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# Dentistry for Patients with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

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# In Western New York

If you are an adult with intellectual/developmental disability (IDD) who needs dental care...

- 14 week wait for a clinic visit
- 18 month wait for treatment under general anesthesia



# Overview

- Burden of dental disease is higher
  - Untreated dental caries in 32.2% of patients with IDD
  - Edentulism in 7.6% of patients with IDD
- Graduating dental students are not confident or willing to treat patients with special needs, per graduates report
- Medicaid/3<sup>rd</sup> party insurers are the primary payers for people with IDD, with exceptionally low reimbursement rates
- Insufficient number of dental providers accept Medicaid:  
**43% of all practicing dentists**

# In Summary...

- We have a large volume of patients who need specialized care
- Our providers do not feel competent or confident in treating these patients
- Very few providers accept federal dental insurance



# HRSA Postdoctoral Training in General, Pediatric and Public Health Dentistry and Dental Hygiene

A step in the right direction



- 5 year award
  - Provider salaries
  - Support staff salaries
  - Equipment for new dental center
- Located within an interdisciplinary center
- Expansion and enhancement of dental resident/student training

# Triumphs

- Increase in applications to residency program
- Hiring of resident graduates  
5 hires since 2019
- New dental center to open.  
January 2022
- Buy in from stakeholders
  - Dental students
  - Dental faculty
  - Hospital administration



# Triumphs



- Patient-centered
- Skills translate to treatment of other vulnerable populations
  - Medically complex
  - Geriatric

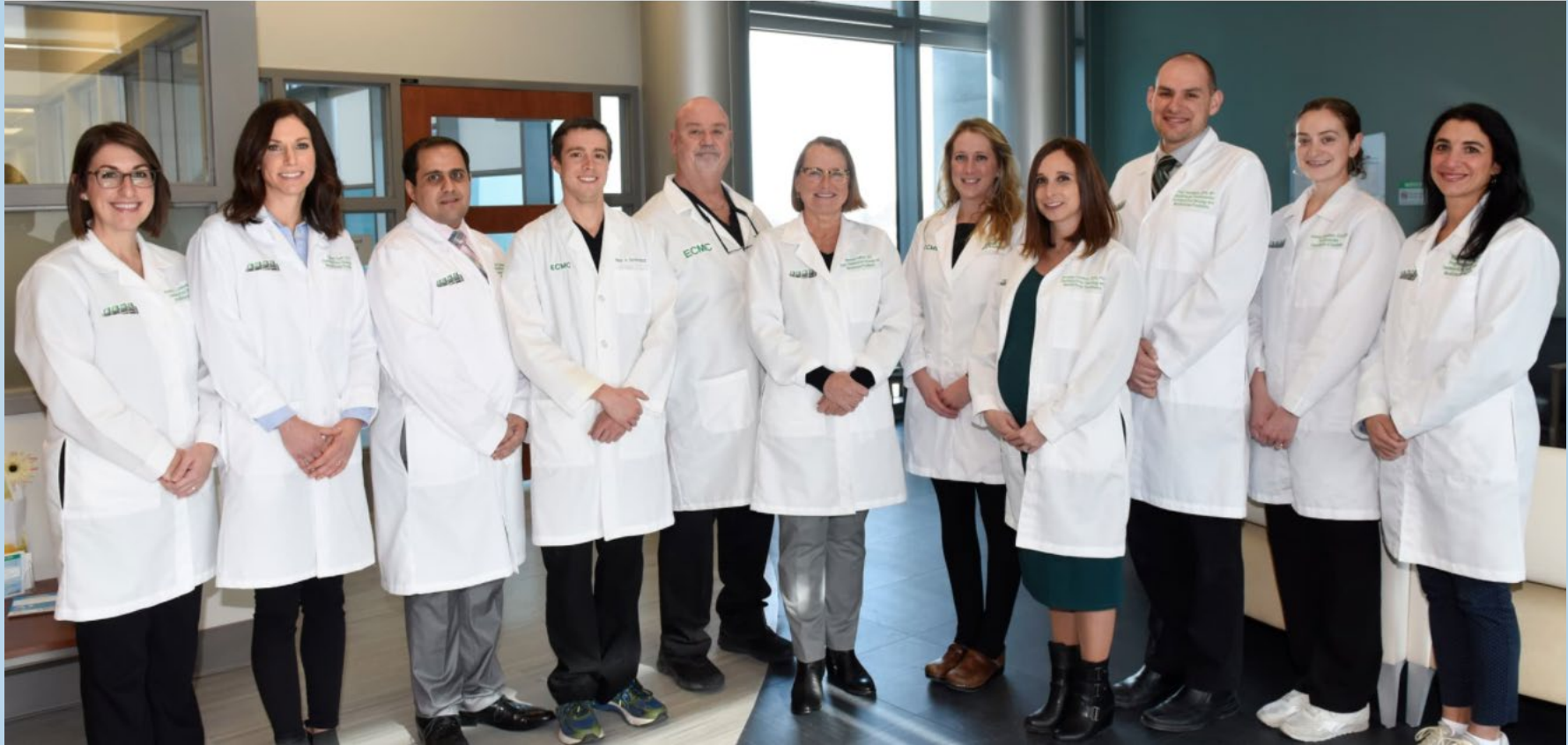
# Challenges

- Program sustainability
- Crisis of available operating room time
- Reimbursement
- Institutional support for providers seeking federal funding





# Thank you



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