

thoroughly enjoyed my time and I hope I contributed to enhancing the education, research, and service missions of the school.

I have no interest in retirement and plan to stay active with some of the professional activities I find most rewarding. I am teaching part-time in the Graduate Prosthodontics program at Loma Linda University and also continue to help dental students learn through presentations I provide in some of their courses. In addition, I plan to continue with at least three other activities.

First, I will continue my work with the Foundation for Oral Rehabilitation. Their first eBook, entitled *Single Implants and Their Restoration: From Diagnosis to Maintenance*, was introduced in February 2015. A second eBook entitled *The Temporomandibular Joint: Structure, Function, and Dysfunction* was recently completed and is now available on the FOR.org website. Additionally, I have been working with Dr W. Patrick Naylor and we are nearly finished editing another eBook on implant overdentures to serve as a companion to the single implant eBook. None of these eBooks would have been possible without the special expertise generously provided by a large number of practitioners and educators throughout the

world. It is my goal to continue developing resources that will meet the anytime, anywhere learning needs of students and practitioners.

Second, I plan to continue activities with eHuman.com in their development of additional educational programs to enhance the learning of dental students. I have been involved with developing content for two of their programs, entitled “Dental Anatomy and 3D Interactive Tooth Atlas” and “The Atlas of Dental Occlusion and the Temporomandibular Joint.” They are now putting the finishing touches on a new program entitled “Head and Neck Anatomy for Dentistry.” In addition, plans are well underway for development of another digital education resource about removable partial dentures.

Another equally stimulating involvement has been with Global Dental Science, the developers of the AvaDent Digital Denture process. Their initial process of fabricating complete dentures now includes implant prostheses as well as monolithic designs where the denture teeth and base become one unit. Working with their special engineering expertise and providing clinical advice has been most rewarding. I believe the advantages of this process will ultimately make it the dominant method of fabricated prostheses.

Literature Abstract

Economic Modeling of Sealing Primary Molars Using a “Value of Information” Approach

The objective of the study was to evaluate two primary molar sealant strategies for publicly insured children using an expected value of perfect information (EVPI) approach. The two primary molar sealant strategies were always seal (AS) and standard care (SC). By adopting a EVPI approach, the author aimed to develop a population-level model that examined the opportunity losses associated with AS primary molars, and to estimate the EVPI that would result from perfect selection of publicly insured children to receive primary molar sealants. A total of 286,400 children under the age of 18 years were enrolled under the Iowa Medicaid dental program. Model-based, child-level economic simulation models were then developed from the public payer perspective using claims data from the Iowa Medicaid program and the published literature. Opportunity losses were calculated for children who had AS treatment when SC would have been the optimal choice, and vice versa. Results revealed that the AS strategy cost \$43.68 over SC (95% CI = -\$5.50, \$92.86) per child per restoration or extraction averted under the high intrachild correlation assumption, and \$15.54 (95% CI = \$7.86, \$23.20) under the low intrachild correlation. Under high intrachild correlation, mean opportunity losses were \$80.28 (95% CI = \$76.39, \$84.17) per child, and AS was the optimal strategy in 31% of children. Under low correlation, mean opportunity losses were \$14.61 (95% CI = \$12.20, \$17.68) and AS was the optimal strategy in 87% of children. The EVPI was calculated at \$530,813,740 and \$96,578,389 (for high and low intrachild correlation, respectively), for a projected total incident population of 8,059,712 children. The evidence appears to suggest that sealing all primary molars is more effective than standard care. However, if implemented widely, this would result in large opportunity losses among publicly insured children. Thus, future studies should strive to identify the risk factors for caries in young publicly insured children and assess the specificity and sensitivity of risk factors so that primary molar sealant strategies can be optimized. Identifying relevant risk factors would then allow categorization of subgroups of children who would benefit most from this potentially cost-saving and effective public health intervention.

Ney JP, van der Goes DN, Chi DL. *J Dent Res* 2014;93:876-881. **References:** 32. **Reprints:** University of Washington, Department of Oral Health Sciences, Box 357475, Seattle, WA 98195, USA; Email: dchi@uw.edu—*Sheralyn Quek, Singapore*

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