

Nothing to disclose



Session Topics

- National Council of Dentist Health Programs
- Dentist Health Programs
- Substance Use Disorder
- Overcoming barriers to care
- Remediation and public safety
- Collaboration at state and national levels



National Council of Dentist Health Programs

An association of state health programs engaged in remediation of dental professionals with substance use and other mental health disorders.

Mission Statement

To support state health programs in improving the mental health of dental professionals, thereby contributing to quality patient care.



Dentist Health Programs

- Education, outreach
- Confidential assessment, referral to treatment, resources and monitoring; no treatment
- Experience and expertise
- Accountability
- Advocacy with compliance



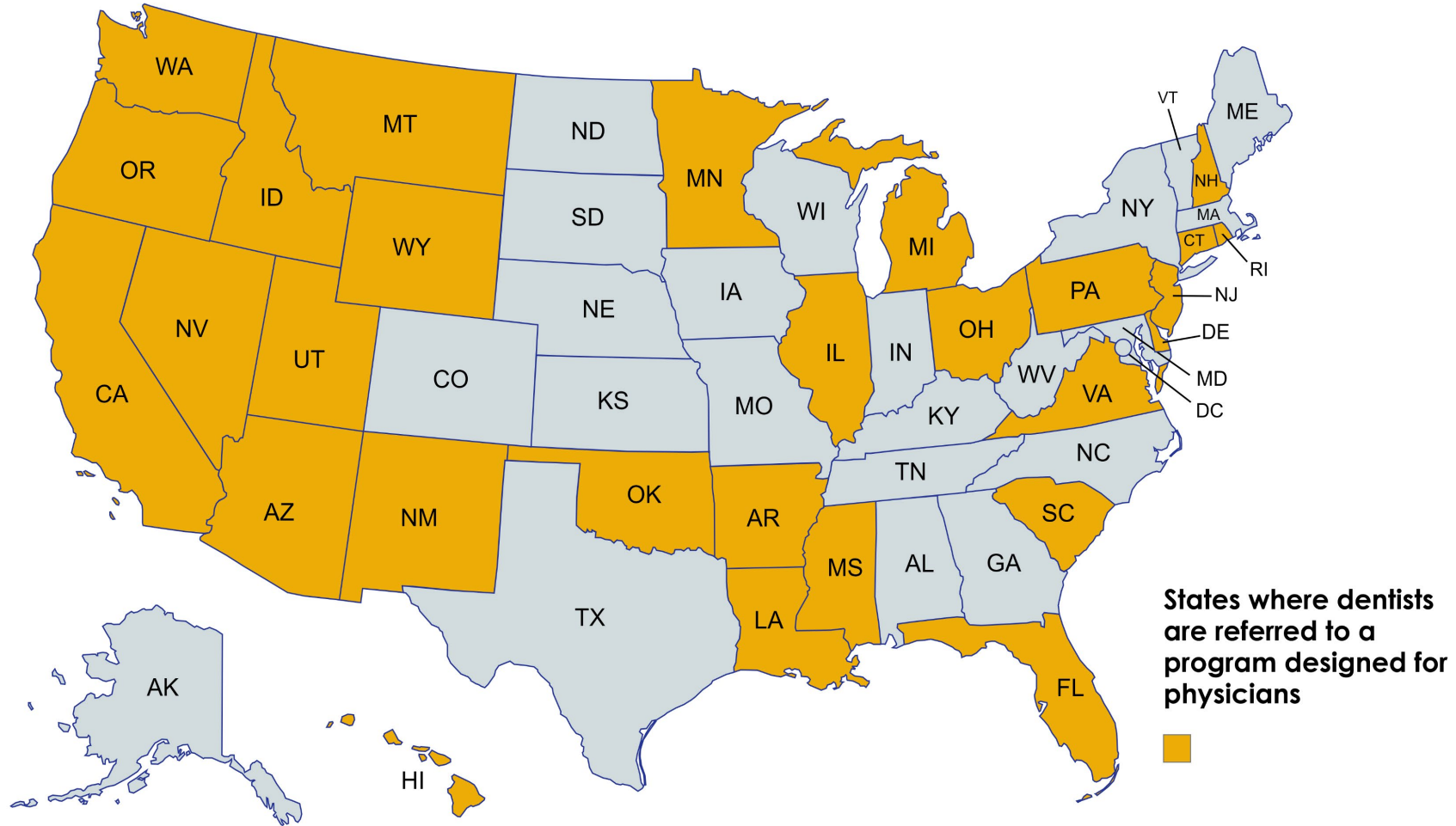
Dentist Health Programs



"...physicians monitored and supported through PHPs had high rates of recovery, with 78% of participants practicing medicine with no evidence of relapse at five years. This study highlights the effectiveness of PHPs in maintaining professional competence and reducing relapse rates."

McLellan, A. T., Skipper, G. S., Campbell, M., & DuPont, R. L. (2008)

Dentist Health Programs



National Council of Dentist Health Programs

Created with mapchart.net

AADB 141st Annual Meeting
Louisville, KY
September 28-29, 2024

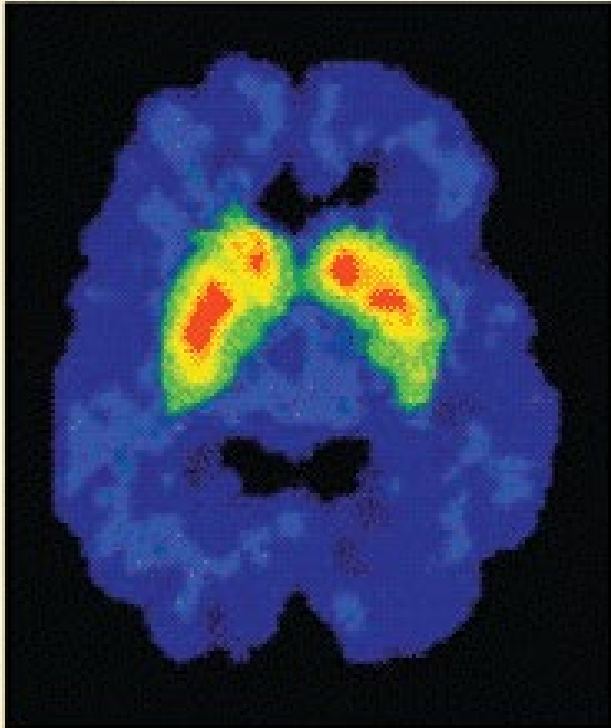
Substance Use Disorder

- 10-15%
- Primary brain disease
- Chronic in nature
- Relapsing in character
- Fatal if untreated
- Biopsychosocial

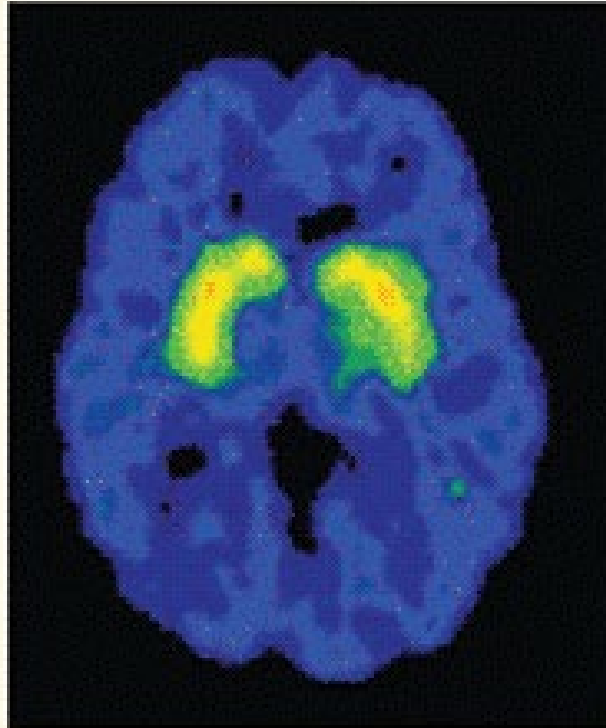


Substance Use Disorder

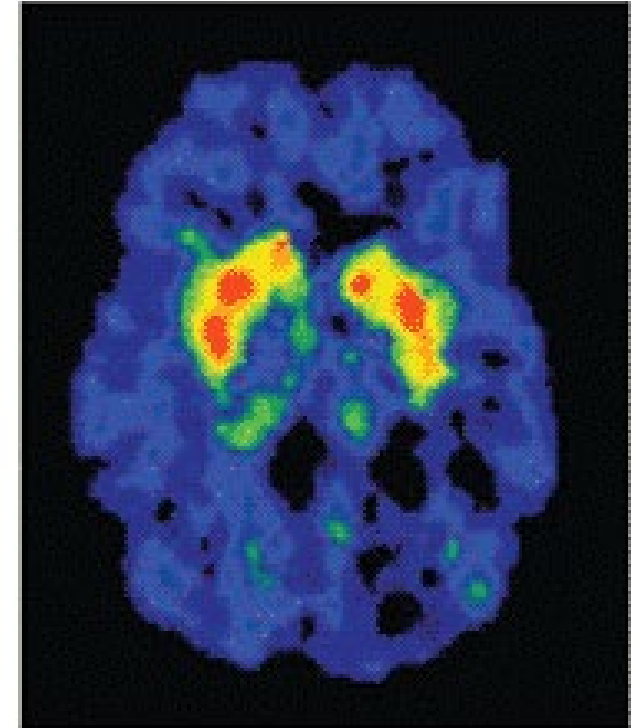
Healthy Person



Meth User: 1 month abstinence



Meth User: 14 months abstinence



Substance Use Disorder

Me



Barriers to Seeking Help

Personal

- Stigma
- Denial
- Fear
- Unaware

Structural

- Stigma
- Isolation and competitiveness
- Punitive approach
- Lack of communication

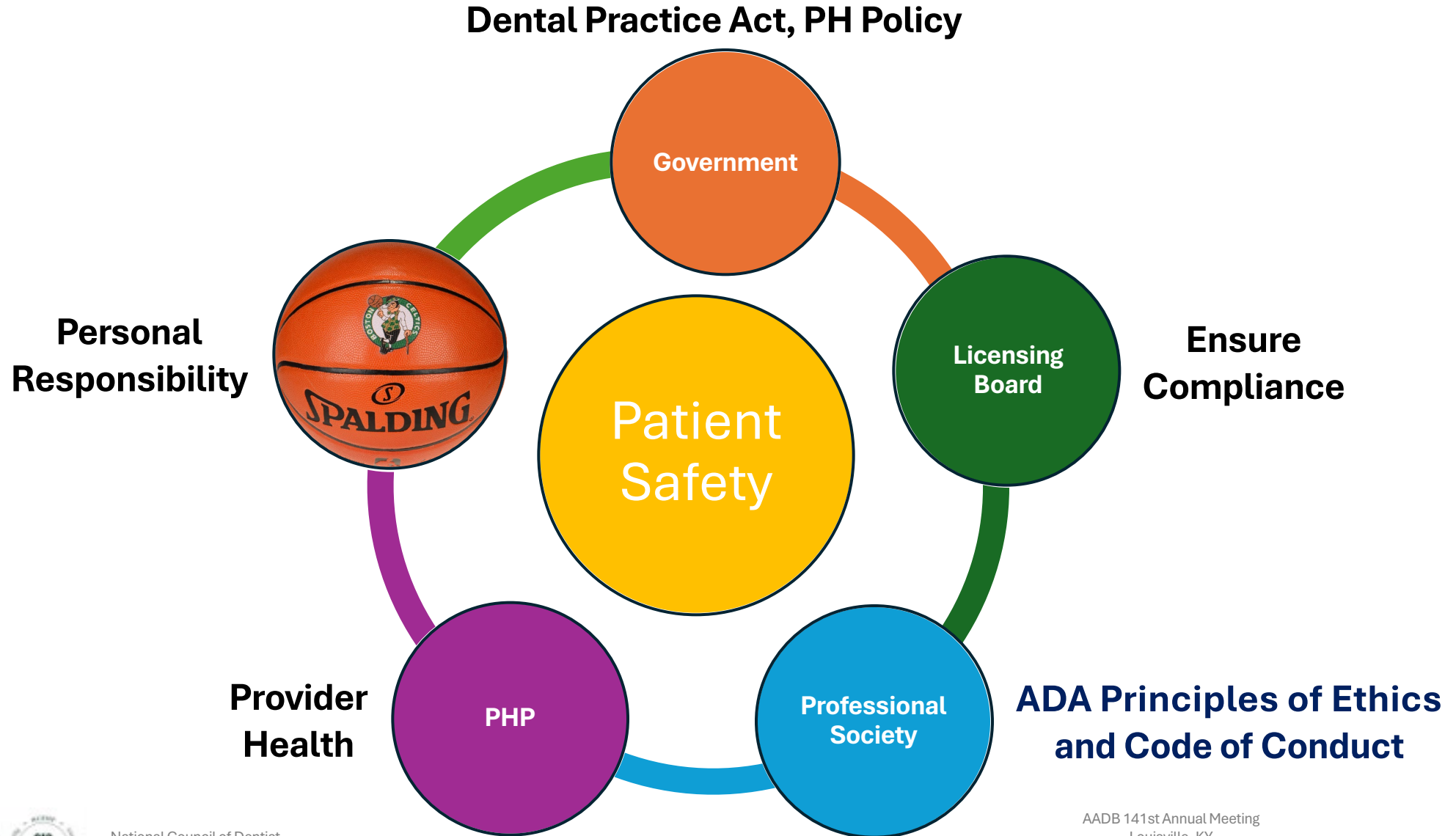
Many PHPs report post-COVID decline in dentist help-seeking

NCDHP Position Statement on Confidentiality and Provider Well-being

The NCDHP strongly believes that a confidential and supportive approach is the most effective way to encourage impaired dental professionals to seek help.



Public safety is a shared responsibility.



Collaboration – State Level

- Clear communication
- MOU
- Foster trust among licensees
- Promote provider well-being

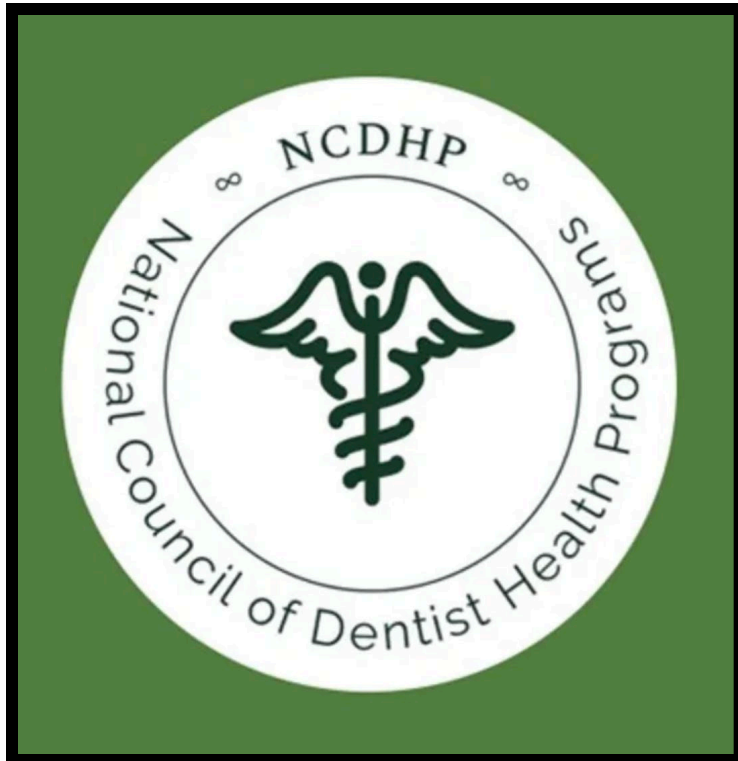


Collaboration – National Level

- Ongoing collaboration and inclusion
- National guidance on dentist impairment
- Leverage expertise from other professions



Thank You!



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