The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recognizes that high-quality scientific evidence is the foundation of pediatric dentistry. Clinical care should be based on evidence-based dentistry (EBD) principles. Where there is insufficient evidence, relevant research can help to fill these gaps and inform clinical practice.

The AAPD Council on Scientific Affairs is charged with updating and affirming the AAPD Research Agenda. The AAPD Research Agenda itemizes strategic research topics relevant to the practice of pediatric dentistry. To help improve patient and population oral health outcomes, we urge federal, philanthropic, and corporate funding agencies to devote resources to the following areas:

- Prevention and management of dental caries (e.g., biosensors and technologies to monitor health, precision oral health care, emerging chemotherapeutics).
- Interdisciplinary research to understand and eliminate oral health disparities and promote population oral health (e.g., basic behavioral and social determinants of health, development of evidence-based public health interventions, integration of dentistry into the health care delivery system, interoperable databases between medicine and dentistry, models of interprofessional collaboration, training, and team science).
- Translational research to move scientific knowledge into practice and policy (e.g., dissemination and implementation of evidence-based care into clinical practice, barriers to dissemination and implementation, policy and practice partnerships).

This agenda is an update of the previous version, revised in 2016.