ECU Leadership Training in Special Needs Population Oral Health

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Introduction

• Collaborators:
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  • Dr. Robert Carter
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Introduction

• 5 year HRSA supported project designed to provide leadership in oral health delivery for patients with special health care needs

• Three main goals:
  • Address the needs of vulnerable populations
  • Expand training in rural populations
  • Develop health management tools
Three focus areas have specific activities that will result in outputs that will enhance oral health care for special needs populations. This includes activities that:

1: Support training for oral health care providers to care for vulnerable populations and foster community-clinical linkages
2: Expand the training of the oral health workforce in rural areas
3: Improve access to care for underserved communities
Results

• Tangible outcomes so far:
  • Expansion of the pediatric dental residency into Community Service Learning Center Ahoskie and Vidant Roanoke-Chowan Hospital
  • Creation of a second-year option for the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program to focus on treatment of the adult with special needs
  • Creation of an airway management course that addresses concerns in adult and pediatric special needs
  • Creation of learning modules through AHEC that addresses oral health care for special needs populations
  • Development of a year long collaborative CE course to enhance the care general dentists provide for pediatric dental patients
Future Considerations

• How to give the pediatric dental residents an appreciation for rural issues
• Successfully recruit second year AEGD residents
• Foster interdisciplinary collaborations to improve care
• Consider how to leverage community resources