



## Announcement

**Date: September 2, 2020**

**Re: Site Visits, DPP#200 Excused for Year 2020 due to COVID-19**

The Dental Pilot Project Program allows authorized organizations to test, demonstrate and evaluate new or expanded roles for oral healthcare professionals before changes in licensing laws are made by the Oregon State Legislature. The intent of the project is to prove quality of care provided, trainee competency and patient safety in addition to the larger goals of access to care, cost effectiveness and the efficacy of introducing a new workforce model.

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is responsible for monitoring approved pilot projects and ascertaining the progress of each project in meeting its stated objectives and complying with program statutes and regulations. The primary role of OHA is monitoring for patient safety. Secondly, OHA shall evaluate approved projects and the evaluation shall include, but is not limited to, reviewing progress reports and conducting site visits.

Site visits are conducted with the primary purpose of health and safety monitoring and surveillance and to determine compliance with administrative rules. Site visits are conducted using both qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches. They primarily consist of participant interviews and clinical records review.

**COVID-19:** On March 8, 2020, Executive Order No. 20-03 was signed which declared a state of Emergency due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak in Oregon. At that time, Dental Pilot Project #200 "Training Dental Hygienists to Place Interim Therapeutic Restorations ceased providing ITR's as authorized under DPP#200 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of September 2020, DPP#200 has been unable to resume services at authorized employment/utilizations sites under the approved project. Due to the lack of services, OHA has excused DPP#200 and a site visit will not be conducted in 2020.