

January/February 2025

the

Nugget

Get the
CE Scoop!



The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo



Get Ready For Our UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14, 2025

General Meeting

Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core
Member Price: \$89 early (ends 1/5) / \$99 regular (ends 1/12)
\$109 late (begins 1/13)
Non-Member Price: \$218

GM: 15 on 15: 15 Minutes, 15 Slides, Multi-Topic Pearls... Insights Across Specialties

Presented by Amanda Chen, DDS, Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS,
Estella Kim, DDS and Richard Knight, DDS, MS

January 16, 2025

Dentists Do Broadway - Hamilton

7:30pm show

January 22, 2025

HR Webinar

Wednesday • 5:30–7:00pm • Webinar • No CEU

Navigating New Laws that Impact Your Dental Team

(Hosted by CDA)

Member Price: FREE

visit cda.org/events to register

January 28, 2025

CPR–AHA BLS Blended Learning– Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions

Tuesday • 6:00–6:45pm; 7:00–7:45pm; 8:00–8:45pm
Member Price: \$97 total; \$36 to AHA/\$61 to SDDS (ends 1/7)
\$117 total; \$36 to AHA/\$81 to SDDS (begins 1/8)
Non-Member Price: \$198 total; \$36 to AHA/\$162 to SDDS

Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions (3 CEU, Core)

January 29, 2025

HR Webinar*

Wednesday • 12:00–1:30pm • Webinar • 1.5 CEU, 20%

The View From the Labor Commissioner's Office

Presented by Von Boyenger, Sr. Deputy Labor Commissioner

Member Price: \$59 early (ends 1/8) / \$79 regular (begins 1/9)

Non-Member Price: \$158

* Does not qualify for AGD credit



View all CE Courses & Events
online with this QR code.

February 5, 2025

Licensure Renewal Webinar*

Wednesday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core
Member Price: \$95 early (ends 1/15) / \$115 regular (begins 1/16)
Non-Member Price: \$135

Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids

Presented by Ronni Brown, DDS, MPH, FADI

February 12, 2025

SDDS Member Mixer - Midtown Sacramento

February 19, 2025

Dentists Do Broadway - Mean Girls

7:30pm show

February 27-28, 2025

SDDS 44th Annual MidWinter Convention - Get the CE Scoop

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center

Mandatory/Required courses coming in 2025 Mark your calendar now!

For licensure renewal:

California Infection Control

April 22 | November 14 | (and MidWinter)

California Dental Practice Act

April 15 | November 14 | (and MidWinter)

Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids

February 5 | October 29

CPR/BLS

January 28 | April 2 | August 9 | November 7

For office staff:

Harassment Prevention Training

(for employees and/or supervisors)

June 10 | December 10

OSHA Review: Your OSHA Compliance Manual: The Only Tool You Need

April 30

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Nugget Editorial Board

Carl Hillendahl, DDS; *Editor-in-Chief*
Amanda Chen, DDS • Brian Ralli, DDS
Ramsen Warda, DDS • Peter Yanni, DDS
Ranna Alrabadi; Student Representative

Editors Emeritus

James Musser, DDS
William Parker, DMD, MS, PhD
Bevan Richardson, DDS

Awards

- International College of Dentists (ICD)**
- 2023 • Special Citation Award
 - 2022 • Humanitarian Service Award
 - 2022 • Special Citation Award
 - 2022 • Overall Newsletter, honorable mention
 - 2021 • Platinum Pencil, *honorable mention*
Outstanding use of graphics
 - 2021 • Special Citation Award
 - 2020 • Platinum Pencil
 - 2020 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*
- Article / series of articles of interest to the profession
- 2020 • Special Citation Award
 - 2019 • Special Citation Award
 - 2019 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*
 - 2018 • Humanitarian Service Award
 - 2017 • Special Citation Award
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 - 2015 • Special Citation Award

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Dedication. Service. Commitment.



By **Nima Aflatooni, DDS**
2025 SDDS President

Dedication. Service. Commitment: These are the words that come to mind when I think of the Sacramento District Dental Society. The respect that SDDS holds in our community and the impact it has on the dental profession is the result of the dedication, service and commitment of its volunteer leadership, its amazing staff, and its tireless and exemplary Executive Director, Cathy Levering.

I am deeply humbled to begin my term as President of SDDS in 2025. I look to those who have held this office before me as mentors, role models and friends. I hope to carry the many lessons I have learned from them as I embark on my term.

As oral health care professionals, we are beyond fortunate to be supported by such an effective and influential organization as SDDS. From the work done by the Sacramento District Dental Foundation to direct member support and legislative advocacy on a local level, this organization's breadth of work serving this region truly sets the bar for all local or state associations.

SDDF's Smiles for Kids program has provided dental care for over one million children and 16 million dollars in treatment. *The Nugget* continues to set the bar for dental journalism with multiple awards from the International College of Dentists. SDDS continues to support private practices with member access to the HR Hotline and fighting local legislative battles that threaten practices.

Last but definitely not least, the continuing education SDDS provides its members is world-class. The general meetings provide an opportunity to learn from clinical leaders while connecting with colleagues and vendors, the business forums provide valuable practice training and SDDS MidWinter Convention continues to bring world-class speakers to the region.

I'd like to thank our Board of Directors and Executive Committee for their dedication over the years and I look forward to working with them in 2025. I'd also like to thank Dr. Ash Vasanthan. Dr. Vasanthan has led SDDS in 2024 with class and poise. His

wisdom and steady leadership have been crucial for the many challenges we have faced this past year, and I look forward to his mentorship and advice.

And a very special thank you to Cathy, our amazing Executive Director, for everything she has done for us, for the profession, and for SDDS. I have never seen an ED with the passion and dedication that Cathy has. SDDS is what it is because of her tireless efforts. I look forward to working with Cathy to continue SDDS's success into the future.

Lastly, thank you to all of you for your membership and your support for SDDS and its programs. Please continue to attend our general meetings, business forums and other events. I hope to see all of you at SDDS MidWinter in 2025! ■

2025 Calendar of Events

Get your CE units
THROUGH SDDS!
SEE PAGES 28-29 FOR PROGRAM



By **Cathy B. Levering**
SDDS Executive Director

It's All about the Numbers... Not Really

Happy 2025!

We've closed out a very successful 2024... with amazing highlights and numbers. The numbers look amazing - financial numbers, membership numbers, market share, engagement numbers, registrations, retention, attendance, recruitment, satisfaction, Sunday e'blast open-rate numbers, usage of the HR hotline numbers; it's everything we measure. And while numbers and percentages are important to measure success, diagnose deficiencies and target areas for improvement, the "between the numbers" information is equally as important.

What is the story of how our SDDS team helped a member? How do we help advocate for a patient or a member dentist? What are the topics of the calls that we get every day and all week long? Those are the "between the numbers" stories, issues, problems and, yes, complaints and compliments that we get. We help member dentists solve a problem, get them information, or just lend an ear and listen to what they really need to help solve a problem they have encountered. We refer our partners, our Vendor Members who are experts. We refer other dentists to help. We refer patients to our members. Yes, numbers are good. But the one-on-one relationships with we have with all of our members is what we really are proud to measure.

We care! Our SDDS team here in the SDDS office cares. Our leadership and Board members care. We care about each and every one of our members. We care about YOU! We care about your business and your profession. We care that you need information quickly, resources and referrals when you call, and we always are here on the other end of the phone answering every day. If you call us on our doctor line (916-446-1227), we always pick up from 8am to 4:30pm every day.

So, as I close out this first of the year message, I hope you will continue to value your membership during this renewal month and renew by January 30th (note – this is a big change this year). We will continue to advocate for you, answer your questions and make sure you have all the "stuff" you need when you need it.

Thank you for being a member and supporting SDDS!

REMINDER:

DUES ARE DUE ON JANUARY 1, 2025 AND MUST BE PAID BY JANUARY 30!

Monthly dues payers will automatically roll over.

Sign on to www.cda.org to pay your dues before January 30, 2025

LEADERSHIP

President: Nima Aflatooni, DDS
President Elect/Treasurer: Jeffrey Sue, DDS
Secretary: Craig Alpha, DDS
SDDS BCR Rep: Volki Felahy, DDS
Editor-in-Chief: Carl Hillendahl, DDS
Executive Director: Cathy Levering

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Eric Grove, DDS
Michael Payne, DDS, MSD
Kart Raghuraman, DDS
Cherag Sarkari, DDS
Chirag Vaid, DDS
Guest of the Board: Rosemary Wu, DMD, MS
CNU Student Representative: Jasraj Sandhu
UOP Student Representative: Resha Shah

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CPR: Margaret Delmore, MD, DDS/ Brad Archibald, DDS
Membership/Engagement: Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS/Aneel Nath, DDS
Nominating/Leadership Development: Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS

COMMITTEES STANDING

CSUS Pre-Dental: Brian Orcutt, DDS/Jeremy A. Salvatierra, DMD
Budget & Finance Advisory: Jeffrey Sue, DDS
Bylaws Advisory: Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS
CE Advisory: Ryan Wilgus, DDS
Strategic Planning Advisory: Jeffrey Sue, DDS/Craig Alpha, DDS

TASK FORCES ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Foundation: Carl Hillendahl, DDS
SacPAC: Gary Ackerman, DDS

SPECIAL EVENTS OTHER

Cathy Levering | Executive Director
Della Yee | Director of Operations
Sofia Gutierrez | Foundation Projects/CPR
Anne Rogerson | Office Manager
Jessica Luther | Graphic Designer
Jen Jackson | Member Liaison

SDDS STAFF

The Nugget is an opinion and discussion magazine for SDDS membership. Opinions expressed by authors are their own, and not necessarily those of SDDS or *The Nugget* Editorial Board. SDDS reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as reject any material submitted. *The Nugget* is published bimonthly by the SDDS, 2035 Hurley Way, Ste 200, Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 446-1211. Acceptance of advertising in *The Nugget* in no way constitutes approval or endorsement by Sacramento District Dental Society of products or services advertised. SDDS reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

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Education Is What Unites Us

Set up a **FREE** in-person or live online Continuing Education Staff Meeting to learn in-depth about the latest topics in dentistry.



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Melissa Fultz, RDH

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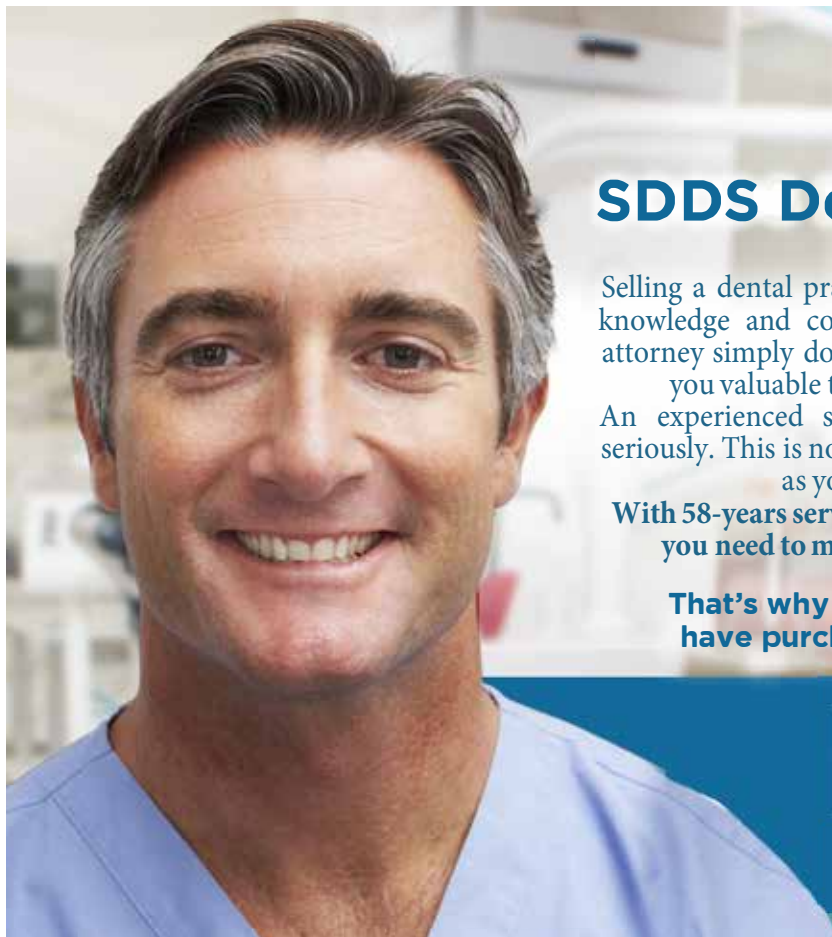
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Buying or Selling a Dental Practice?

SDDS Dentists Start Here.

Selling a dental practice is a full-time job -- demanding skills, knowledge and contacts that you, your accountant or your attorney simply don't have. An experienced specialist will save you valuable time and money -- by doing things right.

An experienced specialist will also take risk management seriously. This is not a transaction where you can afford to learn as you go leaving yourself exposed.

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Celebrating innovation in dental education!

Congratulations to SDDS on the 44th Annual Midwinter Convention & Expo!

Together, CDA, SDDS and dental societies throughout California are pursuing new ways to educate and empower our members.

Here's to an amazing convention and more engaging C.E. and exciting events in 2025.

cda.org/education



 CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY

January 24 & 25, 2025 8:00am to 5:00pm
SF Airport Marriott Burlingame
Achieving Aesthetics in a World of Challenges
Dr. Michael Melkers will lecture on Friday and have a hands-on workshop on Saturday.



January 24, 2025 Noon to 5:00pm
SF Airport Marriott Burlingame
Botox in Dentistry Workshop
Dr. Juergen Langenbach will guide you to gain confidence injecting **YOUR** patient!



January 25, 2025 8:00am - 5:00pm
SF Airport Marriott Burlingame
Practicing Successful Dentistry
Dr. Michael Miyasaki's lecture is for the entire dental team!



February 8, 2025 10:30am - 3:30pm
Sacramento District Dental Society
Botox in Dentistry Workshop
Bring your patient to inject and add Botox to your dental toolbox!



Register today for our
MIDWINTER CONVENTION



Special Team Pricing
Pricing
Sign up 6 staff,
get the 7th free!



\$475 Dentists | \$400 Staff
includes 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches
(This price good through 1/22/25)

Get the CE Scoop!

The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

February 27 & 28, 2025
There's Still Time to Register!

Presented by the
 **sacramento**
District Dental Society

TWO DAYS OF CE AT THE SAFE CREDIT UNION CONVENTION CENTER | SACRAMENTO, CA

10:00am–12:00pm • No CEU

How to Spend Less and Make More

Jake Goates, Founder; GOAT Dental Marketing Consultants
Sponsored by Gargle

Jake will walk you through different digital marketing strategies to help build your online presence. Participants will better understand how to properly allocate funds to see the best results all while spending less!

Learning Objectives:

- How to Build Strong online presence
- How to establish a marketing budget for your practice goals



Jake has over two decades of experience in sales, marketing, and consulting across various industries such as hospitality, SaaS, and dentistry. He has led group seminars and served as an In-House Dental Marketing Consultant and Key Opinion Leader for various dental marketing companies. In the past decade, Jake has personally consulted more than 5,000 dentists, helping them optimize marketing strategies, cut unnecessary costs, and boost collections. Jake specializes in marketing strategy, budget allocation, call handling, lead management, and holding agencies accountable for patient acquisition goals.

New Class Added to Thursday
Come See What Words of Wisdom Jack Shares!

Healthcare Business Banking



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Looking to purchase a new practice or expand or refinance your current practice?
U.S. Bank practice financing offers a variety of lending options for dental professionals.

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CONTACT ME TODAY

Dave Nelson

dave.nelson@usbank.com

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SUITE 320:	± 1,100 - 2,360 RSF	

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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YOU SHOULD KNOW

MANDATORY INFECTION CONTROL 8 HRS FOR ALL UNLICENSED DAS IN YOUR OFFICE - LAW CHANGES ON JANUARY 1

Starting January 1, 2025, all unlicensed dental assistants must complete a Dental Board-approved 8-hour infection control course before performing tasks involving exposure to infectious materials.

SDDS is proud to offer this 8-hour course (6 hrs. online, and 2 hours live webinar) with our partner and SDDS Vendor Member, THE FOUNDATION FOR ALLIED EDUCATION (FADE). SDDS members and their staff will receive a 15% discount on this 8-hour required course. The 6-hour online training must be completed prior to the LIVE WEBINAR on Thursday, January 9, 2025 from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

SDDS Member Price \$340.00 (Original \$400; 15% discount), use promo code: SDDS15

This course includes: 2 hours of live instruction on January 9th and 6 hours online. For more information regarding course content, requirements for course completion and instructions on how to register for this course, visit: thefadeinstitute.as.me/schedule.php?appointmentType=69780418. All completed registration forms are required to be submitted to FADE for processing no later than 12/27/2024. A confirmation will be issued to each registrant with further instructions.

Questions: Email us at donnaklein@thefade.org.

DON'T MISS THE SACRAMENTO KINGS VS. PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS GAME!

Get ready for an exciting showdown at the Golden 1 Center on March 27 as our Sacramento Kings take on the Portland Trail Blazers!

Tickets are only \$99 each! Seats in the lower bowl.

Your ticket includes:

- One Kings hat – Show off your team spirit in style!
- \$10 food coupon – Savor your favorite game-day eats!
- Seats are selling fast, so secure your tickets today, email SDDS at sdds@sdds.org to order your tickets today!

WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

Provided by CDA

Complaints regarding website accessibility are becoming more common. There are a few steps that dental practices with websites can take to decrease the risk of a monetary demand or lawsuit. One strategy is to add an accessibility link to your website. This is language that tells individuals with disabilities how to seek help if they are unable to access something on your practice's website. The language can instruct individuals to phone the office to have staff read content, provide transcripts of videos or assist them with filling out online forms. It is important to train staff on the language in the link and how to appropriately respond to inquiries. Another approach is to contact your website designer and ask if your website is accessible, and if not, how they can make it accessible. The ADA standards for website design are known as WCAG 2.0, levels A and AA. You'll want to be sure that your designer can speak to those standards. If you know your website is not accessible, you can take it down temporarily and replace it with a compliant site. Engage a qualified website designer who is familiar with the accessibility standards and be sure to address compliance with the accessibility standards contractually.

If your practice hired a certified access specialist to inspect your premises that inspection did not necessarily include testing website accessibility. It might be a good idea to check the inspection report. If you're considering hiring an access specialist, you should inquire whether the individual or firm will test your website for accessibility compliance.

DUES ARE DUE ON JANUARY 1 AND MUST BE PAID BY JANUARY 30!

Monthly dues payers will automatically roll over. Sign on to www.cda.org to pay your dues before January 30.

NOVEMBER GM SALAD RECIPE

Did you know? We always read our surveys after meetings and courses. At the November meeting, a few members raved about the dinner and, especially, the salad.

Here's the recipe from the Chef. Thanks Chef!

Spinach Salad with Tomato, Pomegranate, Pecans and Lemongrass Dressing

Arrange spinach on the salad plate with tomatoes around the edges, Sprinkle pomegranate seeds and coarsely chopped pecans on top. Drizzle the dressing and enjoy!

Dressing:

3T. oil

1T. champagne vinegar

¼ tsp. salt

Few turns of fresh black pepper

Lemongrass paste to taste (can be purchased in the vegetable section of most stores)

Whisk until emulsified.

LOOKING FOR AN ASSOCIATE, PARTNER OR ARE YOU SELLING YOUR PRACTICE?

The Dugoni Business Club invites you to come connect with graduating University of the Pacific students at our annual networking event!

Friday, January 31, 2025 | 6:30-8:30pm

The Fountain Room at the Fairmont Hotel

Address: 950 Mason St,
San Francisco, CA 94108

Attire: Business Casual
Refreshments and drinks
will be provided

RSVP with QR code.



CNU INVITES SDDS MEMBERS...

Save the date: April 10th, 5:30-8:00pm

Meet the graduating CNU dentists and visit our new Dental School Clinic!

Details coming soon.

Get the CE Scoop!



The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

Presented by the Sacramento District Dental Society



By Michael B. Guess, DDS, MS, MA
MidWinter Speaker

THURSDAY

1:30pm – 4:00pm • 2.5 CEU, Core
*ABCs of Aligners—Managing
Expectations in a Connected World*
Sponsored by DynaFlex

ABC's of Aligners *Managing Expectations in a Connected World*

With their aesthetic appeal and the convenience of removability, aligners are a product that many patients desire. Unfortunately, aligners' limitations create challenges for orthodontics practices that often go overlooked. To overcome these limitations and enhance success in practice, we first need to understand the clinical boundaries of aligner treatment better and how to create expectations management strategies and practical strategies for coping with inefficiencies in office processes.

Clinical Limitations of Aligners

While aligners have the advantage of flexibility, they might not be ideal for every malocclusion. For instance, they cannot be applied to more severe cases involving large movements – including rotations, vertical changes, and fine torque movements.

1. Rotation/Extrusion: While aligners can

address mild to moderate rotations, when severe rotations, especially of rounded teeth such as canines, are involved, attachments or some auxiliary may be needed to achieve the desired result. Extrusion: Moving a tooth in a vertical direction out of the bone to a higher level, i.e., extrusion, can also be a challenge for aligners, especially if there is no auxiliary in place, making it less ideal for open bite correction or for patients who need a lot of vertical adjustment within their final alignment. Efficiency in Closing Extraction Spaces: While it can also do that, especially in milder cases or when there is only a small space, closing extraction spaces (often needed for more severe crowding or Class II/III malocclusion cases) can be tricky with aligners. Many more stages are involved, and the results are often less predictable than braces, which can mean a more extended treatment period and a greater need for refinements.

2. Root Control and Torque Precision:

Exact torque movements are frequently necessary to properly angulate tooth roots within the bone, and the demands on mechanics for such movements may be challenging to achieve using aligners alone. Fixed appliances typically offer better root control overall (especially for patients moving teeth bodily rather than tipping). Consequently, many practices have employed a hybrid approach—braces to move teeth into position before switching to finish aligners.

Patient Compliance Issues

Aligners require patient compliance to be worn for 20-22 hours per day to be an effective treatment. Failure to comply can result in the patient having to wear the tray for longer than the initially planned amount of time – much to the frustration of both the patient and the orthodontist.

1. Non-adherence: It’s no secret that many patients, especially teenagers, might have difficulty wearing aligners as much as prescribed. Under-use of the aligners translates to longer treatment times, and it’s not uncommon for orthodontists to track patients who finish treatment well past their completion dates.

2. Treatment delays—often due to aligners lost or damaged: The very thing that makes aligners comfortable and easy to use is their removability. However, their removability also means that they can be easily lost or damaged. This can prove an ongoing time and expense burden on patients and the office. Protocols for quickly reordering lost aligners and a rational policy about replacing damaged aligners can reduce, but not eliminate, the disruption.

Office Challenges with Treatment

But from the perspective of practice management, the cost built into aligners of a revision or refinement, the time required for digital treatment planning—all of these things make it a much more challenging product to implement.

1. Added chair time for refinements: Cases requiring multiple refinement cycles take up valuable chair time and can be a nuisance to manage in a busy office. It has been noted that most aligner cases require at least one refinement during the total treatment time in an office.

2. Creating Excellent Treatment Plans:

Digital treatment planning is more complex than traditional bracket and wire placement and can be more labor-intensive. Measuring tooth movement and creating a sequence of aligners would mean taking digital scans and tracking tooth movements with each aligner insertion.

3. Cost: Aligners generate consistent material costs compared to fixed braces. Each refinement incurs a lab fee, which can become significant due to poor compliance or complex treatment requirements. Non-compliant patients who need more extended treatment plans can incur higher financial burdens on the office due to prolonged chair time.

For More Complicated Treatment

1. Set realistic expectations from the beginning of treatment and communicate clearly that aligners might not be ideally suited to more complex cases and that the treatment length depends on the patient’s compliance. Written materials and ongoing communication after the initial presentation can help ensure that the patients know what is expected and what they can expect from the aligners.

2. Hybrid Treatment Approaches: In those cases where aligners cannot provide optimal results, a hybrid approach, whereby fixed appliances are used for initial alignment, and then aligners are used for finishing, can offer predictability and patient satisfaction. The shorter treatment timeframe associated with aligners can provide biomechanical advantages and the aesthetic and convenience

benefits of precise aligner therapy. The fixed bracket period is used to accomplish the more complex movements while giving patients the aesthetic and convenience considerations of aligner therapy.

3. Provide Compliance Tools: Some practices utilize compliance tracking tools—including wear tracking devices built into aligners or compliance check-ins with patients—to help monitor compliance and notify the orthodontist and patient if compliance decreases, allowing for early intervention.

4. Efficient Digital Workflow: Optimizing the digital workflow to manage the labor-intensive nature of aligner treatment planning. Software and staff training can help practices optimize digital impressions and in-office treatment modifications, minimizing chair time and keeping treatment on track.

Conclusion

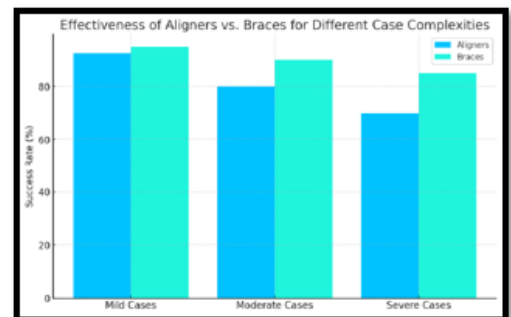
Many orthodontic practices combine the best aligner systems with traditional auxiliary appliances (often utilized with braces) to offer patients the best of both worlds – enhanced patient satisfaction and improved clinical outcomes. We can bypass the usual constraints and limitations of aligners by a) setting realistic expectations, b) creating workable treatment plans that may include hybrid solutions, and c) working toward patient compliance. ■

Patient Compliance Issues Chart



Effectiveness of Aligners Versus Braces

Effectiveness of Aligners Versus Braces





By Douglas Beals, DDS, MS
MidWinter Speaker

THURSDAY

1:30pm–4:00pm • 2.5 CEU, Core
Non-Invasive Hydraulic Sinus Lift
Sponsored by DIO Implant

The Non-Invasive Sinus Lift Approach

Explore The Benefits of This Simple but Predictable Approach to Sinus Grafting

The evolution of dental implantology has significantly transformed dental practice, particularly in the management of edentulous patients with insufficient bone volume in the posterior maxilla. Among the pivotal techniques developed to address this challenge are the lateral and vertical sinus lift procedures, which allow for the successful placement of implants in areas where bone resorption has occurred. Understanding these techniques reveals not only their clinical significance but also how advancements in this area allow for a less invasive procedure that is also less technically challenging.

Early Developments

The concept of bone grafting dates to ancient times, but it was not until the 20th century that scientific methods began to solidify its practice in dentistry. The introduction of dental implants can be traced to the 1960s when Swedish orthopedic surgeon Per-Ingvar Brånemark pioneered osseointegration, a process where bone fuses with titanium implants. This groundbreaking discovery laid the foundation for modern implant dentistry.

However, patients would present with inadequate bone volume, particularly in the posterior maxilla, due to factors such as tooth loss and periodontal disease. This resulted in a pneumatized sinus and insufficient residual bone height. Early implantology often resulted in high failure rates in these cases, prompting a need for innovative solutions to augment bone in the sinus region.

The Lateral Sinus Lift Technique

The lateral window sinus lift procedure, developed in 1974 by Dr. Oscar Hilt Tatum Jr. revolutionized the approach to implant placement in the posterior maxilla. It involves accessing the sinus cavity through the lateral wall of the maxilla, allowing for the introduction of graft material beneath the sinus membrane. The technique gained popularity

due to its effectiveness in increasing the bone height necessary for implant placement.

The Vertical Sinus Lift Technique

While the lateral window technique was effective in increasing bone height and volume it is invasive and technically challenging. In 1994 Dr. Robert Summers introduced the crestal approach sinus lift to find a less invasive solution. Dr. Summer's technique was effective in gaining about 3mm of height. This technique uses the crestal ridge to access the sinus, utilizing a mallet and osteotomes to elevate the sinus membrane. It is less invasive and minimizes trauma. However, some practitioners were uncomfortable using the mallet and osteotomes, this together with the need to gain more height and volume of bone led to attempts to improve on Summer's crestal approach.

A Novel Innovation

Despite their effectiveness, these sinus lift approaches can be highly technique-sensitive and require extensive training and experience to execute successfully. Fortunately, a novel approach to lifting the sinus membrane via the crest has been developed that reduces the need for extensive training. This technique is accomplished during the preparation of the implant osteotomy and uses gentle hydraulic forces. Significantly more bone volume and height can be obtained through this technique with less risk than the previous crestal approach technique. This allows for a single procedure for the patient that is both efficient and atraumatic. If you have been wanting to place implants in the posterior maxilla but lack the confidence to attempt augmenting the sinus, then be sure to attend the Non-Invasive Hydraulic Sinus Lift course. During this course we will discuss in detail this simple non-invasive technique to reliable sinus grafting and predictable implant outcomes. ■



Revolutionizing Dental Practices

7 AI Applications for Modern Dentists

As a dentist in the digital age, embracing artificial intelligence (AI) can significantly enhance your practice's efficiency and patient care. Here are seven cutting-edge AI applications tailored for dental professionals:

Diagnostic Imaging Enhancement

AI algorithms are revolutionizing dental imaging analysis. These tools can assist in detecting and highlighting potential issues in radiographs, such as caries, periodontal diseases, and even early signs of oral cancer. By integrating AI-powered imaging software, you can improve diagnostic accuracy and catch problems earlier, leading to better patient outcomes.

Treatment Planning Assistance

AI can analyze patient data, case histories, and treatment outcomes to provide valuable insights for treatment planning. This technology helps you make more informed decisions about treatment options, materials, and techniques. AI can also simulate treatment outcomes, allowing you to visualize and explain procedures to patients more effectively.

Chairside Support and Patient Education

Implement AI-powered virtual assistants to enhance patient education during appointments. These tools can provide real-time information about procedures, display 3D models of treatments, and offer personalized oral health advice. This not only improves patient understanding but also boosts treatment acceptance rates.

Predictive Analytics for Preventive Care

Harness the power of AI to analyze patient data and predict future oral health conditions. By identifying patterns in oral health histories and treatment outcomes, you can develop proactive care strategies and personalized preventive interventions for your patients.

Automated Administrative Tasks

Streamline your practice management with AI-driven virtual assistants. These tools can handle appointment scheduling, patient communication, and billing processes. By automating these tasks, you can reduce administrative burdens and focus more on patient care.

Enhanced Patient Communication

Implement AI chatbots on your practice website to provide 24/7 support for patients. These chatbots can answer frequently asked questions, assist with appointment scheduling, and provide basic oral health information. This improves patient satisfaction and reduces the workload on your staff.

Personalized Treatment Recommendations

Utilize AI algorithms to analyze patient data and generate personalized treatment recommendations. This can include suggestions for preventive measures, treatment options, and even personalized oral hygiene routines based on individual patient profiles.

Implementing AI in Your Practice

To successfully integrate AI into your dental practice:

- 1. Start small:** Begin with one or two AI applications and gradually expand.
- 2. Train your team:** Ensure your staff is comfortable with the new technology.
- 3. Communicate with patients:** Explain how AI enhances their care and protects their data.
- 4. Stay updated:** Regularly review and update your AI tools to ensure optimal performance.



By Vinni K. Singh, DDS, AFAAID
MidWinter Speaker

THURSDAY

8:00am–9:30am • 1.5 CEU, Core
Top 7 Ways to Implement Artificial Intelligence in Your Practice Today
Sponsored by WEAVE

The Future of AI in Dentistry

As AI technology continues to evolve, we can expect even more advanced applications in dentistry. Future developments may include:

- AI-assisted robotic surgeries for complex procedures.
- Advanced predictive models for long-term oral health outcomes.
- Personalized treatment plans based on genetic and environmental factors.

By embracing AI, you can position your practice at the forefront of dental innovation, offering cutting-edge care while improving efficiency and patient satisfaction. Remember, AI is a powerful tool to augment your expertise, not replace it. As you integrate these technologies, continue to rely on your clinical judgment and maintain the personal touch that defines quality dental care. ■



By Ashlee Adams; Adams Consulting
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

11:00am–12:00pm • No CEU
Is Fee For Service Right For Your Practice?

1:45pm–3:45pm • 2 CEU, 20%
It's Just How You Say It

Building Patient Loyalty Through Personalized Engagement

How Dental Practices Can Enhance the Patient Experience

Ensuring a positive patient experience is vital to the long-term success of a dental practice. The more comfortable a new patient is, the more likely they will keep coming back to you for their oral health.

With some minor adjustments, your dental office will continually capture the attention of the customer base through crisp declarations of your brand and values and through the delivery of excellent dental care.

First Impressions Matter

Winning over the confidence and trust of a new patient will hinge on the dental practice's ability to create a memorable and positive first impression. Every detail counts. From the appearance of your signage, entry way and waiting area, to the staff's friendliness and your website's navigability, a great first impression is a concerted effort that demonstrates that your office is a well-oiled machine and always puts the patient first.

A new patient's experience from the moment they call in to make an appointment to the moment they check out after their first visit will shape their perception of the dental office. It also can set in motion the start of an important relationship with your team for many years to come.

So go over what those steps currently look like with your team and how improvements could be made.

Bring New Patients In For a Tour

"Value adds" are something all consumers come to expect as businesses retool their approach to customer relations. Offering an office tour of your facility and a meet and greet with your dentist shows your willingness to take the time to make sure your patients are always comfortable – even if they're not yet officially signed on as your patient quite yet.

A quick office tour can leave a strong first impression as it brings down barriers new patients feel during their first office visit. It'll also be a memorable experience and not easily forgotten. It's also something new patients would be eager to note when making a referral or leaving a positive online comment.

Build Morale Among Staff

Patients will feel an extra level of comfort if they're surrounded by positivity and energy from the entire staff. Building upon your staff's morale is immediately evident and is evidence of a high-performing dental office.

Assembling a complementary team that clicks, presenting team members with opportunities to grow, recognizing performance and creating an overall positive work environment are just some of the ingredients that go into a happy and productive workplace.

When everything seems to click, patients will take notice and are more likely to click on the "like button" once they're ready to digitally endorse.

Build in More Efficiencies

When it comes to performing routine and specialized dental care, you have all your bases covered, but make sure there are no loose ends in the customer service experience. Patients want to be looped in throughout the process in a hassle-free way. They should be informed about expectations at every step and directed to information they need to get through the process without any delays.

Look for opportunities to remind patients of what they need to know. A recorded message as they wait on hold, or a short text message will streamline the administrative process and get them in and out more efficiently with a bigger smile on their face.



Constantly Inform

Whether you're telling patients about the office's use of the latest dental tech for X-rays and CEREC restoration, they should have easy access to materials that educate them about equipment and treatments that will enhance their dental health.

Generally, patients look forward to hearing about the latest technology, especially in dental care. That's why it's prudent to offer patients

opportunities to learn about today's dental practices and treatments on social media, on your website, in their email inboxes and elsewhere.

Patients seek out information about their choices and will respond well to your coordinated effort to keep them well informed.

If you are seeking dental practice consulting services, don't hesitate to contact us today! ■

Clinical Photography a 2025 Update

In February 2003, Canon launched the Canon 10D SLR, a 6.3-megapixel semi-professional camera that revolutionized digital photography for general and cosmetic dentists. This innovation coincided with the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry's release of image series standards for clinical dentistry, enabling dentists to effectively share standardized clinical images with patients, colleagues, and labs. The ability to use digital photography for real-time co-diagnosis of examination findings marked a significant shift in patient diagnosis and communication in many dental practices.

At the time, there was considerable debate over whether digital SLR photography could rival the image quality of traditional 35mm film. However, rapid advancements soon demonstrated that digital photography not only matched but surpassed film quality. By 2010, many photography experts acknowledged that digital cameras with a 35mm sensor had outperformed their 35mm film counterparts.

Today, a similar conversation is emerging around smartphone photography. Just five years ago, many experts questioned whether smartphones could achieve the same pixel quality and image clarity as traditional

cameras. Yet, advancements in smartphone technology have positioned them as viable tools for capturing clinical images. Since most dental staff are already familiar with smartphone cameras, only minimal training would be needed to help them take high-quality clinical photographs, making this shift a practical option for dental practices.

To effectively use a smartphone in clinical dentistry, opting for the latest models will ensure the best image quality for clinical images. It is advisable to use a dedicated smartphone to minimize contamination concerns often associated with personal devices. Additionally, external lighting is essential to illuminate the oral cavity and reduce unwanted shadows in clinical images. Various lip retraction and lighting setups are available to facilitate macro and intraoral photography with smartphones.

At this year's MidWinter Convention, we will showcase traditional clinical photography alongside affordable camera systems and illustrate smartphone setups that enable dental professionals to capture high-quality clinical images. Incorporating photography into your dental practice can improve patient understanding and treatment acceptance. ■



By Robert Shorey, DDS
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

10:00am–12:00pm • 2 CEU, Core
A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

1:45pm–3:45pm • 2 CEU, Core
*Rethinking Nutrition for
Better Oral Health*



By Ron Ask, DDS
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

1:45pm–4:15pm • 2.5 CEU, Core
**Bonded For Life – Create a Long-Lasting
Composite Bonded Restoration**

Bonded For Life – Create a Long-Lasting Composite Bonded Restoration

Most of what we do as restorative dentists every day involve some sort of bonding composite to teeth. The more confident we are of our bonding techniques and the subsequent long term success of all of our bonding composite restorations, the more we will diagnose these procedures, perform with satisfaction these procedures and bill appropriately for these procedures. What fun!

The Advantages of Well Bonded Composite Restorations are:

1. Great aesthetics where we can match all colors, and even more important-translucencies.
2. Much more conservative with saving “given-only-once-in-a-lifetime” tooth structure.
3. Improved strength of the entire tooth.
4. Long term successful restoration with less micro-leakage and therefore decay.
5. More obvious failure with dark margins showing up when not bonded will.

The Disadvantages of Bonded Composite Restorations are:

1. Takes more time and precision than amalgam restorations.
2. Increased cost.
3. More technique sensitive.

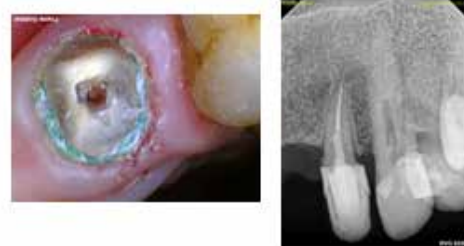
“A poorly placed composite is worse than a poorly placed amalgam. A well done composite is much better than a well done amalgam”, I have always said.

We will be discussing at the SDDS MidWinter Convention at least 5 steps that are imperative for long-lasting composite bonded restorations and also identify factors that will destroy bonding.

We will be evaluating the advantages of composite bonding anterior teeth vs. porcelain veneers. A few of these advantages are enamel preservation and patient acceptance.

With exceptional bonding knowledge and techniques, saving “unrestorable” teeth can be a daily occurrence with many benefits. We receive a number of patients from other offices that were told their tooth was unsalvageable and needed an implant. They are very happy and become a life long patient when you have beautifully restored their tooth due to your new knowledge and skill.

This course is designed to provide clinicians with the knowledge, skill set and confidence to sequence and perform predictable composite bonded restorations that will hold up beautifully over long periods of time. See you at SDDS’ MidWinter Convention. ■



Check out all of the MIDWINTER EXHIBITORS

3M/Solventum
 Adams Dental Consulting
 Analgesic Services, Inc.
 Bank of America
 Benco Dental
 Biolase Inc.
 Birdseye Pension Group
 BISCO
 BPE Law Group
 Brasseler USA
 Business PC Support Inc.
 The California Dental Extended
 Functions Association (Cal-DEFA)
 California Northstate University
 CareCredit
 Carestream Dental
 Choice HealthCare Services
 Coltene/SciCan
 Columbia Healthcare Banking,
 A Division of Umpqua Bank
 Dandy
 DDSmatch
 Dental & Medical Counsel
 Dental Intelligence
 DentaQuest
 DentScribe
 Desco Dental Equipment
 Diagnostic Digital Imaging
 DIO Implant
 Dynaflex
 Elevate Oral Care
 Enova Illumination
 The Foundation for Allied Dental
 Education (FADE)
 Gargle
 GC America Inc.
 Haleon
 Health Net of California
 Henry Schein
 Henry Schein Dental Practice
 Transitions
 Integrity Practice Sales
 JP Morgan Chase

Kerr Dental
 Kids Care Dental and Orthodontics
 Kuraray America, Inc.
 LIBERTY Dental Plan
 Lucent Pathology
 LumaDent Inc.
 Markson Dental Systems
 Meds 2U: Emergency Dental Kits
 MME Consulting, Inc.
 MUN CPAs, LLC
 Neo Dental Laboratory
 NSK America
 Olson Construction, Inc.
 Omni Practice Group
 Osborne Group, Gallelli Real Estate
 Paradise Dental Technologies
 Patterson Dental
 Philips Oral Healthcare
 Procter & Gamble - Crest and Oral B
 Professional Practice Sales
 Provide
 Q-Optics
 Resource Staffing
 Roya.com
 SD Dental Solutions
 SDI North America Inc.
 Shofu Dental Corporation
 Solmetex/Sterisil/DryShield
 SPP Dental
 Star Refining
 Straumann USA
 Supply Doc, Inc.
 Synthesis Strategic Management
 Solutions
 TDIC
 Thomas Doll, an Earned Wealth
 Company
 Tokuyama, Preventech, Cetylite
 Torch Dental
 TruAbutment

Ultradent Products, Inc.
 Ultralight Optics Inc.
 US Bank
 Verex Dental
 VOCO America, Inc.
 W and B New York LLC
 WaFd Bank
 Weave
 Western Practice Sales
 Wurthy Co.
 Yaeger Dental Supply Inc.

**EXPO HALL
SOLD OUT!**





By Robert Shorey, DDS
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

10:00am–12:00pm • 2 CEU, Core
A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

1:45pm–3:45pm • 2 CEU, Core
**Rethinking Nutrition for
Better Oral Health**

Nutrition and Metabolic Disease Syndrome

Metabolic Disease Syndrome encompasses a composite of various health issues, including dental caries, periodontal disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure. These conditions have become prevalent in modern society. Archaeological studies suggest dental caries emerged as a significant health concern as humanity transitioned from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to agriculture. Our ancestors' diets, which were low in carbohydrates, were shaped by natural selection to ensure our species' survival. The Standard American Diet is overly rich in carbohydrates and refined sugars. Refined sugars have become so prevalent in our food sources that it is almost impossible to escape. Refined sugars create a chronic metabolic burden that dulls our ability to control our appetite and makes food products more addictive. While humans cannot survive without protein and fat—dying within nine months without protein and ten months without fat—it is scientifically proven humans can thrive without carbohydrates, and we can absolutely thrive without refined sugars!

The shift towards a carbohydrate-rich diet has had significant implications. High carbohydrate intake is linked to increased susceptibility to tooth decay and a constant state of hyperinsulinism, which can lead to chronic conditions such as diabetes, chronic inflammation, high blood pressure, and vascular disease. Ingesting high amounts of carbohydrates feeds cancer cells and opportunistic bacteria living within our microbiome. Medical science has termed the cluster of medical symptoms mentioned at the beginning of this article as “Metabolic Disease Syndrome,” and metabolic disease syndrome is on the rise.

What is one of the driving forces behind Metabolic Disease Syndrome? Insulin is a crucial hormone that regulates blood sugar

and energy use. When carbohydrates are ingested in high, constant amounts, insulin is released, resulting in fat storage. Persistently high insulin levels hinder fat utilization for energy, explaining why individuals who exercise may struggle to lose weight without dietary changes. Additionally, high insulin can cause the kidneys to retain salt, increasing blood pressure, and it prompts the liver to produce more LDL cholesterol, perhaps through an inflammatory repair response to high blood glucose levels (check out the evolving “homoviscous adaptation theory”). Over time, the body can become resistant to insulin, paving the way for Type II diabetes and persistently high blood glucose levels.

Modern convenience diets are primarily fueled by refined sugars and refined flour. In the early 1900s, refined sugar was still a luxury; the average American consumed about 5 pounds per year. As flour production transitioned from stone ground to highly refined methods, many nutrients were stripped away. To combat malnutrition, “enriched flour” was introduced, but this only added back a fraction of the lost nutrients and increased the carbohydrate burden. Today, Americans consume approximately 175 pounds of sugar annually, along with an equivalent amount of high-carbohydrate-containing enriched flour products. This leads to consistently high insulin levels as the body attempts to regulate harmful blood sugar levels striving to prevent the damaging effects of excess glucose circulating in the bloodstream.

Metabolic Disease Syndrome is a pressing health issue, contributing to premature aging, poor health outcomes, and rising medical costs. A diagnosis requires at least three of the following metabolic risk factors:



Exhibitor SHOW SPECIALS

1. Abdominal Obesity:

A waist circumference of 40 inches for men and 35 inches for women, indicating higher heart disease risk.

2. High Triglyceride Levels:

Elevated fat levels in the blood.

3. Low HDL Cholesterol:

HDL or “good” cholesterol, helps clear arteries; low levels increase heart disease risk.

4. High Blood Pressure:

Sustained high blood pressure can damage the heart, kidneys, and vascular system, leading to plaque buildup.

5. High Fasting Blood Sugar:

This can signal the onset of diabetes.

Insulin plays a direct role in all these factors. It's not solely carbohydrates that trigger insulin production; another hormone, cortisol, released during chronic high stress, also elevates insulin levels.

Addressing the rise of Metabolic Disease Syndrome can be approached through various strategies—treating symptoms or targeting root causes, or a combination of both. Medications for Type II diabetes, such as Toujeo or Lantus, and statins for heart disease focus on symptom management. However, promoting lifestyle changes to reduce carbohydrate consumption and mitigate excessive insulin production could be a more effective approach. This strategy involves the collective efforts of all healthcare providers, including dentists.

Come to the SDDS MidWinter Convention to learn more about the nutritional effects on oral and systemic health and become part of a movement to make nutritional understanding an important part of helping our dental patients achieve better health. ■

Birdseye Pension Group

Sign up for retirement plan administration during the convention and receive 50% off document fees (\$800+ value)

Dental Intelligence

Get a demo at the show and receive a \$25 Starbucks Gift Card, and also be entered for a \$250 Airbnb Gift Card

DIO Implant

Digital Full Arch Case-in-a-Box at a special price of \$5,500, including all components and a zirconia final restoration for up to an All-on-6. No hidden cost.

LumaDent Inc.

Come by the LumaDent Inc. booth to take advantage of the SHOW SPECIAL PRICING on the following product lines: ErgoPrism TTL; ErgoPrism Vario (Flip); Galilean/Prism TTL; Galilean/Prism Vario and ProLUX, waveLUX and airLUX headlight packages.

MUN CPAs

We are offering a complimentary 3 year tax return, review for both business and personal.

OMNI Practice Group

OMNI will have a \$250 Top Golf gift card drawing at our booth.

The Osborne Group

Stop by our booth at this year's event for exclusive updates and trends in the dental real estate market. Plenty of giveaways and a raffle!

Q-Optics

\$100 off loupes and \$200 off loupes & headlight

Supply Doc

Come see us at our booth to learn more about current website promotional codes. SDDS members receive up to 1500 complimentary in-office prints (choose from postcards, appointment reminders, referral cards, and business cards).

Tokuyama, Preventech, Cetylite

Buy 2 OMNICHROMA Get 1 at No Charge! Buy 1 OMNICHROMA Flow, OR Omnichroma Flow Bulk Get 1 at No Charge! Limit 3 Free. Buy 4 Estelite Sigma Quick, Get 1 at No Charge! Limit 3 Free.

Ultradent Product's, Inc.

Stop by Ultradent booth to receive 15% off all consumables and VALO Curing Light. Receive 10% off equipment.

VOCO

Stop by the VOCO booth to take advantage of our show specials on the following product lines:

- VOCO Nano-Hybrid Composites & Nano-Ormocers® Products
- VOCO Glass Ionomer Restorative Products
- VOCO Thermo-Viscous Composite Products
- VOCO Retraction & Impression Material Products
- VOCO Core Build-Up Products



By **Brittany Rosas, RDA**
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

7:30am–9:00am • 1.5 CEU, 20%
You Had Me at “Hello” - Be the Best at the Front Desk

9:30am–10:30am • 1 CEU, 20%
The Lost Art of Front Desk and Professionalism and Etiquette

“YOU HAD ME AT HELLO!”

Why Customer Service and Staff Cohesion Is So Crucial

“You had me at hello!” The phrase we would like all of our patients to think or even say, when they enter our dental offices. Front desk and overall office culture can make or break your practice. It’s the collective team that is the heartbeat of the office, not simply the dentist. A unit that operates to help keep the practice alive and kicking. When the team is communicating well, showing up with energy and conducting interactions with patients and team members with respect, the ship sails smoothly. But when the team lacks in one or more of the above attributes the entire unit suffers.

The reality of dentistry and medicine is that not all clinical procedures go perfectly smoothly. We can’t control this as clinical outcomes are dependent on a myriad of factors. I can recall a patient earlier this year that had a couple of full coverage restorations to be completed. Unfortunately it was that “one case a year”, where nothing seemed to go right. The patients’ provisional teeth cracked 3 times, the case was sent back and forth to the lab 4 times for color and fit issues, and the patient ended up needing a root canal on one of the 2 teeth. Sounds like this would end up being a very disappointed patient having to endure all those twists and turns. However that was not the case in the slightest. Because of the constant care of the team which started with the front desk constantly being ahead of the patient with follow ups and kind empathy, the patient felt the warmth and dedication of the entire office. From the dentist calling the patient every step of the way to make sure the patient was ok, to the assistants communication and the full office cohesion, this patient was absolutely fine at the end of the treatment. Not only were they absolutely fine, but they gifted our office with a lovely cake at the final visit.

Isn’t this what a team working well in our industry is all about? Is that not the final goal? We strive to create an environment that will infuse the greatest degree of trust from our patients and to gain the best free marketing available, which is the simple word of mouth from one patient to the next new potential patient. The bonus in this, is that we as the staff will have fostered a work environment that we love going to every day.

How frustrating is it to dread going to work, because the front desk does not get along well with the back office? How demoralizing can it be when the members of the team don’t respect the etiquette of the office and equally dedicate their hard work to the rest of the unit? These components are the rust that may erode a functioning operation. I consider dentistry to be one of the most challenging customer service industries known. With that said, why should we make it even more difficult on ourselves by having a work environment that is not enjoyable to be in everyday?

The secrets to having a successful practice starts far before the patient takes a step through the door or even makes their first call to the office. It starts on the back with every single one of the employees to agree on a vision for the culture of the office. How the office shares in this vision and discussed on a daily basis, the plan to achieve this vision is crucial. If one team member is not on board, then the entire team will suffer. It ends up being like a high school cafeteria where kids are segmented based on who they like and who they don’t like. We cannot have this in a business setting.

Team building to get all staff members on the same page and to care about each other. If one staff member is showing up late everyday, does that show respect to the rest of the team? If

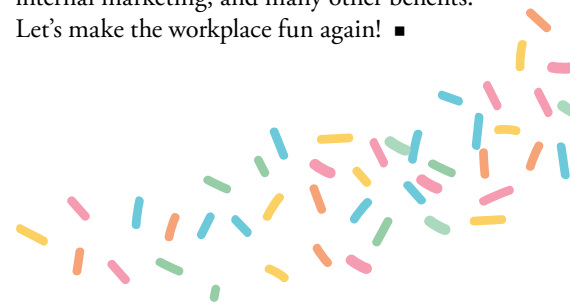
one staff member is rude to patients over the phone, isn't that a form of going against the agreed vision of the office? Five team members dress clean and respectfully to work and one dresses in wrinkled scrubs; is that cohesion? These are the components that are the birth of customer service, because if we respect each other and respect the job then the customer service will follow. We must first show caring and empathy to all the members of the team, before being able to show that same caring to our wonderful patients. By first creating standards and here are many factors that take in account of having a successful practice. Starting from the first conversation the patient has with the office to existing the office on the first visit. Within that time period the patient will have experienced personalities, appearances and efficiency. Morning huddles are obviously great time to go over the daily schedule, let the staff be aware of any patients concerns and how things will be ran that day. But in my opinion, more importantly, huddles are also a time to reconnect as a team and to remind each other of the total office vision.

The agreement that we as a team will act in a way towards the patients and each other with a positive, respectful, and hard working manor is far more crucial that simply looking to see which patients are coming in on that given day.

I have been in this industry for close to 30 years and I will say that one of the greatest challenges is the generational differences between the "older" generation and the younger generation of employees. Some may say that the younger generation lacks the hard work and respect for a business that we "seasoned" employees have. And in a team setting this can be frustrating. I see it time and time again in offices all over. But the goal here is not to point fingers and blame; The goal is rather to understand the various generational differences and work together to understand each other while sending a clear message that the team as a whole must function with the same values to achieve goals and maintain the desired office culture.

Finally, its obvious we live in a time where staffing is one of the most challenging issues in any organization, be it dental, medical, or any other industry. By creating a team environment that shares common goals and functions with respect, this organization will retain its team members much better than an office that is fragmented in its values and its collective dedication to the vision of the practice.

Join us at the SDDS MidWinter Convention at "You Had Me At Hello," to find out how we can create a more cohesive functioning team. Specifically we will discuss how customer service will translate to better case acceptance, less cancellations, and awesome internal marketing, and many other benefits. Let's make the workplace fun again! ■



MEET THE AWARD-WINNING TheraFamily



TheraCem®

TheraCem is a dual-cured, calcium and fluoride-releasing, self-adhesive resin cement indicated for luting crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays and posts.

TheraBase

TheraBase is a dual-cured, calcium and fluoride-releasing, self-adhesive base/liner that will polymerize even in deep restorations where light cannot reach.

TheraCal PT®

TheraCal PT is a biocompatible, dual-cured, resin-modified calcium silicate designed for pulpotomy treatments that performs as a barrier and protectant for the dental pulpal complex.

TheraCal LC®

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By Eric Johnson, DDS
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

10:30am–11:30am • 1 CEU, Core
**Burnout Busters: Transform Stress
into Success with a Smile**

1:45pm–3:15pm • 1.5 CEU, 20%
**Flossing and Bossing: How to
Lead Your Dental Team Without
Being a Drill Sergeant**

Flossing and Bossing: How to Lead Your Dental Team Without Being a Drill Sergeant

Imagine having a dental practice where every team member feels motivated to come to work, perform on a high level, and make a difference. Or maybe you're an employee of a dental office wanting to feel more valued, respected, and empowered. If this resonates, join us at the MidWinter Convention & Expo for "Flossing and Bossing: How to Lead Your Dental Team Without Being a Drill Sergeant." This engaging workshop draws on the latest research in organizational behavior, emotional wellness, and transformational leadership to help you create a high-trust, collaborative culture that inspires success at every level.

Studies show that high-trust, flexible cultures empower teams to perform their best and directly improve patient care and practice success. This workshop provides actionable strategies to build a practice culture where mutual respect, teamwork, open communication, and a shared sense of purpose drive success. Here are three research-driven ways this workshop will help you lead your team to a thriving practice.

1. Cultivate a High-Trust Culture

Trust is at the heart of every successful team. Research demonstrates that workplaces built on trust experience higher levels of engagement, lower turnover, and improved team cohesion (Dirks & Ferrin, 2001). A high-trust culture empowers your team to take initiative, share ideas, and tackle challenges with confidence. In this workshop, you'll learn straightforward, practical strategies to build trust, including setting clear expectations, fostering transparency, and providing consistent support.

When team members feel safe and valued, they're more willing to contribute, adapt, and support one another even during stressful times. Trust creates a strong foundation that

builds a cohesive, resilient team ready to tackle new challenges. As the saying goes, "you cannot give what you don't have." When you model trust and integrity as a leader, you set the standard for a collaborative, supportive workplace where everyone can thrive.

2. Appreciate to Motivate

Showing appreciation is one of the simplest yet most effective ways to inspire your team. Studies show that employees who feel valued and appreciated are more engaged, productive, and committed to their organization (Sirota et al., 2005). In our workshop, we'll share easy-to-implement ways to bring appreciation into your leadership style. Simple acts—like recognizing achievements, celebrating small wins, or acknowledging effort—go a long way in boosting morale and creating a positive ripple effect across the team.

When team members feel valued, they're more motivated to go above and beyond. By recognizing and celebrating hard work, you build a team that feels empowered, connected, and driven. Appreciation is a small yet impactful way to make your team feel respected and motivated to contribute to the success of the practice. A culture of appreciation fosters enthusiasm, helping your team become more engaged and positive in their work each day.

3. Embrace Flexibility and Agility for Growth

In today's fast-paced world, "rigid things break." Successful practices need to adapt to change and embrace flexibility and agility. This workshop will highlight the importance of a flexible culture, where team members feel comfortable thinking creatively, solving problems, and embracing new ideas. Flexibility doesn't mean compromising standards; rather,



it creates an environment where growth is encouraged, and new challenges are met with resilience.

When your team feels supported in adapting to change, your practice can turn challenges into growth opportunities. Flexibility in your practice culture means empowering team members to adjust to shifts in patient needs, integrate new technologies, and rethink processes for efficiency. By promoting adaptability, you help your team not only meet change but thrive within it. A flexible approach fosters continuous learning, resilience, and confidence that can lead to long-term growth for your practice.

Why You Should Attend

Leadership in dentistry requires resilience, empathy, and a commitment to personal and team growth. As the saying goes, “you cannot work in dentistry and not expect it to take a toll on your well-being.” This workshop offers research-backed strategies to help you build a high-trust, flexible culture that empowers your

team and enhances patient care. By focusing on trust, appreciation, and adaptability, you’ll develop a leadership style that motivates your team and creates a positive, thriving environment.

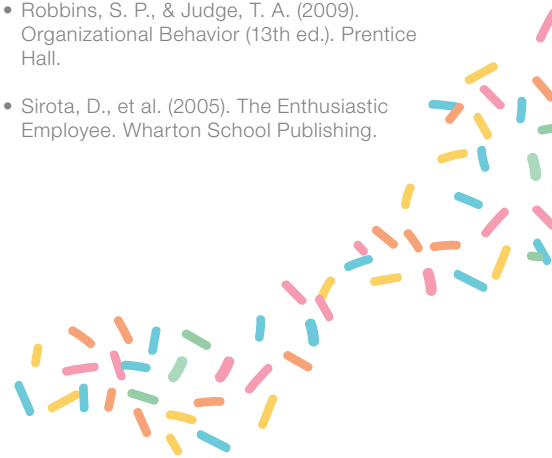
Who Should Attend?

This workshop is ideal for the whole dental team. Doctors will learn to lead your practice with confidence and a style that builds trust and encourages collaboration. Hygienists and dental assistants will learn to cultivate teamwork and create a positive, productive environment. Front office directors and administrative staff will learn to develop essential communication and trust-building skills that strengthen team dynamics and streamline daily operations.

Prepare to elevate your leadership approach and create a practice culture rooted in trust, flexibility, and appreciation. Join us at Flossing and Bossing—where leadership, research, and humor come together to make lasting, positive change in your practice. We look forward to seeing you there! ■

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- Sirota, D., et al. (2005). *The Enthusiastic Employee*. Wharton School Publishing.



BRUSHING UP ON TEQUILA: A TOAST TO DENTAL PROFESSIONALS

Looking to grow or own your own practice and enjoy a fun, relaxed evening? Don't miss our special event where you can gain valuable business insights while indulging in a premium Tequila Tasting experience. We'll be sampling a variety of fine tequilas paired with delicious appetizers—all while sharing expert tips to help your practice thrive.

DATE: FEBRUARY 11TH, 2025
TIME: 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
LOCATION: OCTOPUS BAJA
2731 K STREET SACRAMENTO CA 95816

PRESENTED BY:



RSVP: DEBRA
DLG@MUNCPAS.COM
(916) 774-4208



By Jesse Manton, DDS, MS,
CHSE, DADBA
MidWinter Speaker

FRIDAY

1:45pm–4:15pm • 2.5 CEU, Core
**Emergency Medicine Updates for
Every Dental Practice: Current Best
Practices in Preparedness and
Evidence-Based Management**

Emergency Medicine Updates for Every Dental Practice: *Current Best Practices in Preparedness and Evidence-Based Management*

“Doctor, we need your help over in the hygiene operator. Our patient doesn’t look very good.” Perhaps you have had a tightly scheduled day at the office interrupted by a patient becoming acutely unwell. Such a situation requires a redirection of your team’s attention toward the acutely unwell patient to initiate evaluation and management of the situation. Perhaps it hasn’t happened to you, yet, but you find yourself anxious when contemplating how well your team is prepared to actually perform this duty when called upon. Is your medical emergency response system ready? Having the proper equipment and supplies in the office is an obvious must. Albeit the human element to our systems of care cannot be removed and should not be downplayed. Humans make mistakes, we are fallible, we hold biases, and generally perform poorly when stress levels are high. A well-prepared system of response for medical urgencies and emergencies (MUEs) has the equipment, supplies, and well-trained human resources necessary to seamlessly activate well-established protocols for patient evaluation and management in these relatively rare but high-risk situations.

The practice of dentistry in our modern day and age is anything but mundane, monotonous, simple, or risk-free. We are performing more complex and invasive procedures on our dental patients. Our patients are presenting with longer lists of co-morbidities and medications than ever before. The complexity of patient-management requires each of us, and our practices, to evolve to meet the needs of the populations we serve. The potential to have a patient experience a MUE in the office is an ever-present reality for our systems. The medical literature and evidence-based guidelines for management of MUEs continues to evolve, leaving historical protocols out of date, and even potentially harmful to patients.

It is time for a paradigm shift in the way that the dental profession approaches the way we care for our patients when they experience

one of the MUEs common to dental practice. The fundamental training being delivered in predoctoral dental curricula has expanded to become more robust and incorporate experiential learning opportunities. The methodology behind continuing education

“The complexity of patient-management requires each of us, and our practices, to evolve to meet the needs of the populations we serve.”

programs and training for preparedness of dental teams is integrating best practices from other healthcare disciplines like medicine, nursing, and paramedic training programs. The bar has been raised regarding the level of emergency medicine training that should be held by every doctor in clinical practice, and for the system of emergency preparedness that must be in place for every dental office.

At this year’s MidWinter Convention, we will offer a refreshing update on current best practices for the training and preparation of the dental office system for managing acutely unwell patients. We will also provide a review of evidence-based updates that contend with some long-held beliefs about initiating evaluation and management during MUEs in the dental setting. You will surely leave wanting more, inspired to invest more into yourself, your team, and your office-based system, so you can become more confident and prepared for each day in your clinical practice. ■



The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

February 27 & 28, 2025
There's Still Time to Register!

Presented by the



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Mommy Room Sponsor
SD Dental Solutions

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at sdds.org

TWO DAYS OF CE AT THE SAFE CREDIT UNION CONVENTION CENTER | SACRAMENTO, CA

January - December 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- 14 GM: 15 on 15: 15 Minutes, 15 Slides, Multi-Topic Pearls**
Amanda Chen DDS, Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS, Estella Kim, DDS and Richard Knight, DDS, MS
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89
- 22 Navigating New Laws that Impact Your Dental Team (Hosted by CDA)**
Wednesday • 5:30–7:00pm • Webinar • No CEU • FREE
- 28 CPR–AHA BLS Blended Learning–Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions**
Tuesday • 6:00–6:45pm; 7:00–7:45pm; 8:00–8:45pm
 SDDS Classroom • 3 CEU, Core • \$97 total
- 29 The View From the Labor Commissioner’s Office**
Von Boyenger, Sr. Deputy Labor Commissioner
 Wednesday • 12:00–1:30pm • Webinar • 1.5 CEU, 20% • \$59

February

- 5 Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids**
Ronni Brown, DDS, MPH, FADI
 Wednesday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core • \$95



FEBRUARY 27-28, 2025

SDDS 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center

March

- 11 GM: Goodbye GV Black! Embracing Contemporary Composites in the Modern Era**
Joel Whiteman, DDS
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89
- 14 Write the Rules: Creating an Employee Handbook Made Easy**
Mari Bradford, PHR, California Employers Association (CEA)
 SDDS Vendor Member
 Friday • 8:30am–12:00pm • SDDS Classroom • 3.5 CEU, 20% • \$325
- 18 Leaves, Weeks, Hours and Wages...Oh My!**
Mari Bradford, PHR, California Employers Association (CEA)
 SDDS Vendor Member
 Tuesday • 12:00–1:30pm • Webinar • 1.5 CEU, 20% • \$59
- 20 What’s a Preceptor? Do You Want to Be One?**
LaDonna Drury-Klein, RDA, CDA, BS; FADE - SDDS Vendor Member
 Thursday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core • \$79

April

- 2 CPR AHA BLS Blended Learning–Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions**
Wednesday • 6:00–6:45pm; 7:00–7:45pm; 8:00–8:45pm
 3 CEU, Core • SDDS Classroom • \$97 total
- 8 Effective Techniques on How to Work with Special Needs Patients**
Wade Banner, DMD
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89
 Sponsored by Health Net of California
- 15 California Dental Practice Act**
Joy Brack, RDA
 Tuesday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core • \$95
- 22 Infection Control**
Joy Brack, RDA
 Tuesday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core • \$95
- 25 Adult Oral Conscious Sedation Recertification**
Anthony S. Feck, DMD; DOCS Education
 Friday • 8:30am–4:00pm • SDDS Classroom • 7 CEU, Core • \$625
- 30 OSHA Review–Refresher Course**
LaDonna Drury-Klein, RDA, CDA, BS; FADE - SDDS Vendor Member
 Wednesday • 12:00–1:00pm • Webinar • 1 CEU, Core • \$45

May

- 13 GM: The Clear Straight Story**
Mark Holt, DDS, MS
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89
- 28 DIY Study Club: Bring Your Case!**
SDDS Member Speakers
 Wednesday • 6:00–8:30pm • SDDS Classroom • 2.5 CEU, Core • \$99

June

- 10 Harassment Prevention Training**
California Employers Association - SDDS Vendor Member
 Tuesday • Webinar
 For Employees • 11:00am–12:00pm • 1 CEU, Core • \$49
 For Supervisors • 11:00am–1:00pm • 2 CEU, Core • \$69

August

- 9 CPR AHA BLS Blended Learning–Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions**
Saturday • 8:00–8:45am; 9:00–9:45am; 10:00–10:45am
 SDDS Classroom • 3 CEU, Core • \$97 total



GM: General Membership CE Meeting

Please visit sdds.org for course registration forms and for more information about all programs.

SDDS Classroom: 2035 Hurley Way, Suite 200 | 95825

Hilton Sacramento Arden West: 2200 Harvard Street | 95815

September

9 GM: Does CR Matter?
Paul Binon, DDS, MSD; Bryan Judd, DDS; Peter Worth, DDS
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89

17 Navigating Year-End Tax Planning and New Regulations...Never Too Early, But Is It Too Late?
Brett LeMmon, CPA; Thomas Doll - SDDS Vendor Member
 Wednesday • 6:30–8:30pm • SDDS Classroom
 No CEU • Complimentary to SDDS Members

26 Pearls in our Backyard
Devin Dalla, DDS; Nisha Manila, BDS, MS, PhD, FACD; Brandon Martin, DDS, MS; Tim Mickiewicz, DDS and Sarmad Paydar, DDS
 Friday • 8:30am–3:00pm • SDDS Classroom • 6 CEU, Core • \$179

October

14 GM: Working Together to Improve Oral Health in California
Shakalpi Pendurkar, DDS, MPH, State Dental Director
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89

29 Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids
Ronni Brown, DDS, MPH, FADI
 Wednesday • 5:30–7:30pm • Webinar • 2 CEU, Core • \$95

November

7 CPR AHA BLS Blended Learning—Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions
 Friday • 8:00–8:45am; 9:00–9:45am; 10:00–10:45am
 3 CEU, Core • SDDS Classroom • \$97 total

11 GM: Anesthesia in Your Office—Everything You Need to Know!
Samuel Seiden, MD, FAAP
 Tuesday • 5:45–9:00pm • Social, Dinner and Program
 Hilton Sacramento Arden West • 3 CEU, Core • \$89

14 California Dental Practice Act and Infection Control
Joy Brack, RDA
 Friday • 8:30am–12:30pm • SDDS Classroom • 4 CEU, Core • \$199

December

10 Harassment Prevention Training
California Employers Association - SDDS Vendor Member
 Wednesday • Webinar
 For Employees • 11:00am–12:00pm • 1 CEU, Core • \$49
 For Supervisors • 11:00am–1:00pm • 2 CEU, Core • \$69

Swing for Smiles

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us to support the SDDS Foundation on May 9 at Teal Bend Golf Course! All proceeds benefit the programs funded by the SDDS Foundation



CONTESTS! • RAFFLE PRIZES!
 DRINKS ON THE COURSE!

Special EVENTS

Dentists Do Broadway

Thursday, January 16 | **Hamilton**

Wednesday, February 19 | **Mean Girls**

Thursday, March 6 | **Tina Turner**

Wednesday, May 7 | **Parade**

Other Member Events

Thursday, March 27 | **Sacramento Kings**
 7:00pm • Playing Portland Trail Blazers

Friday, May 9 | **Swing for Smiles Golf Tournament**
 7:15am • Teal Bend Golf Course

Thursday, June 26 | **Dental Day with the River Cats**
 6:30pm first pitch • Sutter Health Park

Friday, September 12 | **Snack & Sip Shred Day**
 10am-1:30pm • SDDS Office Back Parking Lot

Friday, December 12 | **SDDS Annual Holiday Party & Installation of Officers**
 6pm • Del Paso Country Club

December TBA | **Polar Express**

SDDS Member Mixers

Wednesday, February 12 | **Midtown Sacramento**

Wednesday, May 21 | **Roseville**

Thursday, October 16 | **Elk Grove or Folsom**

Dentists Do Broadway
Fall Shows coming soon!



BROADWAY ON TOUR



BROADWAY AT MUSIC CIRCUS



By Ranna Alrabadi
CNU Dental Student

*Ranna Alrabadi is a dental student (D4) in the inaugural class at California Northstate University College of Dental Medicine (CNU CDM). Having an interest in research, she co-authored a research paper published in the **Journal of the CDA**. In addition to the clinical side of dentistry, she is also interested in a career in dental academia.*

It's Time for Break, Treating Patients Over ER Clinic

There comes a time in dental school that is highly anticipated by many students- the end of the term. As students wrap up their clinic sessions, take their final exams, and get to their vacation destinations I am on the schedule to see patients over emergency clinic at CNU.

For some background, CNU's dental clinic is open for treating dental emergencies that arise while our school is not in session. It is a volunteer basis where students can choose if they would like to provide care as a student doctor over break.

I have taken on the majority of ER clinic sessions. For quite a few of them, I was the only student.

There are many advantages to participating in ER clinic that I will outline based on my experiences.

One of the ER clinic sessions that immediately comes to mind, and I would like to highlight, was this past summer. ER services were provided for 2 weeks. This was a golden opportunity for me to gain more experience and to help patients in need. It was also one of the ER sessions that I spent the most time in clinic compared to other breaks, making it the most memorable.

During the summer ER session of 2024, my schedule was booked as I saw around 15 patients. One of the challenges was I did not have an assistant. I made sure to arrive at clinic every day before 8am so I could set up my operatory. Then, I would review the patient's medical history and past appointments since many of the patients I saw are patients of other dental students. There were some days that I had multiple patients in one session, something that we did not experience up to that point as dental students. Therefore, I would set up nearby operatories for other patients to be ready to go.

As expected, the majority of the patient's chief

complaints were of pain. It was an excellent experience gathering patient information and taking x-rays along with a clinical examination to develop a diagnosis and a treatment plan.

The treatment provided ranged from endodontic therapy, restorative, and alveolar osteitis management to my area of interest: surgical procedures such as extractions and suturing. Managing infections and indications for antibiotic prescribing were other valuable patient encounters of mine.

Interestingly, I had my first bisphosphonate case that I collaborated with our faculty on. I also saw first-hand the effects smoking had on extraction site healing as a patient smoked one pack of cigarettes a day post extraction leading to alveolar osteitis.

This patient belonged to one of my dental colleagues that performed the extraction yet, since I was the ER student doctor, it was my responsibility to help the patient to the best of my ability.

This brings to mind the topic of patient management. In this case, the patient refused to reduce or even delay smoking. After I had treated the patient with saline irrigation and eugenol placement, I informed the patient of the consequences of smoking. I encouraged the patient to delay smoking so the area can heal.

The attending faculty and I were surprised to find out the patient resumed smoking outside of the clinic, right after we treated and informed the patient of the risks. It was valuable to experience how chronic smoking impacts tissue healing and patient management.

As for documentation, I stayed after clinic hours writing notes. I had multiple patient notes to write not to mention entering medical history for any new patients. I also called patients that I performed extractions on the day before. I found that patients highly

valued when I called to check on them as they provided me with positive feedback on their experience and kind words of appreciation.

As the sole dental provider in the clinic, I walk past multiple empty operatories to retrieve my instruments. I am reminded of students who frequently ask me, “Why don’t you take the whole break off?” or “Don’t you need a break?”

These are valid questions, yet I will elaborate on my reasonings. First off is the experience I gain. Having the opportunity to see more patients, new cases, and handling limited pain appointments has given me more experience. I have had faculty assist me during surgical procedures. This has been valuable and more one-on-one attention that I receive. A benefit is I don’t have to wait for faculty to tend to multiple other students when I am the only one in clinic, making my appointments more efficient and streamlined.

Another reason and perhaps the most important reason for me volunteering as a student doctor is the passion and enthusiasm I have for ER clinic as I can’t imagine missing appointments such as a surgical procedure. At a recent ER clinic session in November,

I performed restorative on Monday, an extraction on #18 on Tuesday, and an extraction on #3 on Wednesday. I ended the week with an RCT on #20.

We all have our own versions of what we consider a break from work or school. I find that most students need a complete vacation getaway to recharge. I strongly encourage breaks, and I believe that some time away, whether from clinic or studying is critical to rest, thus improving work efficiency in the long run.

I believe it is important to take time off to ourselves. This allows us to detach from the day and to reflect. Quiet time is important after a busy day in the clinic, as I have found this helpful. It is also beneficial to have the weekends off after an action-packed week of seeing patients. Our clinic is closed on weekends and holidays. This is an opportunity for ER student doctors to have some time off.

It is imperative that as healthcare providers we participate in activities that enrich our lives outside of dentistry as this helps our performance when we return to providing patient care.

I have come to the conclusion that I am used to working through breaks. The core reason for this goes back to my upbringing. I have a strong work ethic that my parents instilled in me from a young age, and I am forever thankful to my mom and dad for this. It has ultimately given me an edge, and a commitment to providing dental care for my patients.

In the spirit of the new year and in terms of goal setting, we must remember to have compassion not only for our patients, but also for ourselves. There is a delicate balance between working hard and taking some time off. In my opinion, both should be honored.

As long as we are contributing in a way that is meaningful to us and at our own pace this could very well be considered a part of our break. ■

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year! May it bring health, prosperity, and endless joy.

Upcoming HR WEBINAR

**JAN
29**

The View From the Labor Commissioner’s Office

Presented by Von Boyenger, Sr. Deputy Labor Commissioner;
Division of Labor Standards Enforcement,
Department of Industrial Relations

This course provides an exploration of the common workplace claims and disputes seen by the Labor Commissioner’s Office. Participants will gain valuable insights into the types of cases handled, including wage and hour violations, workplace discrimination, retaliation, and employee misclassification.

Practice owners and practice managers will have a better understanding of labor laws and their enforcement. Whether you are looking to prevent disputes, resolve conflicts effectively, or simply stay informed about workplace rights and responsibilities, this session provides actionable knowledge directly from a key decision-maker in the field.

Learning objectives:

- Trends in workplace disputes and emerging issues.
- The processes for filing and resolving claims.
- Best practices to ensure compliance with labor laws.

1.5 CEU, Core • \$59

12:00–1:30pm

This course is a webinar, a link to join will be sent to your email 48 hours prior to course date



**Register with the
included insert or
use this QR code.**



By Shaina DiMariano, DDS
SDDS Member

Dr. DiMariano is a 2004 graduate of University of the Pacific. She is the sole-owner of her Folsom private practice, working alongside her associate, Dr. Christina Duong. Her focus is on general dentistry, orthodontics, and Bioclear. When not at the practice she serves as a 3M/ Solventum Advisory Doctor and loves spending time with her family.

Prior to the pandemic, prior to all of us flocking to Facebook groups, text threads, and Zoom meetings to get connected and keep each other surviving, Dr. Grace Yum was well ahead of the curve. In 2017, Grace was a practicing pediatric dentist in Chicago and established a Facebook group exclusively for dentists who are moms. All are welcome, whether they are associates or owners, educators, specialists, or general practitioners. It has become a haven of sanity for so many women walking the treacherous tightrope of this incredible—while demanding—career, along with motherhood. “Founding Mommy Dentists in Business (MDIB) in June 2017 was born from my desire to foster a sense of community and networking among dental professionals, much like the camaraderie I observed among lawyers while on a business trip with my husband in 2017. Our Facebook group was created to connect and empower dentists, particularly those who, like me, balance motherhood with the challenges of running a business.” — Dr. Grace Yum

Fast forward to today. Mommy Dentists In Business is an international organization serving thousands of women every moment of every day. Both the free Facebook page, as well as the official member group that offers a plethora of benefits to its members, are constantly active. Doctors get real time help with practice and motherhood, even with a patient chairside.

MDIB has 34 regional groups and now Sacramento is one of them! Dr. Christy Rollofson and I serve as leaders for our local MDIB community. We manage the Sacramento specific Facebook group and execute various events to facilitate relationships that keep us thriving and evolving.

Interested in getting involved? The first step is to request to join the Mommy Dentists in Business Facebook group. Once your request

Mommy Dentists In Business Take On SacTown

has been approved, you can join the MDIB of Sacramento regional group. You can also connect with Dr. Rollofson or myself to learn more. Official membership is not a requirement, but the value is tremendous. We’re talking discounts on dental vendors, as well as companies for your personal shopping. There are document templates galore, easy CEs through webinars or podcasts, and some of the coolest events that highlight every year for those of us who attend.

We are elated to bring local representation to this organization. Please mark your calendars to join us after the Thursday session of the SDDS MidWinter Convention for cocktails and socializing. We hope to see all of the Mommy Dentists there!



Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

Ways to volunteer and support the SDDS Foundation:

Become a member of the Foundation – it's only \$75 per year

Donate to the programs of the Foundation – donations help provide screening supplies, toothbrushes and fund the puppet shows

Smiles for Kids Day is scheduled for February 1, 2025 – do you want to volunteer? Opportunities include:

- Volunteer your office to be open on SFK Day
- Volunteer on SFK Day
- Adopt a child, post SFK Day
- Volunteer to be a specialty provider for adopt-a-child
- Volunteer to screen kids at schools

To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office 916.446.1227
smilesforkids@sdds.org

Smiles for Big Kids is ongoing all year long – we need volunteers to adopt the BIG kids too (especially vets and the elderly)

Volunteers Needed: Dentists willing to “adopt” patients for immediate/emergency needs in their office.
To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office 916.446.1227
sdds@sdds.org

Willow Dental Clinic

One Saturday every other month
Contact dental@willowclinic.org for more information. You can check out their website here: www.willowclinic.org/services/dental

CCMP (Coalition for Concerned Medical Professionals)

Volunteers needed: General Dentists, Specialists, Dental Assistants and Hygienists.

To volunteer, Contact: 916.925.9379 • ccmp.pa@juno.com

Everyone for Veterans

To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office 916.446.1227
sdds@sdds.org
everyoneforveterans.org/for-dentists.html



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SDDS HR Hotline

FREE TO SDDS MEMBERS!

888.784.4031

MEMBER
BENEFIT!

NEW LAWS

Increase Job Protections for Victims of Violent Acts, Prevent Driver's License Discrimination

Dentists in California will have nearly a dozen new and amended employment laws to comply with in 2025, including a law to prevent driver's license discrimination when hiring, another that aims to better protect pay for independent contractors who provide marketing and other specific services, and a third law that amends protected leave requirements for victims of violence.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the bills in the last legislative session, and all of them will take effect Jan. 1, 2025.

The new laws impact employers of every size, although some provisions of AB 2499 apply only to employers with 25 or more employees.

Separately, California's minimum wage is set to increase to \$16.50 on Jan. 1 for all employers due to an increase in the consumer price index, but a measure on the November ballot, if passed by voters, would instead raise the minimum wage to either \$17 (for employers with 25 or fewer employees) or \$18. CDA will report separately on the minimum wage when election results are verified.

Read on for a summary of the new employment laws. Practice owners will want to review their existing workplace policies and update them as required. CDA will publish new and revised policies in the Employee Manual for members in early January.

Compliance With Test Will Avoid Driver's License Discrimination

Effective Jan. 1, California employers cannot require job applicants to have a driver's license unless the position meets the following two-part test under Senate Bill 1100:

1. The employer reasonably expects driving to be one of the job functions for the position; and
2. The employer reasonably believes that satisfying the job function through an alternative form of transportation would not be comparable in travel time or cost to the employer.

Employers will only be able to claim No. 2 if they reasonably expect driving to be one of the job functions and no alternative forms of transportation would suffice.

The next step for dentists: Employer-dentists should evaluate job descriptions in the practice to determine if the roles meet the new two-part test and review any driving policies for compliance. Members can use CDA's Job Descriptions: Best Practices and Sample Templates.

Increased Job Protections For Victims Of Violent Acts

The California Labor Code currently provides job-protected leave for California employees who are a victim of crime or abuse or who must take time off for specified purposes. The protections vary according to employer size.

The new law makes several amendments to existing leave requirements. First, it requires that employers provide protected leave for any "qualifying act of violence" defined more expansively as domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or other act or other conduct specified in section 12945.8. (j)(5). The leave is permitted regardless of the presence or absence of arrest, prosecution or conviction.

Other key provisions effective Jan. 1 include:

- Employers with 25 or more employees must provide job-protected leave for additional specified purposes related to qualifying acts of violence, including for employees who must take time off to seek or obtain services for a family member.
- "Family member" is defined more expansively to conform with the Fair Employment and Housing Act definition.
- Employees may use paid sick leave for specified purposes related to qualifying acts of violence.
- Employers must provide reasonable accommodations for the safety of the impacted family member while at work.

These employee protections will fall under FEHA and be enforced by the California Civil Rights Department.

Jury Service, Court Appearances, Relief-Seeking Now Protected By Law

Significantly, the new law bars California employers of every size from terminating or otherwise discriminating against an employee who, as a victim of a violent act, takes time off to serve on a jury as required by law. However, the employee must provide their employer with reasonable notice of the need to serve.

Continued on page 36

GOT EMPLOYEE DILEMMAS?

We have answers!

Call the no-cost Sacramento District Dental Society (HR) Hotline to get advice on the proper and legal way to handle employee concerns before they become painful!



CALL YOUR FREE HR HOTLINE
888-784-4031

The Sacramento District Dental Society has partnered with the California Employers Association to provide SDDS members with a **FREE HR HOTLINE!**

HR ADVICE ON DEMAND

888.784.4031

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

HR experts provide guidance on:

- Hiring & firing processes
- Paid sick leave laws & FMLA
- Breaks, lunches & overtime
- Employee handbooks
- Harassment prevention
- COVID-19 questions



SDDS Member Savings:

Receive 10% off of CEA products and services with code: **88sdds**

Contact Member Services at 800.399.5331 or memberservices@employers.org for more information.

...Continued from page 34

Employees also may take job-protected leave to appear in court as a witness in compliance with a subpoena or court order, as well as take time off from work to obtain or attempt to obtain a restraining order or other relief to help ensure their welfare or the welfare of their child.

Eligible Employees May Take Time Off to Assist Family Members

Another major amendment applies to California employers with 25 or more employees. Effective Jan. 1, they must provide job-protected leave for additional purposes related to qualified acts of violence suffered by the employee or the employee's family member. These additional purposes include, but are not limited to, seeking, obtaining or helping a family member obtain:

- Victim services such as from a domestic violence shelter.
- Medical services.
- Psychological or mental health services.
- Relief, such as a restraining order.
- Civil or criminal legal services.
- Care for a child or dependent adult.

The Civil Rights Department will publish a notice regarding employees' protections under the new law no later than July 1, 2025, which employers must in turn post in a location that is highly visible to employees.

The next step for dentists: Employer-dentists should read the full text of the law and review and update their crime victim leave and jury duty policies to comply with the new protections CDA will notify members when the required notice is available and link to it here.

Expanded Protections for Some Independent Contractors

Under the new Freelance Worker Protection Act, employers or organizations who hire a freelance worker (independent contractor) who provides eligible professional services must follow new requirements when the independent contractor's services exceed \$250 within 120 days. The law applies to IC contracts entered into or renewed on or after Jan. 1, 2025.

The law's definition of professional services is limited to industries covered in Section 2778 of

the California Labor Code (also see Assembly Bill 5). Therefore, it does not apply when hiring associate dentists, but it would apply to hiring freelance photographers, artists, actors and other freelancers who are not otherwise protected by wage and hour laws.

Written Contracts and Timely Compensation Required

The law requires the hiring party to provide a signed copy of a written contract to the independent contractor containing specific information to help ensure the independent contractor is paid on time. For example, the contract must include an itemized list of services the IC will provide, the value of those services and the rate and method of compensation. It must also include the date the employer will pay the compensation or how the date will be determined.

Hiring parties are required to pay independent contractors on or before the date specified in the written contract; if the contract does not specify a payment date, the hiring party is required to pay the IC no later than 30 days after the worker completes their services.

"Are you planning to hire an independent contractor in the new year to design or redesign your practice website, design a logo or manage your practice's social media? If so, you are required to comply with this law," says CDA Employment Practices Analyst Michelle Coker. "The same applies if you hire an IC to manage the practice's human resources."

The penalties for noncompliance are steep with freelancers able to bring lawsuits to recover up to twice the amount that was unpaid when payment was due to them, for example.

The next step for dentists: Employers who wish to hire freelance workers to provide professional services are encouraged to work with legal counsel to draft a written agreement in compliance with the new law.

Employees Can Receive PFL Benefits Before Using Vacation Time

Effective Jan. 1, employers can no longer require employees to use accrued vacation before receiving benefits under California's Paid Family Leave Program.

The PFL program, managed by the Education Development Department, provides up to eight

weeks of benefits to eligible employees who take time off to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent or domestic partner; to bond with a new minor child; or to assist military family members under active duty.

The next step for dentists: Employers should review and update their vacation and PTO policies to comply with the amended law.

Seeking Temporary Restraining Orders On Behalf Of Employees

Current law already authorizes employers to seek temporary restraining orders and injunctions on behalf of employees who have suffered "unlawful violence or a credible threat of violence" that may be carried out in the workplace.

Effective Jan. 1, legislation passed and signed in 2023 authorizes any employer to seek a temporary restraining order and an injunction on behalf of an employee who has suffered "harassment" from any individual in the workplace as specified in the bill.

- Harassment is defined as a "knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person that seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses the person, and that serves no legitimate purpose" and causes "substantial emotional stress."
- The employer must show convincing evidence that an employee has suffered harassment and that the employee is at risk for great or irreparable harm.

Under these eligible circumstances, employers may also seek a temporary restraining order and injunction on behalf of other employees in the workplace.

Local Enforcement of Employment Discrimination

The Civil Rights Department is newly mandated under discrimination law to collaborate with local agencies to prevent and eliminate unlawful practices under Equal Employment Opportunity laws.

Essentially, this means that beginning Jan. 1, local agencies will have a more active role in enforcing the state's employment discrimination claims and local anti-discrimination laws that are more stringent than the state's anti-bias laws, potentially providing quicker resolutions.

The next step for dentists: Employers should review their policies and practices to ensure they promote a work environment that is free from workplace discrimination.

Attending Meetings On Religious And Political Matters Not Required

The California Worker Freedom from Employer Intimidation Act prohibits employers from terminating or discriminating or retaliating against any employee who declines to attend an employer-sponsored meeting intended to communicate the employer's opinion about religious or political matters.

"Religious matters" and "political matters" are fully defined in the law but include matters relating to religious affiliation, elections for political office or the decision to support or join any religious, political or labor organization, for example.

The new law does not apply to certain institutions and situations cited in the bill's text, such as training to comply with the employer's legal obligations under civil rights laws and occupational safety and health laws.

Employees who refuse to attend such meetings must be paid their normal salary or wages.

Employers may incur a civil penalty of \$500 for violating the law, and employees who suffer a violation may bring a civil action for damages.

Reproductive Loss Leave Included in Family Leave Mediation Program

Under current law, small California employers (5-19 employees) and their current or former employees have a right to mediate disputes about the employee's right to CFRA or bereavement leave through the Civil Rights Department's Small Employer Family Leave Mediation Program.

Through amendments to the law effective Jan. 1, reproductive loss leave will be subject to the same mediation requirements as bereavement, family care and medical leave. As CDA reported earlier this year, the pilot mediation program, which was set to expire in January, is now a permanent offering.

The next step for dentists: Employers should develop and communicate clear policies regarding family leave and reproductive loss leave, ensuring that employees know their rights and the procedures for requesting leave and mediation.

Prohibited discriminations in CROWN Act clarified

California in 2019 was among the first states to enact the CROWN Act (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Act. The act prohibits discrimination based on traits historically associated with race, such as hairstyles consisting of braids, LOCs, twists and hair texture, as CDA previously reported.

New law clarifies that the act applies to Unruh Rights Act's prohibition on race-based discrimination by businesses and in public accommodations and removes the term "historically," which many employers found confusing.

California infection control regulations do not address hair, but employers can still generally maintain policies that require employees to secure their hair for safety and hygienic reasons.

The next step for dentists: Employers should review dress code and grooming policies to ensure compliance.

Updated Notice on Whistleblower Protections Forthcoming

Existing whistleblower protections in California prohibit employers from making, adopting or enforcing a policy that prevents an employee from disclosing violations or noncompliance to a government or law enforcement agency.

New law requires the Labor commissioner to develop a model list of employees' rights and responsibilities under existing whistleblower laws. Employers will then post this list for employees' use. The updated notice is expected by July 2025.

The next step for dentists: Watch for the updated notice and post it in a place where employees can easily view it. CDA will also inform members when the notice is available.

Amendments Clarify Protection For Combinations Of Protected Characteristics

Amendments to the Fair Employment and Housing Act specify that "protected characteristics" include any combination of two or more protected traits known as "intersectionality." Therefore, discrimination based on any combination of the following is unlawful: race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability,

mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, reproductive health decision-making, or veteran or military status.

The California Legislature provided this example of intersectionality: "When an individual claims multiple bases for discrimination or harassment, it may be necessary to establish whether the discrimination or harassment occurred on the basis of a combination of these factors, not just one protected characteristic alone."

Minimum Wage Increases to \$16.50

California's minimum wage will rise to \$16.50 for employers of every size beginning Jan. 1. However, many counties have ordinances that set the minimum wage higher, and employers must pay the higher wage. ■

CDA guidance can assist compliance with employment laws. CDA is developing and revising policies in its Employee Manual to help members comply with the new employment laws that take effect in 2025 and will share these with members in the coming weeks through the newsroom and weekly member newsletter.

Members can also contact CDA's expert analysts with specific compliance questions.

Welcome, 2025 SDDS Executive Committee and Board of Directors!



Nima Aflatooni, DDS

President

Favorite non-dental pastime: I enjoy tennis and auto racing.



Jeffrey Sue, DDS

President-Elect

Favorite non-dental pastime: I coach soccer! And I enjoy wine tasting with my wife Sherry.



Craig Alpha, DDS

Secretary

Favorite non-dental pastime: I like to golf and ski, but most of all I am just an Uber driver for my children!



Andrea Cervantes, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Concert going, wine tasting and scuba diving



Lisa Dobak, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Skiing



Diana Fat, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: I love designing custom cards, baking, spending time with children and husband, and talking dental shop with my family!



Volki Felahy, DDS

BCR Representative

Favorite non-dental pastime: Sailing by the bay.



Eric Grove, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Slowly killing house plants, observing the habits of urban mammalian wildlife and completing the daily New York Times puzzles every morning.



Michael Payne, DDS, MSD

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Snow skiing with my daughter Libby.



Kart Raghuraman, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Reading, cooking and walking the dog.



Cherag Sarkari, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Family time (when I can get it) and riding my motorcycle (when they drive me to do it!)



Chirag Vaid, DDS

Board Member

Favorite non-dental pastime: Coaching soccer with my kids and gardening!



Rosemary Wu, DMD, MS

Guest of the Board

Favorite non-dental pastime: My favorite non-dentist pastime is trying to make authentic Pasta Carbonara.



Jasraj Sandhu

CNU Student Representative

Favorite non-dental pastime: Playing golf and learning how to cook new dishes.



Resha Shah

UOP Student Representative

Favorite non-dental pastime: I find joy in cooking meals and expressing myself through painting. I also love exploring new cafes and food joints with my husband, making each culinary adventure a special experience!

Ex-Officio Board Members



Carl Hillendahl, DDS

Editor-in-Chief

Favorite non-dental pastime: Fly-fishing



Cathy Levering

Executive Director

Favorite non-dental pastime: Grandkids, music, cooking

Welcome, 2025 SDDS Committee Chairs and Committee Members!

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 Lisa Dobak, DDS
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 Chirag Vaid, DDS
 Rosemary Wu, DMD, MS,
 Guest of the Board
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Gabrielle D. Rasi, DDS

2025 SDDS Committees Schedule

Standing Committees

Membership/Engagement

Jan 21 • Mar 24 • May 19 • Sept 24 • Nov 18

CPR Committee

Jan 8

Nominating/Leadership Development

Jan 27

Advisory Committees

CSUS Pre-Dental Advisory

Jan 28

Continuing Education Advisory

Feb 3 • Mar 6 • Sept 15

Nugget Editorial Advisory

Jan 27 • Sept 15

Strategic Plan Advisory

TBA

Budget and Finance Advisory

TBA

Bylaws Advisory

TBA

Legislative Advisory

TBA

GMC/Denti-Cal Workgroup Advisory

TBA

Other

SacPAC

Sept TBD

CDA House of Delegates

Nov 21-22

Leadership

Board of Directors

Jan 7 • Mar 4 • May 6 • Sept 2 • Nov 4

Executive Committee

Feb 14 • Apr 18 • Aug 1 • Oct 17 • Dec TBA

Foundation

Foundation Board

Jan 20 • Sept 23



By California Dental Association

CDA Advocacy Results

in Licensure, Staffing and C.E. Wins For California Dentists

Dental board sunset review legislation streamlines processes for RDA and dentist licensure and permits

Legislation signed into law Sept. 22 will implement numerous provisions sought by CDA to address dental licensure, office staffing and other issues impacting dentists in California.

This year, the Dental Board of California underwent a regular “sunset review” process, an evaluation of whether licensing boards operate efficiently and to implement appropriate changes to board operations or the profession’s practice act. CDA worked collaboratively with the author of this year’s sunset review legislation, Sen. Angelique Ashby (D-Sacramento), to move forward on a number of priority issues to benefit the dental profession.

“The wins in this bill are the result of multiple years of CDA advocacy to address dental office staffing challenges by increasing the number of registered dental assistants through new and streamlined pathways,” said CDA President Carliza Marcos, DDS. “This comprehensive bill also moves the needle on a number of other issues that will benefit dentists: providing expanded scope for unlicensed dental assistants, fixing sedation permitting issues for pediatric dentists and expanding options for mental health C.E. at a time of stress and burnout for health care providers.”

SB 1453 includes the following provisions.

Expanding RDA Licensure Pathways

A high priority for CDA has been addressing critical dental workforce shortages. In a significant win, SB 1453 puts new RDA training pathways in place. The bill, once signed, will establish the following beginning July 1, 2025:

- A new preceptorship pathway to shorten the timeline for on-the-job training, including 800 supervised

hours, inclusive of educational and clinical experience. The current standard in board-approved RDA educational programs is 800 hours, so this will create parity between the educational program and on-the-job pathway options. The existing 15-month on-the-job training pathway will continue to exist. CDA will develop educational offerings for members to use in training their RDAs on the job.

- Allowing individuals who move to California and hold a certified dental assistant certificate from the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) to apply for RDA licensure without having to start training at the beginning.

Updating Dental Assisting Scope of Practice

The duty statements for all dental assisting licensure categories will be modernized to account for advances in technology. Additionally, the following duties have been expanded to help address staffing challenges:

- Unlicensed dental assistants will be able to perform coronal polishing under direct supervision after successfully completing a board-approved course.
- RDAs will be able to attach buttons and add/remove orthodontic bands under direct supervision.

Correcting Pediatric Sedation Permit Qualifications

A law that took effect in 2022 unintentionally made pediatric dentists ineligible to obtain adult minimal sedation permits required to treat patients aged 13 and older. In coordination with the California Society of Pediatric Dentists, CDA advocated for a technical fix to allow pediatric dentists to be eligible for both pediatric and adult minimal sedation permits.

Expanding Mental Health C.E. Opportunities

To help address well-being and burn out, specified mental health courses will now qualify as core C.E. for dentists. In the coming months, CDA will develop and facilitate eligible courses in support of dental team wellness.

Improving Parity in Out-of-State Licensure Processes

The bill allows out-of-state public health dentists who use their dental license to practice non-clinically to receive a California license through licensure by credential, similar to clinical practice dentists.

Changing Permitting for Orthodontic Assistants

In partnership with the California Orthodontic Association, CDA advocated for the following changes and expansions to the Orthodontic Assistant Permit:

- Permit applications will no longer require work experience to begin an OAP course or take the OAP exam (previously 6 and 12 months, respectively).
- Permitholders will be able to prepare teeth for provisional and bonded attachments, buttons, connections, brackets and appliances under direct supervision.
- Permitholders will also be able to remove brackets and attachments under direct supervision.

The provisions in SB 1453 will take effect Jan. 1, 2025, unless otherwise stated.

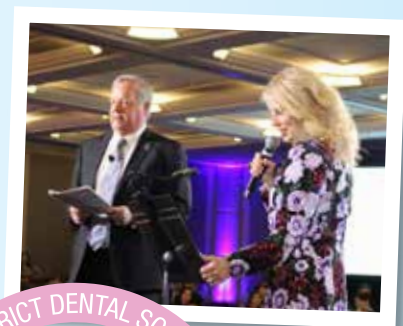
Stay connected to CDA’s results-driven advocacy efforts on other major issues impacting California dentists and recent legislative efforts online, through the newsroom and the member newsletter. ■

Smiles

FOR SACRAMENTO

A Gala to Benefit the SDDS Foundation

On October 26, 2024 we were overjoyed with the abundance of love and generosity that was shared for the SDDS Foundation and all the good that it's able to do in our community. Everything the Foundation does is made possible with your generous donations and participation in events like this year's Gala. **This year, the Gala raised \$74,000 for the Foundation.**



\$74,000
TOTAL RAISED
SDDS MEMBER DENTISTS
HOSTED 300 PEOPLE!





By **Jeffrey Sue, DDS**
2024 Secretary

November 5, 2024

Highlights of the Board Meeting

President's Report

Dr. Vasanthan called his last meeting to order and welcomed the new directors to this "training meeting." He also acknowledged the members that were coming off their terms: Drs. Dobak, Raghuraman, and Laptalo – thank you for your service. He shared that the Foundation Gala was fantastic; the format was unique and well done. One highlight was Cathy's induction into the ICD; it was a great night with friends and supporters of SDDF! The HOD Caucus meeting Monday, October 28 was very productive. Dr. Vasanthan then announced the recipient for the Helen Andrus Award Community service this year will be awarded to Cathy Levering.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Sue reported that the market share as of October was still at 81%. Our retention rate is a healthy 94.7% and our engagement rate continues to be above 75%. Dues invoices will be sent to members in November and dues deadline to pay or sign up for monthly payments is January 30th (no longer March).

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Nima Aflatooni reported that our 2024 budget is on point and the year-end will be good. The conservative investments and CDs for our reserves continue to thrive. The 2025 Budget was approved.

Summary of income is: Dues is 29% of income, 60% non dues revenue, program is 39% and special events is 1%.

Committee Reports

All committee minutes were reviewed; the 2025 committee members will be placed by December. Committee chairs for 2025 were approved, Board liaisons were assigned. Task Forces were approved.

Board of Component Representatives Report

Dr. Felahy shared that CDA is planning on raising dues another \$100 this year and will be continued through 2028. A resolution was submitted on melding of the past Judicial and Peer Review Councils: the Council on Professionalism and Ethics. (This was approved by the House of Delegates in November.)

Old Business

Foundation Gala - Dr. Hillendahl reported on the success of the Foundation Gala. We raised \$74,000 for the Foundation programs/projects. 300 people attended. Acknowledgment was given to Bruce Levering for helping with the auction, and to Dr. Rosemary Wu who chaired the Gala Committee.

Strategic Plan – Drs. Aflatooni and Sue reported on the progress of the Strategic Plan. Currently the SDDS is on pace and meeting the goals set. Goal #3 for strategic plan, Leadership, Sustainability, Succession, will include the committee chair training on Dec 17, 2024; Board liaisons will be in attendance to provide the conduit to the Board and Strategic Plan.

New Business/New Ideas

The following appointments were made:

- Board Vacancy - Dr. Kart Raghuraman to fill the position
- Guest of the Board for 2025 – Dr. Rosemary Wu
- Student Guests – CNU D4 and UOP-Sacramento
- Committee chair guests – one per Board meeting will be invited

Calendar/Program: The 2025 program (CE, CPR, LR, GM) was presented and approved. The year includes: 30 CE programs and 17 special events – 47 EVENTS for our members! Great benefits!

Our proposed budget for event net income of \$238,000 for ALL CE programs (CE, CPR, LR, OSHA, MW, GMs). We will have a Kings event on March 27th!

Executive Director's Report

IT1B – We hope to revive this campaign in Q2 of 2025. The SDDF has agreed to grant \$20,000 for radio spots. The budget is included in the 2025 total budget in PR/Advertising campaign.

Managed Care/Medi-Cal Dental RFP – awarded to DentaQuest, LIBERTY Dental, Health Net; Access Dental Plan did not get the RFP (all SDDS Vendor Members). Transition will happen and go live is June 2025.

Adjournment (9:01pm)

Dr. Vasanthan thanked all for a successful year and a special thanks to the SDDS Team for making it happen!

2025 Board meetings: Jan 7, March 4, May 6, Sept 2, Nov 4

"It is the mission of the Sacramento District Dental Society to be the recognized source for serving its members and for enhancing the oral health of the community."

CORE VALUES: Community, Integrity, Service, Engagement

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Neo Edition



PRACTICE TRANSITION PLANNING | SALES & VALUATIONS | BUYER REPRESENTATION

AUBURN/GRASS VALLEY/NEVADA CITY AREA:
New Listing! GP, 4 Ops with Room to Expand 3 Additional Ops, 50+ Yrs. Goodwill, 2,500 Sq. Ft., Dentrix PMS, 3 Hygiene Days. 2023 GR \$897K. #CA4184

FRESNO METRO/CENTRAL CA VALLEY AREA:
6 Ops, 5 Hygiene Days, RE Available. 2023 GR \$883K. #CA3930

GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO/ELK GROVE AREA: *New Listing!* High-end GP Practice+RE, 14 Ops, 12 Hygiene Days, 65 New Patients per Month, Denticon PMS, Large Patient Base! 2023 GR \$2.35M. #CA4248

GREATER LAKE TAHOE & TRUCKEE AREA: GP, 4 Ops, 17+Yrs. Goodwill, Dentrix PMS, Digital, Dexis, Seller to Work Back Up to 5 Years! 2022 GR \$1M. #CA3629

GREATER LAKE TAHOE AREA: 4 Ops, 37+ Yrs. Goodwill, 5-6 days/wk. Hygiene, Desirable Area. 2023 GR \$917K. #CA1715

GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO AREA: Ortho, 7 Ops, 60+ Yrs. Goodwill, Highly Desirable Socio-Economic Community, 2022 GR \$927K. #CA3450

MADERA: 5 Ops Fresno/Madera area at \$760K Collections and 4 days of Hygiene, with Well-Located and Highly Desirable RE Available. #CA4202

RED BLUFF/CHICO/GRIDLEY AREA: High-end GP in highly desirable area, 7 Ops, Dentrix, Cone Beam \$1.185M 2023 Collections. #CA3465

REDDING/RED BLUFF NORTHERN CA VALLEY AREA: 5 Ops+RE, 36+Yrs. Goodwill, 2023 GR \$1.4M ,9 days/wk. Hygiene. #CA3954

REDDING/RED BLUFF AREA: *New Listing!* GP, 4 Ops, 22+ Yrs. Goodwill, Dentrix PMS, 2,100 Sq. Ft., Paperless, Desirable Location! 2023 GR \$649K. #CA4266

VISALIA/TULARE/HANFORD AREA: GP, 8 Ops, 41+ Yrs. Goodwill, CEREC, Eaglesoft PMS, Digital, 4,800 Sq. Ft. 2023 GR \$1.36M. #CA3791



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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

(as of 12/16/24)

2,028

MARKET SHARE: 80.7%

RETENTION RATE: 94%
ENGAGEMENT RATE:
79% active / 58% retired

New Members

Jan/Feb
2025

NADIA AL-ZUBAIDI, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Al-Zubaidi recently graduated in 2024 from Boston University. Her current practice location is pending.

PEJMAN DEGHANI, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Deghani earned his dental degree from NC-East Carolina University in 2023. He currently practices at Capitol City Dental in Sacramento.

CHRISTOPHER HAILEY, DDS *Transferred!*

General Practice

Dr. Hailey recently graduated in 2024 from UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. He currently practices at McClellan Dental Clinic in McClellan Park.

HEATHER HAWKINS, DMD

General Practice

Dr. Hawkins earned her dental degree from Nova Southwestern University in 2006. She is currently a full time Faculty member at California Northstate University in Sacramento.

JUDY HEINRICH, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Heinrich earned her dental degree from Loma Linda University in 1988. Her current practice location is pending.

STEPHAN KOHNEN, DMD

Periodontics

Dr. Kohnen earned his dental degree from Zentrum University in 1991 and went on to earn his specialty of Periodontics in 1997 from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. His current practicing location is pending.

LISA NGUYEN, DDS

Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Nguyen earned her dental degree from New York University in 2008 and went on to earn her specialty of Pediatric Dentistry from Staten Island University in 2011. She is currently the Dental Director, of Gainwell Technologies, CA. Medi-Cal Dental Program.

AKRAN NIKPOUR, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Nikpour earned her dental degree from Mexico Universidad De La Salle in 2021. Her current practice location is pending.

MARLEAH NURSE, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Nurse earned her dental degree from UCSF School of Dentistry in 2023. Her current practice location is pending.

PALLAVI SHARMA, DMD

General Practice

Dr. Sharma recently earned her dental degree from Western University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine in 2024. She currently practices at Oak Tree Dentistry in Elk Grove.

ANDREW TONG, DMD

Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Tong earned his dental degree from Temple University in 2006 and went on to earn his specialty of Pediatric Dentistry from Brookdale Hospital in 2011. He currently practices at Communicare in Davis.

EMILY TOVAR, DDS *Transferred!*

General Practice

Dr. Tovar earned her dental degree from UCSF School of Dentistry in 2019. She currently practices at Expressions in Dentistry in Folsom.

Congratulations to Our New Retired Members!

Brett Jensen, DDS
Luis Mendez, DDS
Gerald Roberts JR, DDS
Stanley Ordonez, DDS

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS:
1,395

TOTAL RETIRED MEMBERS: 355

TOTAL DUAL MEMBERS: 11

TOTAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS: 5

TOTAL STUDENT MEMBERS: 199

TOTAL CURRENT APPLICANTS: 1

TOTAL DHP MEMBERS: 62

TOTAL NEW MEMBERS FOR 2024: 105

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

SDDS (doctor's line) (916) 446-1227
ADA (800) 621-8099
CDA (800) 736-8702

TDIC (800) 733-0633
Central California
Well Being Committee . . . (916) 947-5676

SAVE THE DATE FOR MEMBER MIXERS

Wednesday, February 12 | **Midtown Sacramento**

Wednesday, May 21 | **Roseville**

Thursday, October 16 | **Elk Grove or Folsom**

Visit sdds.org for more details.

Upcoming DUES NOTICE

2025 Dues invoices have been sent via email to all members

Membership dues are due on January 1 and will be accepted until January 30. Checks must be received by that date as well. If you would like to pay monthly, go to www.cda.org and sign up for monthly EFT payments. If you are currently paying monthly, you will automatically be rolled over.

Planning to Retire?

Call SDDS to get the retirement forms ready for you – and save on your 2025 dues.

Active retired is only \$250 / yr. for retired dues! YIPPEE! (And, of course, we hope you will continue to support our Foundation at \$75 / yr.!)

Life Retired members are free dues! Please contact us before January 20, 2025.

KEEP UP TO DATE...

on all of our upcoming events by liking us on Facebook!
facebook.com/sddsandf/



For a full calendar of all of the SDDS events head to sdds.org, to the Continuing Education tab and select the Calendar dropdown!



Make sure to follow the SDDS Instagram as well @sddsandsddf! See event photos, member happenings and more!

In Memoriam



Robert Sharp, DDS

Dr. Robert H. Sharp passed away December 7, 2024. He graduated from Georgetown University School of Dentistry in 1974 and earned his specialty in Endodontics from VA Med Long Beach in 1995. His practice was in Sacramento's Campus Commons area in 1995 and he retired in 2017. He was an active SDDS member, he generously shared his expertise by speaking at our MidWinter Convention and CE classes.

We're Blowing your horn!



Congratulations to...

Dr. Nima Aflatooni (R) presents **Dr. Ash Vasanthan** (L) with the official presidential plaque. Thanks Dr. Vasanthan for your leadership in 2024! **(1)**



Dr. Hillendahl (R) on receiving this year's prestigious President's Award. Your dedication and contributions inspire us all. **(2)**

A round of applause for this year's House of Delegates **(3)**



Dr. Wallace Bellamy (R) administers the oath of office to SDDS' 2025 President, **Dr. Nima Aflatooni** (L) **(4)**



Thank you, **Dr. Jeff Sue** (L), for your term on the SDDF Board **(5)**

Congratulations **Cathy Levering** for receiving this year's Helen Andrus Award. Thank you Cathy for your dedication and extraordinary achievements to the improvement of dental health needs in our community. **(6)**

Introducing SDDS' 2025 Board of Directors – From L to R: Drs. Lisa Dobak, Andrea Cervantes, Diana Fat, Michael Payne, Cherag Sarkari, Chirag Vaid, Rosemary Wu, Carl Hillendahl, Ms. Cathy Levering, Volki Felahy and our 2025 President, Nima Aflatooni **(7)**



LET US KNOW YOUR NEWS!
Send us your news to sdds@sdds.org to let everyone know about the great things that are happening!

Vendor Member SPOTLIGHT

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our Vendor Members!

NEW



Dental & Medical Counsel, PC is a law firm dedicated to helping dentists navigate complex legal challenges. Inspired by his wife, a pediatric dentist, founding attorney Ali Oromchian established the firm to provide better support for dentists

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Justin Yaeger

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Kids Care is a leading integrated, multi-specialty health care delivery company. With a vision of a lifetime of healthy smiles, Kids Care provides pediatric dental, orthodontic and oral surgery services to patients from infants to young adults. We are a collective passionate about pediatric and adolescent health and wellness, operating in more than 25 locations throughout California and the West Coast. At Kids Care, we don't just care for smiles, we create them.

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Dr. Brigid Trent,
Director of Clinical Recruitment

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learn more
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Debra Griffin

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dentaquest.com

Amanda Morgan

amanda.morgan@dentaquest.com

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 Jeff Hardin, Vice President
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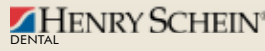
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SDDS started the Vendor Member program in 2002 to provide resources for our members that would best serve their needs. We realize that you have a choice for vendors and services; we only hope that you give our Vendor Members first consideration since they directly support SDDS.

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Job Bank

The SDDS Job Bank is a service offered only to SDDS Members. It is for job seekers to reach other Society members who are looking for dentists to round out their practice, and vice versa. If you are a job seeker or associate seeker contact SDDS at (916) 446-1227, we can also provide contact information for the members listed below.

ASSOCIATE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Darryl Azouz, DDS • Lake Tahoe • FT/PT • GP
Oleg Oliferuk, DDS • Folsom • PT • GP
Siamak Okhovat, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP
Monica Tavallaei, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP/PEDO
Sabrina Jang, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP
Nina Tecson, DDS • San Andreas, Sonora and Mariposa • FT/PT • GP
Albert Lee, DDS • Sacramento • PT • GP
Robert Catron, DDS • Cameron Park • PT • GP
Amandeep Behniwal, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP
Elizabeth Johnson, DDS • Wellspace - various locations • FT/PT/Fill-In • GP
Amy Woo, DDS • Sacramento • PT 1 Day • Endo
David Park, DDS • several/multiple positions • FT/PT • GP

DOCS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Katherine Kim, DDS • Sacramento/Roseville • PT • GP
Shahryar Khodai, DDS • Sacramento/Roseville • PT • GP
Kaitlyn Liu, DDS • PT • GP

2025 Licensure Renewal Courses

Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids

Ronni Brown, DDS, MPH, FADI

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 • 2 CEU, Core • \$95

5:30–7:30pm • Webinar*

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 • 2 CEU, Core • \$95

5:30–7:30pm • Webinar*

California Dental Practice Act

Joy Brack, RDA

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 • 2 CEU, Core • \$95

5:30–7:30pm • Webinar*

Infection Control

Joy Brack, RDA

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 • 2 CEU, Core • \$95

5:30–7:30pm • Webinar*

California Dental Practice Act and Infection Control

Joy Brack, RDA

Friday, November 14, 2025 • 4 CEU, Core • \$199

8:30am–12:30pm • SDDS Classroom

visit [sdds.org](https://www.sdds.org)
for descriptions of all
courses and to register

**This course is a webinar, a
link to join will be sent to
your email 48 hours prior to
course date*



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Kids Care Dental & Orthodontics seeks doctors to join our teams in the greater Sacramento and greater Stockton areas. We believe when kids grow up enjoying the dentist, healthy teeth and gums will follow. As the key drivers of our mission—to give every kid a healthy smile—our dentists, orthodontists and oral surgeons exhibit a genuine love of children and teeth. A good fit for our culture means you are also honest, playful, lighthearted, approachable, hardworking, and compassionate. Patients love us... come find out why! Send your CV to drtalent@kidscaredental.com. *6-7/17*

WELLSPACE HEALTH ORGANIZATION (an FQHC) is taking applications for fill-in/part-time/full-time dentists. Send your resume/CV to eljohnson@wellspacehealth.org. *1/15*

Kids Care Dental & Orthodontics seeks orthodontists to join our teams in the greater Sacramento and greater Stockton areas. We believe when kids grow up enjoying the dentist, healthy teeth and gums will follow. As the key drivers of our mission—to give every kid a healthy smile—our dentists, orthodontists and oral surgeons exhibit a genuine love of children and teeth. A good fit for our culture means you are also honest, playful, lighthearted, approachable, hardworking, and compassionate. Patients love us... come find out why! Send your CV to drtalent@kidscaredental.com. *6-7/17*

FOR LEASE

Dental Space for Rent: Sierra Oaks Dental (2800 Fair Oaks Blvd., 95825) is a great option for any Dentists nearing retirement that don't want to invest in capital equipment or renew their lease. Ideal for new graduates seeking to start their own practice but need an existing facility to help their practice grow. Contact us today to schedule a tour and secure your space! (916) 481-2000 ask for Dr. Kim. *1-2/25c*

Dental office for lease in El Dorado Hills. 2 operatories fully equipped and 3rd plumbed. 1300 sq feet, modern furnished private office, with full bath, plus employee lounge. All utilities and janitorial included. Call (916) 230-5195 and leave message for appointment. *9-10/24*

\$327,000 Dental Office Condo for sale; Roseville/Sacramento Dental/Orthodontic Offices for Lease; Ranga Pathak, Broker Associate, RE/MAX Gold, DRE01364897; Tel: (916) 201-9247; Email: ranga.pathak@norcalgold.com. *8-9/21*

Greenhaven Dental Office For Lease. Professional Dental Building 930 Florin Road Ste 100. 1,396 S.F. \$1.85 PSF Plus Utilities. Contact agent (916) 443-1500 CA DRE Lic. #01413910 *11/20*

SACRAMENTO DENTAL COMPLEX has one 3 unit suite which is equipped for immediate occupancy. Two other suites total 1630 sq. ft which can be remodeled to your personal office design with generous tenant improvements. 2525 K Street. Please call for details: (916) 539-1516. *10/11*

PRACTICES FOR SALE

BENICIA DENTAL PRACTICE FOR SALE--Forty year old practice in fully restored stand-alone building in completely restored dental building. This practice is completely fee for service and collects well over \$1.6M per year with an impressive staff and facility. Due to the nature of this practice, interested candidates should possess at least 3-5 years of private practice experience and send a cover letter and current CV to smolinelli@ddsmatch.com or call 650-347-5346. *1-2/25*

Dental Practice and Building For Sale. 3300 El Camino Avenue Sacramento, CA 95821. My name is Walter A. Winfrey, D.D.S., walterwinfrey@att.net. \$500,000.00, images available *11-12/24c*

Priced to Sell! Elk Grove practice with a great reputation, 4 fully equipped ops in a highly desirable medical building. Solid accounts receivable, over \$800k in annual collections and growing. Strong customer base. Contact Chris Barbour (#2135925) - chris@omni-pg.com, (916) 792-5038. (CAD124) *9-10/24*

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

2021 KaVo OP 3D Pro. Includes all hardware including control PC and software. Less than 100 images taken. Installed in your office and calibrated \$25,000.00. Contact drmat@ariaperio.com if interested. *1-2/25c*

SDDS member dentists can place one classified ad

FOR FREE!

MEMBER
BENEFIT!

Selling your practice? Need an associate? Have office space to lease? SDDS member dentists get one complimentary, professionally related classified ad per year (30 word maximum). For more information on placing a classified ad, please call the SDDS office at 916.446.1227 or visit www.sdds.org/publications-media/advertise/



2025 MidWinter Convention & Expo ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

To submit, either scan/email to events@sdds.org OR fax (916.447.3818) OR mail your registration form OR register online at www.sdds.org.

ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER ATTENDEE Please print clearly. This information will be used to print name badges.

Attendee Name: _____ Title/Degree: _____

Member Dentist's Name: _____ ADA #: _____

Office Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

**Attendee's email required - handout link will be sent to this email (not main office email)*

SIGN UP 6 STAFF, GET THE 7TH FREE! • COURSE INFORMATION AND OTHER CONVENTION CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL.

FEES (circle the rate for the above attendee)	EARLY (on/before 11/3)	REGULAR (on/before 1/22)	LATE (begins 1/23)
INCLUDES FOOD!			
Dentists (ADA Members)	\$425	\$475	\$500
Dentists (ADA Members) — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$375	\$400	\$450
Auxiliary/Spouse (ADA Member)	\$345	\$375	\$400
Auxiliary/Spouse (ADA Member) — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$310	\$335	\$375
SDDS DHP Members	\$325	\$350	\$375
SDDS DHP Members — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$275	\$300	\$325
Dentists (Non-ADA Members)	\$900	\$950	\$999
Dentists (Non-ADA Members) — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$750	\$850	\$899
Auxiliary/Spouse (Non-ADA Member)	\$450	\$500	\$550
Auxiliary/Spouse (Non-ADA Member) — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$375	\$400	\$425

What is a DHP Member?

DHP stands for Dental Health Professional (auxiliary staff)

This membership is designed for dental office team members and offers discounted event and CE pricing for all DHP members - always at lower pricing than staff pricing.

If you sign up for DHP membership, you'll be able to attend MidWinter at a discount, as well as any other SDDS courses! The DHP membership is just \$95 for the entire year!

SIGN ME UP AS A DHP (\$95)

PAYMENT METHOD: Check Enclosed Credit Card

TOTAL: \$ _____

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Cardholder Name: _____ 3-digit Security Code: _____

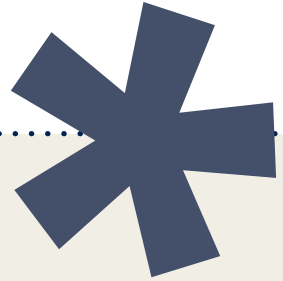
Billing Address: _____

Attendees agree that if you register for the convention at the member price and your membership is not renewed by the date of the convention, you will be required to pay the balance for the non-member rate. To ensure you retain the member pricing, please make sure to renew your membership before February 27, 2025.

REFUND/CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations received in writing by January 30, 2025 will receive a full refund less \$25 per registrant processing fee. Cancellations received after this date are nonrefundable, but substitutions will be allowed. There will be no refund for "No Shows" or for registrations made after this date.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SDDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JANUARY

- 14 General Membership Meeting
15 on 15: 15 Minutes, 15 Slides,
5 Multi-Topic Pearls...
Amanda Chen DDS, Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS, Estella Kim, DDS and Richard Knight, DDS, MS
- 16 Dentists Do Broadway
Hamilton • 7:30pm show
- 22 Webinar
Navigating New Laws that Impact Your Dental Team
(Hosted by CDA)
Wednesday • 5:30–7:00pm • No CEU

- 28 CPR BLS Renewal
CPR–AHA BLS Blended Learning–Online and Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions
Tuesday • 6:00–6:45pm; 7:00–7:45pm; 8:00–8:45pm
SDDS Classroom • 3 CEU, Core
- 29 Webinar
The View From the Labor Commissioner's Office
Von Boyenger, Sr. Deputy Labor Commissioner
Wednesday • 12:00–1:30pm
1.5 CEU, 20%

FEBRUARY

- 5 Licensure Renewal Webinar
Responsibilities and Requirements of Prescribing Schedule II Opioids
Ronni Brown, DDS, MPH, FADI
Wednesday • 5:30–7:30pm • 2 CEU, Core
- 12 SDDS Member Mixer
Midtown Sacramento
- 19 Dentists Do Broadway
Mean Girls • 7:30pm show
- 27 MidWinter Convention Day 1
SAFE Credit Union Convention Center
- 28 MidWinter Convention Day 2
SAFE Credit Union Convention Center

For full details and to sign up for courses online, visit: www.sdds.org



FEBRUARY 27-28, 2025 - REGISTER TODAY

The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

Upcoming GENERAL MEETINGS

JAN 14 15 on 15: 15 Minutes, 15 Slides:
Multi-Topic Pearls... Insights Across Specialties

Tuesday • 3 CEU, Core • \$89 early price thru 1/5
Presented by Amanda Chen, DDS; Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS; Estella Kim, DDS and Richard Knight, DDS, MS

Amanda Chen, DDS
Orthodontic Relapse and Retention

Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS
Third Molars: What You Need to Know

Estella Kim, DDS
Integrating In-office Sedation and General Anesthesia

Richard Knight, DDS, MS
The Basics of Frenectomies in Children

MAR 11 **Goodbye GV Black! Embracing Contemporary Composites in the Modern Era**

Tuesday • 3 CEU, Core • \$89 early price thru 2/25
Presented by Joel Whiteman, DDS

Dentistry has been using composite resin as a restorative material for the past 50 years but are we maximizing the success of our restorations. When we are taught in school to prepare a tooth, we use the principles set down by GV Black. These principles are based on a completely different material. We will discuss an approach that is designed for composite.

5:45pm: Social & Table Clinics | **6:45pm:** Dinner & Program
Hilton Sacramento Arden West (2200 Harvard Street, Sac)