

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST TRAINING

May 2009 Monthly Report



Pictured above are Chelsea Shoemaker from EAT(Sand Point) with Anjanette Norton from Maniilaq(Noatak) assisting, and Dr. Shoffstall supervising the injection of local anesthetic.

During May students had a very busy month working on their clinical skills such as Local Anesthetics and continuing to practice their restorations. They also spent time getting familiar with dental handpieces. Tooth anatomy review has been ongoing. The month ended with Dr. Anthony Bolin Assistant Professor and Assistant Director Dental Public Health Residency Program, Baylor College of Dentistry coming up to teaching Cariology and Atraumatic Restorative Technique.

Pictured to the right: Ferdella Sharp BBAHC (Manakotak) with Erik Linduska EAT (King Cove) as patient and Dr. Williard supervising.



Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic



Pictured here are left to right, Ben Steward, Ooyuan Nagaruk, Tambre Guido in back, front are Tatiana Barraclough, Marian Petla, Bernadette Charles and Dr. Robert Allen in their new clinic.

The students settled into the new Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic (YEDTC) during the

month of May. The students describe the new clinic as spacious and comfortable. They like the new classroom, as it is much larger than the previous one, and has a wonderful view of Bethel and the tundra. The students also express pleasure in knowing that they will be here permanently and that this is “their” space. As a result, they have been setting-up the operatories, and arranging and re-arranging various rooms when not treating patients.

Approximately 100 patients received care during the month; providing the students with a variety of dental experiences. The students are progressing in their training, and have started performing more complicated restorative procedures. During these clinical encounters, they benefit from the close supervision of Dr. Allen and Dr. Brusca.

Students pictured below are in their new well lighted classroom.



In March Elsie Patrick, a dental assistant from YKHC, replaced Diane Aloralrea as the YEDTC Office Assistant. Elsie is proving to be an asset to the program as she speaks Yup'ik, the native language, and has been able to assist the DHAT students during patient care.

Dr. Anthony Brusca completed his rotation on Friday, May 8, and Dr. Robert Allen started on Monday, May 11. Dr. Allen

reviewed Dental Materials and Kathy Balasko continued with the Community Dental Health course during morning lectures from May 11 through May 29.

The students will be on Summer Break from Monday, June 1, through Friday, July 3. The students will be returning home during the break to spend time with friends and family.

NOTE: The Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic will be closed from June 16 to June 26, as Kathy Balasko will be out of the office during that time.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mary Williard, Clinical Site Director, 907-729-5600, mewilliard@anmc.org.