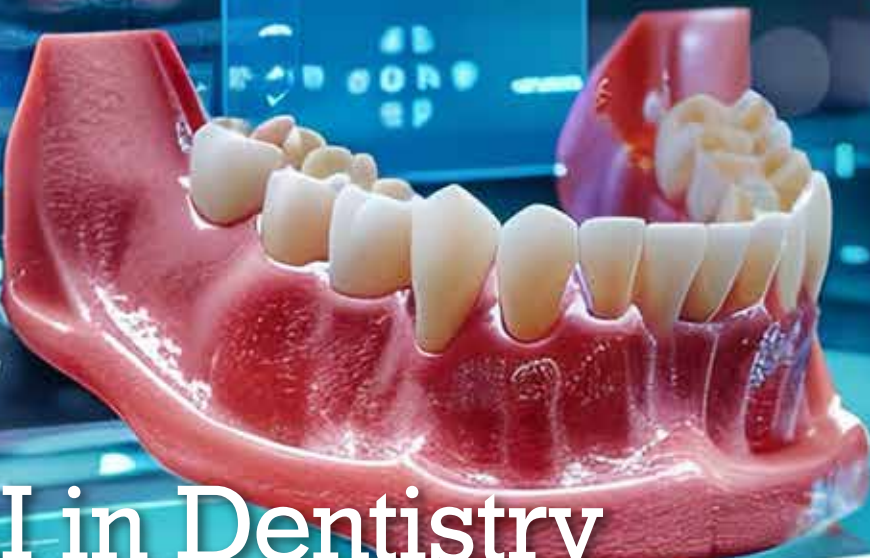


November/December 2024

the

Nugget



AI in Dentistry



Get Ready For Our UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1, 2024

Continuing Education

Friday • 8:30am–3:00pm • SDDS Classroom

Member Price: \$179 early (ends 10/11) / \$199 regular (begins 10/12)

Non-Member Price: \$398

Pearls in Our Backyard (6 CEU, Core)

Presented by Devan Dalla, DDS; Nisha Manila, BDS, PhD;

Brandon Martin, DDS, MS; Sarmad Paydar, DDS and Tim Mickiewicz, DDS

November 8, 2024

CPR–AHA BLS Blended Learning

Friday • 8–8:45am, 9–9:45am, 10–10:45am • SDDS Classroom

\$92 total; \$36 to AHA/\$56 to SDDS (ends 10/18)

\$102 total; \$36 to AHA/\$66 to SDDS (begins 10/19)

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

November 12, 2024

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday • 5:45pm Social & Exhibitors • 6:45pm Dinner & Program

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

Member Price: \$89 early (ends 10/29)

\$99 regular (begins 10/30) / \$109 late (begins 11/11)

Non-Member Price: \$198

Dental Implants: Proceed with Caution! (3 CEU, Core)

Presented by Tamir Wardany, DDS, DABOI

November 14, 2024

Business Forum

Thursday • 6:30–8:30pm • SDDS Classroom

Member Price: \$75 early (ends 10/24) / \$95 regular (begins 10/25)

Non-Member Price: \$190

Ask Me Anything (No CEU)

Presented by Seasoned SDDS Members, SDDS Vendor Members, TDIC, CDA

Sponsored by ADA and TDIC

** Does not qualify for AGD credit*



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

December 6, 2024

Member Event - Holiday Party

Friday • 6–10pm • Del Paso Country Club

December 10, 2024

Harassment Prevention Training

Presented by California Employers Association (CEA - SDDS Vendor Member)

For Employees

Tuesday • 11am–12pm • Live Webinar* • 1 CEU, Core

Member Price: \$49 early (ends 11/19) / \$69 regular (begins 11/20)

For Supervisors

Tuesday • 11am–1pm • Live Webinar* • 2 CEU, Core

Member Price: \$69 early (ends 11/19) / \$89 regular (begins 11/20)

December 12, 2024

Member Event - The Polar Express Train Ride

Thursday • 5:45–8pm • Central Pacific Passenger Station

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

For licensure renewal:

California Infection Control

April 22 | November 4 | (and MidWinter)

California Dental Practice Act

April 15 | November 4 | (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

(for employees and/or supervisors)

June 10 | December 10

OSHA Office Refresher (Train the Trainer)

TBA Spring

8 hour Infection Control (for all unlicensed assistants)

Multiple dates coming soon

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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
2016 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*
2015 • Special Citation Award

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We Love Our Veterans!

**Thank you, SDDS Members,
for your service!**



U.S. Navy

Michael Arrow, DMD
William Black, DDS
Miriam Behpour, DDS
Carlos E. Bonilla, DMD
Don Campbell, DDS
Sonney Chong, DMD
Joseph Cullo, DDS
Timothy Durkin, DDS
Ryan Grandpre, DDS
Mitchell A. Goodis, DDS
Greg Heise, DDS
Richard A. Mandelaris, DMD
David Marth, DDS
Erik Matson, DMD
James Musser, DDS
John C. Riach, DMD
Wendie Richards (Vendor Member)
Donald Rollofson, DMD
Dennis C. Romary, DDS
Sholi Rotblatt, DDS
Dean Sands, DMD
William Sloan, DMD
Kevin Tanner, DDS
Lien Truong, DDS
Russ Webb, DDS

U.S. Marine Corps

Calvin L. Garland, DDS
Victor Hawkins, DDS
Mervin Nelson, DDS

U.S. Army

Lawrence Bisauta, DDS
Bill Frey, DDS
Kerry Hanson, DDS
Nelson H. Johansen, DDS
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Donald Liberty, DDS
Maria C. Lopez-Shams, DDS
Blong Ly, DDS
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Michael Mikitka, DDS
Victoria Mosur, DDS
Khari Nelson, DDS
Charles Newens, DDS
Ifeatu Nnebe, DDS
Paul Raskin, DDS
James Robison, DMD
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Colby Smith, DDS
Joel Whiteman, DDS
Keith Wood, DDS

U.S. Public Health Service

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U.S. Air Force

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H. David Knepshield, DDS
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Daniel G. Mazza, DDS, MAGD
James McNerney, DMD
Michael Mikitka, DDS
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David F. Nelson, DDS, MS
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Michael H. Payne, DDS
Jim Peck, DDS
Peter Rubenstein, DMD
Benton J. Runquist, DDS, MS
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Robert M. Shimada, DDS
Walter Skinner, DDS
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Michael Weideman, DDS
Lee Wiggins, DDS

Would you adopt a Veteran for dental care?

Contact sdds@sdds.org to say "yes!"

Note: This list was compiled from responses to an email requesting the names of our veterans, and it is possible that some veterans' names are not listed. We apologize in advance if this list is incomplete. Thank you to all veterans for sharing your stories!



By **Ash Vasanthan, DDS, MS**
2024 SDDS President

Appreciation: The One Size That Fits All

As we approach the holiday season, I want us to take time to reflect on those who have made significant sacrifices for us, including the veterans who have bravely served our country. Their selflessness and courage allow us to enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted. This is an opportunity for us, not only as individuals but as a dental community, to express our profound gratitude to our veteran dental colleagues and those who served and continue to serve our country.

Similarly, as we gather with family and loved ones for the holidays that are upon us, feeling grateful for their love and support, it's important to remember that we spend each workday with our team, and they too deserve our gratitude. While we don't get to choose our family, we do have the ability to select our team. This is the time of year to show our appreciation to the team and demonstrate that we care.

Over the years, I've seen dentists show appreciation in various ways: from handwritten thank you notes and gift cards to team dinners, shopping sprees, and even trips to Disneyland. While the form of appreciation may not be for all, the concept of appreciating your team certainly is a "one size fits all." When team members feel valued, their motivation and



AI generated image

commitment grow, leading to a positive impact on the patient experience and ultimately contributing to patient growth. In addition to boosting morale, recognizing your team's efforts improves retention and reduces turnover and maintaining a stable, loyal team becomes crucial for delivering consistency and comfort to patients.

As we take this time to appreciate those around us, I want to remind you of our wonderful and active Dental Society, which continually supports our dental community in so many ways than we realize or appreciate. The team behind SDDS impacts and improves our practices in ways we do not realize. I am proud and grateful to be part of this wonderful organization while being involved in a few capacities over the past few years and 2024 will forever be a special year to me. ■

Ash Vasanthan.

Thank You Dr. Ash Vasanthan!

It's been a pleasure having you as our President this past year!



Change, Changes & Changers



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

Change. It's a word that piques your interest and your attention. At times the word is scary as the unknown may indicate a cause for concern. Other times, change could be invigorating and exciting – the possibility of a reset or reinvention.

Changes. It's what we do in preparation or reaction to potential change. Or it's the inevitable and a way to progress and move forward. Or fix what needs to be fixed.

Changers. While it's not always the popular decisions, the changers are the ones who are bold enough to jump on the sword, to step up and volunteer to make a difference and to make things better.

As we move toward 2025, we assess our past year's successes, challenges and accomplishments. There will be a lot of changes coming next year: changes in the Dental Board regulations with regard to unlicensed dental office employees being the biggest, changes in both ADA and CDA with regard to member benefits and dues renewals, and changes at SDDS too! At SDDS, we continue to change with the environment and survey responses of members, their wants and needs. Next year you'll see continued expansion of the delivery of our SDDS CE (more webinars, hand-on, Thursday night CE courses – all while still maintaining a few of our Friday CE days as well). Please read the articles in this issue of *the Nugget* – the changes you'll see explained in detail.

And, of course, we'll continue to have more social events to allow our members to network, meet each other and have some fun at the same time. We'll continue our golf tournament and River Cats outing!

Finally, with change comes reflection on the past. I want to thank Dr. Ash Vasanthan for his wonderful and successful year as SDDS President! His leadership, guidance, sense of humor and pure dedication to our SDDS organization and its members was extraordinary – thank you Dr. Ash! And change is coming... we welcome Dr. Nima Aflatooni as he begins his planning for the 2025 year and his Presidency. We hope you all can attend the Dec. 6th Holiday Party and enjoy the installation and celebration of the season.

Change is good... Bring it on!!!

Cathy

REMINDER:

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

Monthly dues payers will automatically roll over.

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

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Sofia Gutierrez | Foundation Projects/CPR
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The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

February 27 & 28, 2025
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Analgesic Services Inc.

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Foundation for Allied Dental Education

Mommy Room Sponsor
SD Dental Solutions

Confirmed Exhibitors as of 10.14.24

3M/Solventum
Access Dental Plan
Adams Dental Consulting
Analgesic Services, Inc.
Bank of America
Benco Dental
BISCO
BPE Law Group
Brasseler USA
California Dental Extended Functions
Association (Cal-DEFA)
Carestream Dental
Choice HealthCare Services
Coltene/SciCan
Columbia Healthcare Banking,
A Division of Umpqua Bank
DDSmatch
Dental Intelligence
DentaQuest
DentScribe
Desco Dental Equipment
Diagnostic Digital Imaging
DIO Implant
DynaFlex
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Enova Illumination
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The Foundation for Allied Dental Education
(FADE)
Gargle
Haleon
Health Net of California
Henry Schein
Henry Schein Dental Practice Transitions
Kerr Dental
Kids Care Dental and Orthodontics
Kuraray Noritake

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LumaDent
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MME Consulting, Inc.
MUN CPAs, LLC
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NSK America
Olson Construction, Inc.
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Osborne Group, Gallelli Real Estate
Paradise Dental Technologies
Patterson Dental
Procter & Gamble- Crest and Oral B
Professional Practice Sales
Provide
Q-Optics
Resource Staffing
SD Dental Solutions
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Solmetex/Sterisil/DryShield
Star Dental Refining
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The Next Big Thing



By Peter Yanni, DDS
Associate Editor

As society always strives to find the next big thing that will revolutionize the way we live daily life and there has been no hotter topic the last few years than artificial intelligence (AI). AI is technology that allows for computers to understand context in ways that were previously reserved for the complexities of the human mind. AI enables computers to simulate human learning, comprehend context, creatively problem solve, understand human language, and make data driven decisions. Whether you realize it or not, a lot of your daily tasks are incorporating AI and the large technology companies we rely on daily for personal and business use are almost in an arms race for developing AI capabilities. In some ways AI is still in its infancy, but it is evolving at a rapid and logarithmic pace and its sphere of influence is growing to be incorporated

in in a myriad of different fields. It is no surprise that it's use is growing in dentistry to help guide clinical decisions and increase practice efficiency.

As the use of AI in dentistry continues to evolve and become more widespread, there are a handful of key applications that can change the way we function as a field. One of these applications is diagnostics. AI algorithms can analyze radiographs and CT scans and highlight caries, vertical root fractures, peri-apical radiolucency's, and periodontal bone loss. They can even highlight pathologies that can lead to life saving findings. There is no doubt this can help clinicians ensure a comprehensive treatment and improve the oral health of their patients. Building on this, AI can use this data and analysis of patient trends for predicting outcomes and

forming ideal treatment plans. It can even analyze these trends to help provide risk-based prediction for future tooth decay and periodontal disease.

AI is undeniably a useful tool for clinicians to incorporate into their practice, but it is important for that information to be vetted by a qualified dentist. Dr. Nisha Manila, an oral and maxillofacial radiologist, will dive into some of the ethical considerations and considerations when developing trustworthy AI. Craig Dial, a dental radiographic technologist, will discuss how AI generated segmentation of teeth can help us better understand the dental-maxillofacial anatomy. Finally, Dr. Lance Metsger discusses how he uses AI in his current practice. ■

ARE YOU USING YOUR ADVERTISING BENEFIT?

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tmasood@firstus.org



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PRACTICE TRANSITION PLANNING | SALES & VALUATIONS | BUYER REPRESENTATION

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

GREATER LAKE TAHOE & TRUCKEE AREA: GP, 4 Ops, 17+yrs. Goodwill, Dentrix PMS, Digital, Dexis, Seller to work back up to 5 yrs! 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: *New Listing!* 5 Ops, \$760K Collections on 4 hyg/days wk. Well-located, 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, 9 hyg/days wk. 2023 GR \$1.4M #CA3954

GREATER SACRAMENTO METRO AREA: Prosth, 4 Ops, 45+Yrs. Goodwill, Dentrix PMS, Highly Desirable Area! 2023 GR \$1.1M #CA3723

SACRAMENTO/CARMICHAEL/CITRUS HTS./ORANGEVALE AREA: 3 Ops, 47+yrs. Goodwill, Eaglesoft PMS, Low Overhead, Room to Expand, High-Traffic Location! 2023 GR \$304K #CA3852

VACAVILLE: Very loyal patient base, 4 Ops, 3 hyg/days wk. 2023 GR \$507K #CA3697

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



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YOU SHOULD KNOW

DUES CHANGES

Please watch for the upcoming dues renewal email coming from CDA in late November. The process has CHANGED this year, with the dues being a firm “no later than January 30th payment” date, if paying by check, the payment needs to be received by this date (No longer will there be a 3 month grace period!) Members can go online to cda.org, log in to their accounts and pay online in full or sign up for monthly EFT payments.

1. If you are currently a monthly payer, you will be automatically renewed and rolling over.
2. If you are a Life Retired member, you will automatically be renewed.
3. If you are planning to retire by the end of 2024, please inform us at SDDS and let us know. We will help you with all you need to do for ADA, CDA and SDDS (and congratulations!).

Please know that if payment is not received by January 30, members will be dropped from membership. Of course you can rejoin by simply going to the CDA website and re-applying and paying for membership. At that point, your membership will commence on the anniversary date of your rejoining and dues will be due on that date going forward.

INFECTION CONTROL REQUIREMENT CHANGES

Newly signed legislation (SB1453) will impact a variety of regulated areas of the dental profession, with the most notable being in dental assisting. With changes to mandatory education requirements for unlicensed personnel performing non-clinical functions, this new law will impact the entire office team, including all those who fall into the definition of an unlicensed dental assistant. The employer of a dental assistant shall be responsible for ensuring that the dental assistant has successfully completed a board-approved eight-hour course in infection control prior to performing any basic supportive dental procedures involving potential exposure to blood, saliva, or other potentially infectious materials.

Although SB1453 impacts numerous areas of the Dental Practice Act, including new pathways to DDS licensure and additions to unprofessional conduct code, the most impactful language addresses expansion of pathways to obtaining licensure for RDA and certification for DA, including a progressive approach - the preceptorship - a combination of formal education and work experience to achieve licensure. The law sets the parameters for the educational component of the preceptorship.

Watch the SDDS e-blasts for further information and clarification. (See pages 18-19 for more information from our friends at FADE)

DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA FRAUD ALERT

The Dental Board of California (Board) has learned of a recent scam aimed at Board licensees. Licensees receive an email asking them to click on a link to an encrypted message. The subject line of the email may say it is regarding your license or an investigation from the Board.

The fake emails may appear to come from the Board and may use fake Board letterhead to add authenticity to the scam. If you receive an email claiming to be from the Board or a Board employee, or asking you to click on a link, please consider the following:

- Avoid suspicious links. Hover over links to see the actual URL. If it looks suspicious or doesn't match the claimed sender, don't click.
- Be skeptical and approach unsolicited emails with caution.
- Treat email attachments with caution.
- Beware of urgency.
- Verify that the email address is sent from a Board email with a Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) email address. For example, most DCA emails end with @dca.ca.gov.
- Contact the Board at dentalboard@dca.ca.gov.
- Read the Board's fraud alert for more tips and for directions on contacting the Board to inquire if you are the subject of an official investigation.

HARASSMENT PREVENTION “RULES” FOR RENEWALS

Submitted by California Employers Association

Since January 1, 2021, California businesses with five (5) or more employees MUST provide harassment prevention training every two (2) years. **Employees are required to have 1 hour of training within six (6) months of hire.** Supervisors and Managers are required to have 2 hours of training within six (6) months of hire or promotion.

If you hire seasonal or temporary employees, or any employee that is hired to work for less than six (6) months, those employees must be trained within 30 calendar days after the hire date or within 100 hours worked, whichever occurs first. Temporary workers employed by a temporary agency must be trained by the temporary agency, not the client.

Trainings available December 10, 2024
Details on page 2

PLANNING TO RETIRE?

Call SDDS to get the retirement forms ready for you – and save on your 2025 dues? Only \$250 / yr. for retired dues! YIPPEE! (And, of course, we hope you will continue to support our Foundation!)

Life Retired members are free dues!

2025 MIDWINTER CONVENTION & EXPO REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN - Early bird pricing ends November 8

TIME TO SIGN UP FOR A 2025 COMMITTEE

Want to be part of an SDDS Committee? Email us at sdds@sdds.org and sign up now. Most committees meet 3-4 times a year and have great input, insight and involvement in our SDDS programs, events, networking, strategic plan and more. We welcome all members to get involved! Learn more on page 32.

THE SDDS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY IS ONLINE
VISIT WWW.SDDS.ORG/CURRENT-MEMBERS/



By Nisha Manila, BDS, PhD
SDDS Member

Dr. Manila received her dental degree from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences in India. During subsequent years, her interest in radiology developed into a passion and she joined Tokyo Medical and Dental University to pursue her training in radiology. After completion of research diploma and Ph.D. in Oral Radiation Oncology, she joined Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology residency program at Texas A&M College of Dentistry. She is currently a Associate Professor & Director of Academic and Clinical Radiology at the California Northstate University College of Dental Medicine.

Why Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

The Imperative for Responsible Development

Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology is rapidly being adopted by dental professionals worldwide. As AI expands its capabilities and applications, ensuring its reliability is increasingly important. This article discusses the importance of developing trustworthy AI systems for efficient and ethical integration into society.

Ensuring Fairness and Avoiding Bias

The performance of AI models directly depends on the quality and relevance of the data used for its training. Partial or skewed data can negatively affect algorithms, perpetuating biases, and disadvantages. Imagine a dental caries risk prediction model for a specific geographic area, trained on past patient data. If the data is skewed towards patients with increased sugar consumption because of socioeconomic factors, low-income patients might be unfairly flagged for a higher risk of cavities. This could lead to unnecessary procedures or anxiety for these patients, regardless of their individual oral hygiene habits. To ensure fair, trustworthy AI, any biases in the training data must be identified and mitigated. This may involve utilizing diverse datasets, approaches to detect and eliminate bias, and regular system performance assessment. Moreover, precise instructions and regulations are necessary to hinder the creation of biased AI systems.

Transparency and Explainability

Often, artificial intelligence systems operate as opaque entities with no transparency, generating results without disclosing the underlying justification. For example, an AI-driven diagnosing tool may suggest certain treatment plans or medications, but clinicians may be reluctant to trust these suggestions without comprehending the reasoning behind them. The explainable AI field (XAI) focuses on enhancing the

transparency of AI models, enabling humans to better understand the decision-making process and cognitive reasoning of an AI system. XAI utilizes methods such as using decision tree visualization, emphasizing the data items that impacted the results most. Enhancing the transparency of AI fosters trust and assures that humans retain accountability for important decisions, particularly in critical domains such as healthcare and law.

Safety and Security

As AI systems advance, associated risks do also. Imagine a panoramic image analyzing AI model encountering a rare anatomical anomaly in a patient's jaw. Without proper safeguards to flag such anomalies for human evaluation, the AI might miss something critical, potentially leading to improper treatment planning and unforeseen complications during surgery. Thus, AI systems must ensure the safety of patients, with thorough testing and validation to detect and resolve possible flaws. The system's response must be evaluated under stress, and resilient security mechanisms to prevent unauthorized access or manipulation must be implemented. Furthermore, clear regulations for the responsible development and utilization of artificial intelligence are needed. For instance, AI can be effective for caries detection and treatment planning, but its use in high-risk complex surgical procedures or vital structures requires careful consideration. Explicit guidelines are

needed to ensure these tools are examined thoroughly for safety and accuracy.

Privacy and Data Protection

As AI systems require substantial amounts of personal data to function, the responsible procurement, retention, and utilization of such data is crucial. Patients must give explicit consent to use their data, while strong cybersecurity measures and robust and efficient data governance practices must be implemented. Furthermore, it is crucial to establish regulations about proper handling of personal data.

Human control and oversight: While AI has immense potential, it cannot replace human judgment. As AI systems gain increasing autonomy, retaining human control becomes of utmost importance. Developing reliable AI necessitates a strategic approach where the needs and values of humans are the top priority. Humans must set the goals and objectives for AI systems, oversee their development and execution, and ultimately make the final decisions, especially in

complex ethical dilemmas. Furthermore, the boundaries of human and AI responsibility must be clearly defined, particularly in areas with significant legal and ethical implications.

Building Trust: A Collaborative Effort

Establishing faith in AI requires collaboration not only from developers, but also from entities such as:

Policymakers: Governments should establish policies and institutions that encourage the ethical advancement of AI, prioritizing transparency, fairness, and accountability when developing and deploying AI systems. Educational and research institutions should focus on building techniques to create more reliable and trustworthy AI systems.

The general population: Education is critical, and people must be empowered to make informed decisions about utilizing AI. Through joint efforts, we can guarantee the responsible creation and utilization of AI, fostering trust in this technology and

establishing a future where humans and AI can collaborate effectively.

The development and use of trustworthy AI is a necessity. We must ensure AI serves humanity, aids in creating a more just and equitable society, and helps us navigate the challenges of the future. Developing reliable AI requires ongoing research, collaboration across disciplines, and a commitment to ethical principles. As AI continues to evolve, we must continue working to ensure it impacts the world positively. ■



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**By Craig Dial, DRT
Diagnostic Digital Imaging**

Craig Dial is the founder and imaging specialist at Beam-Readers. Craig earned his license as a Dental Radiographic Technologist at UC Berkeley and is an expert in the science of CBCT imaging.

Automatic Segmentation of Teeth from CBCT Images

Three-dimensional cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) plays a pivotal role in modern digital dentistry. CBCT provides high-resolution volumetric images of the face, teeth and jaws that can aid in diagnosis and understanding of the dental-maxillofacial anatomy. Software tools have continually improved to enhance visualization of the dental structures. These tools increase the understanding of the patient's scan, thus helping with interpretation. Volumetric rendering software highlights teeth including crowns and roots. This surface display digital model is beneficial to discover the relationships between the teeth and roots of impacted teeth.

Diagnostic Digital Imaging Centers (DDI) utilizes volumetric rendering software to generate segmented models for its referring dentists for improved visualization and diagnosis of impacted teeth, supernumeraries, and the inferior alveolar nerve canal. In the past, DDI used the process of manual segmentation of teeth from CBCT scans. This was time-consuming, costly and subject to display loss. DDI now generates a digital segmented model through an automatic algorithm software process. Automatic segmentation aims to address manual segmentation limitations by leveraging computational techniques, particularly artificial intelligence (AI) and deep learning (DL) systems.

AI-based teeth segmentation models (Figure 1) can assist in multiple applications such as root anatomy and curvatures, identifying relationships between adjacent teeth, including those that may be impacted. AI segmented models aid in the study of the relationship between impacted mandibular third molars and the mandibular canal (Figure 2). Such models can greatly influence orthodontic and surgical treatment planning and assist in patient education.

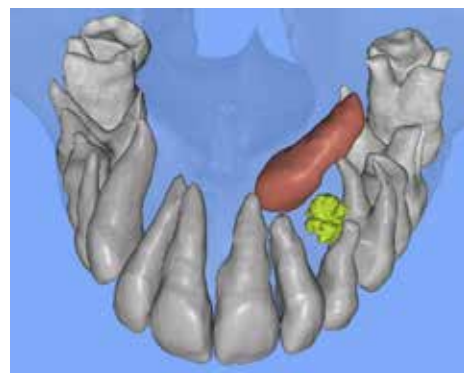


Figure 1 – AI generated segmented model of the maxillary teeth showing impacted #11 and a mass adjacent to it

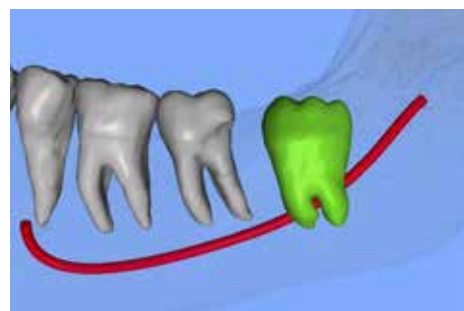


Figure 2 – AI generated segmented model of the mandibular third molar and mandibular canal

Manual segmentation of teeth and the viewing software is often limited to a single workstation that has a unique viewer program installed. This creates mobility limitations and makes case sharing challenging. AI software uses a web based browser rather than a computer installed program. This removes the limitation of program based viewing from a single workstation and creates freedom to view, rotate, zoom, share, and visualize patient data from most any computer, tablet or cell phone. (Figure 3). AI software is also considerably less expensive and laborious to generate than manually segmented models.

Automatic tooth segmentation through the use of AI technology leverages computational techniques, particularly deep learning systems. AI is the science of making computers smart. It's similar to teaching a computer to think and learn on its own. AI helps computers perform tasks that usually require human intelligence, such as recognizing patterns, shapes, understanding language, and making decisions.

Deep learning is a powerful tool within AI and can be used to train computers to recognize complex patterns based on a lot of previously fed data. It teaches a computer brain to understand a CBCT by showing it hundreds, if not thousands of examples. Deep learning models consists of interconnected layers that process information. These computer models can learn from experience and improve over time.

AI is still in early stages with its applications in dentistry but it is promising technology and here to stay. Although AI has improved in the detection of the position of teeth and their anatomy, manual post-processing may be needed in certain cases where data is lacking or inadequate. ■



Figure 3- Scan QR code to view AI software. Note: Case is anatomized



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By Lance Metsger, DMD
SDDS Member

Dr. Lance Metsger graduated from Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine. He practices all aspects of general dentistry and particularly enjoys implants, orthodontics, and cosmetics. He is passionate about creating a comfortable environment that fosters trust with his patients. He also serves as a professor at California Northstate University College of Dental Medicine, where he didactically and clinically teaches students. His goal is to provide high-quality, comprehensive dental services while mentoring the next generation of dental professionals to uphold the highest standards of clinical excellence.

Out of the office, Dr. Metsger and his wife Dr. Keppler are culinary enthusiasts who enjoy sampling local restaurants and making their own delicious meals at home. On the weekends, they enjoy spending time in nature on the trails, lakes, and mountains around Sacramento.

How AI is the New Diagnostic Double Check

If I told you that you could have a second set of eyes to check every radiograph you take, would you be intrigued? The average dentist sees 16-30 patients per day including hygiene exams. Even if every patient only had a set of bitewings, that yields 64-120 radiographs per day that the average dentist has to read, interpret and diagnose.

Our goal as a profession is to provide the highest level of care to our patients. There have been significant advancements in dental technology over the past few years to aid in that pursuit. One such innovation that has made a difference in my practice is Overjet.

Overjet is an AI-powered dental software designed to assist in diagnosing dental conditions such as caries, calculus, bone loss and defective restorations. By analyzing dental radiographs, Overjet provides the second set of eyes I mentioned before, helping to ensure that nothing is overlooked during patient examinations.

The integration of Overjet into my practice has been particularly helpful with standardization among practitioners. In a group practice setting, ensuring that all dentists adhere to a consistent standard of diagnosis can be challenging. Ever heard the phrase, “The only thing two dentists can agree upon is that the third dentist is wrong?” Overjet helps to create agreement among dentists by providing uniform assessments of radiographs. This consistency not only improves diagnostic accuracy but also enhances patient trust and satisfaction, as they receive reliable and standardized diagnoses regardless of which dentist they see.

However, like any tool, Overjet is not without its drawbacks. The main downside is that the software has a tendency to over-diagnose. For instance, if a periapical radiograph is over-angled, resulting in foreshortened images of the anterior teeth, Overjet might misinterpret normal bone trabeculation as caries. Similarly, it may mistake cervical burnout—a radiographic phenomenon where the neck of the tooth appears darker due to the shape of the tooth and surrounding structures—for caries.

Despite this propensity to over-diagnose, I find this characteristic of Overjet to be somewhat beneficial. The proclivity to flag potential issues, even if some turn out to be false positives, can actually aid in early detection. Catching caries at initial stages or identifying subtle defective restorations that might be challenging to see on traditional two-dimensional radiographs can make a significant difference in patient outcomes. Early intervention can prevent more extensive dental issues down the line, leading to less invasive treatments and better overall oral health.

In my practice, we have implemented a protocol to have every radiograph analyzed by Overjet. All radiographs are taken and immediately uploaded to Overjet before the dentist even steps into the operatory. This proactive approach allows us to review Overjet’s findings alongside our own assessments, ensuring a thorough examination. By combining the AI’s analysis with our clinical expertise, we can make more informed decisions about diagnosis and treatment.

Overjet has been a valuable asset in my dental practice. Its ability to enhance diagnostic accuracy and standardize assessments among dentists in a group practice setting has been particularly beneficial. While its tendency to over-diagnose can be a challenge, this characteristic also provides an opportunity for early detection and intervention. By integrating Overjet into our diagnostic protocol, we can offer a higher standard of care to our patients, ensuring that their dental health is monitored with the utmost precision and attention. ■



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When Legislation Aimed at Reforming Dental Assisting Falls Short, A Silver Lining Is Revealed:

Introduction to the Preceptorship in Dental Assisting



By LaDonna Drury-Klein, RDA, BS
The Foundation for Allied Dental Education
(SDDS Vendor Member)

On September 22, 2024, Senate Bill 1453 was signed by the Governor and becomes effective on January 1, 2025. Initially introduced in 2022 as legislation sponsored by CDA seeking a comprehensive restructure and reform of dental assisting in California. Many dental professionals worked tirelessly in the hopes of seeing real reform in policy and procedure. However, despite two years of effective collaboration rarely seen between some of dentistry's best advocacy groups, the Bill simply could not make it across the finish line to the Governor's desk.

Simultaneously, the Dental Board of California (DBC) was scheduled to begin their sunset-review process (a performance evaluation by the legislature occurring every four years), whereby the outcome is a Bill to either remove (sunset) or retain the board or bureau being evaluated. Given the history of unsuccessful attempts to reform dental assisting, it was agreed that the language proposed by CDA would be merged into the DBC's sunset Bill. Historically speaking, the sunset review proceedings have never been favorable to the dental assisting community, however, something about this year's attempts to "hit the refresh button" was met with rarely seen enthusiasm.

But dental assisting is also accustomed to regulatory and statutory disappointment and with every attempt at finding a different approach to reform, standards and expectations were becoming more and more compromised - SB1453 did little to change the historic outcomes for dental assisting, yet with its passage, we must look at the end result and ask the most obvious question: Are there any favorable outcomes from SB1453?

From an educators standpoint, the answer would be "probably" with the greatest opportunity being effective workforce development in a non-traditional environment. For example: the preceptorship in dental assisting – a new pathway to licensure as a registered dental assistant in California. To summarize each definition:

- A "Preceptee" is an unlicensed dental assistant who records and begins participating in a structured combination of work experience and formal education hours specific to learning the basic, elementary clinical skills and allowable duties as defined in law under the direct supervision and guidance of a preceptor.
- A "Preceptor" is a California-licensed dentist in good standing who directly supervises and provides on-the-job training to a preceptee in a preceptorship in dental assisting by evaluating clinical competence, documenting completion of clinical chairside work experience, learning, and clinical progress, teaching and promoting clinical reasoning, and ensuring the preceptee has completed all required course work before performing the allowable duties of an unlicensed dental assistant as defined in law.
- A "Preceptorship in dental assisting" is an organized process or plan designed to combine supervised, on-the-job training and completion of formal education in the duties and functions allowable for an unlicensed dental assistant to

perform in only the allowable duties of an unlicensed dental assistant in a competent manner as determined by the preceptor and pursuant to the requirements set forth in law.

Although there will be four additional alternative pathways to dental assistants seeking licensure or permit, the Preceptorship is a unique and contemporary look at how education, both didactic and clinical, may be achieved within a community, society, association or organization using multiple modalities in a blended curriculum.

As an SDDS vendor member and a provider of board-approved education for our dental community, the Foundation for Allied Dental Education (FADE) is working to provide the educational component to the membership. As an SDDS member, the planned events and services for the required courses, clinical exercises, online learning, laboratory skills development and clinical competencies to ensure that the intent of the preceptorship is achieved.

It is our goal to be your partner in workforce development and furtherance of skilled clinicians. Look for more information from your SDDS leadership and their dedicated staff as we approach the launch of the SDDS Dental Assisting Preceptorship Program in Spring 2025. ■

Understanding the Laws of the Dental Profession Allied Dental Healthcare Careers: Dental Assistant (Unlicensed)

Employer Checklist: New and Ongoing Employment of Unlicensed Dental Assistants (Eff. 1/1/2025)

- A dental assistant is an individual who, without a license, may perform basic supportive dental procedures, as authorized by law (Section 1750.1) and by regulations adopted by the Board, under the supervision of a licensed dentist. “Basic supportive dental procedures” are those procedures that have technically elementary characteristics, are completely reversible, and are unlikely to precipitate potentially hazardous conditions for the patient being treated.
- The supervising licensed dentist shall be directly responsible for determining the competency of the dental assistant to perform only the basic supportive dental procedures, as defined by law (Section 1750.1).
- The employer of a dental assistant shall be responsible for ensuring that the dental assistant has successfully completed a board-approved eight-hour course in infection control prior to performing any basic supportive dental procedures involving potential exposure to blood, saliva, or other potentially infectious materials.
- The employer shall maintain evidence for the length of the employment for the dental assistant at the supervising dentist’s treatment facility to verify the dental assistant has met and maintained all certification requirements as dictated by statute and regulation.
- The employer of a dental assistant shall be responsible for ensuring that a dental assistant who has been employed continuously or on an intermittent basis by that employer for one year from the date of first employment provides evidence to the employer that the dental assistant has already successfully completed, or successfully completes, all of the following within one year of the first date of employment.

Employee Checklist: Responsibilities for Employment as an Unlicensed Dental Assistant (Eff. 1/1/2025)

A dental assistant who has been employed continuously or on an intermittent basis by an employer for one year from the date of first employment provides evidence to the employer of having successfully completed, or will be successfully completing, all of the following within one year of the first date of employment:

- A two-hour certification course in the Dental Practice Act. Certification must be obtained by a board-approved provider.
- A certification course in basic life support (BLS).
- To perform radiographic procedures, a dental assistant shall complete a board-approved course in radiation safety. The original or a copy of the current, valid certificate issued by a board-approved radiation safety course provider shall be publicly displayed at the treatment facility where the dental assistant performs dental services.
- To perform coronal polishing prior to licensure as a registered dental assistant, an unlicensed dental assistant shall complete a board-approved coronal polishing course and obtain a certificate of completion.
- Prior to taking the coronal polishing course, the dental assistant shall provide evidence to the course provider of having completed a board-approved eight-hour course in infection control and a current, valid certification in basic life support.

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YOU

THE DENTIST, THE EMPLOYER

New Laws for 2025

By Mari Bradford; California Employers Association (CEA)
SDDS Vendor Member

Governor Newsom recently finished signing legislation into law and there are a few changes that may affect your dental office that you should be aware of moving into next year.

Politics and Religion At Work - California's Captive Audience Ban

Election season is just around the corner and employers may be tempted to discuss their political viewpoints with their employees. SB 399, which will take effect on January 1, 2025, prohibits both public and private employers from taking action against an employee because the employee declines to attend a meeting regarding the employer's opinions on political or religious matters.

Importantly, this includes a ban on employer meetings to communicate the company's position on labor organizations and unionization, historically known as "captive audience meetings."

Additionally, employees cannot be penalized for refusing to participate in meetings where politics and religion are discussed. In fact, an employee who declines to attend such a meeting must still be compensated if these meetings occur during their scheduled work hours.

Of course, employers are still allowed to hold meetings to satisfy legal requirements such as safety meetings and Harassment Prevention Training. However, just be careful not to cross the line into any political discussions.

Driver License Required? Only Allowed When it's an "Essential Function"

Starting January 1, 2025 employers advertising open positions will need to be aware of a new requirement that Governor Newsom signed into law. Employers will no longer be allowed to state in a job advertisement, posting, application, etc. that an applicant must have a valid driver's license in order to apply and be qualified for a job unless;

- Driving is an essential function of the job AND
- Using an alternative form of transportation would not be comparable in travel time or cost to employer.

The idea behind this new law, which amends FEHA (California's Fair Employment and Housing Act), is to prohibit discrimination in the hiring process based on the lack of a driver's license. The goal is to help open the door for individuals who do not have a driver's license and may walk, bike, use ride-sharing, or other forms of transportation when traveling to and from work.

As a reminder, employers should frequently review job descriptions, as well as job postings, to ensure that the essential functions, qualifications, and physical requirements accurately reflect the current needs of the position and business.

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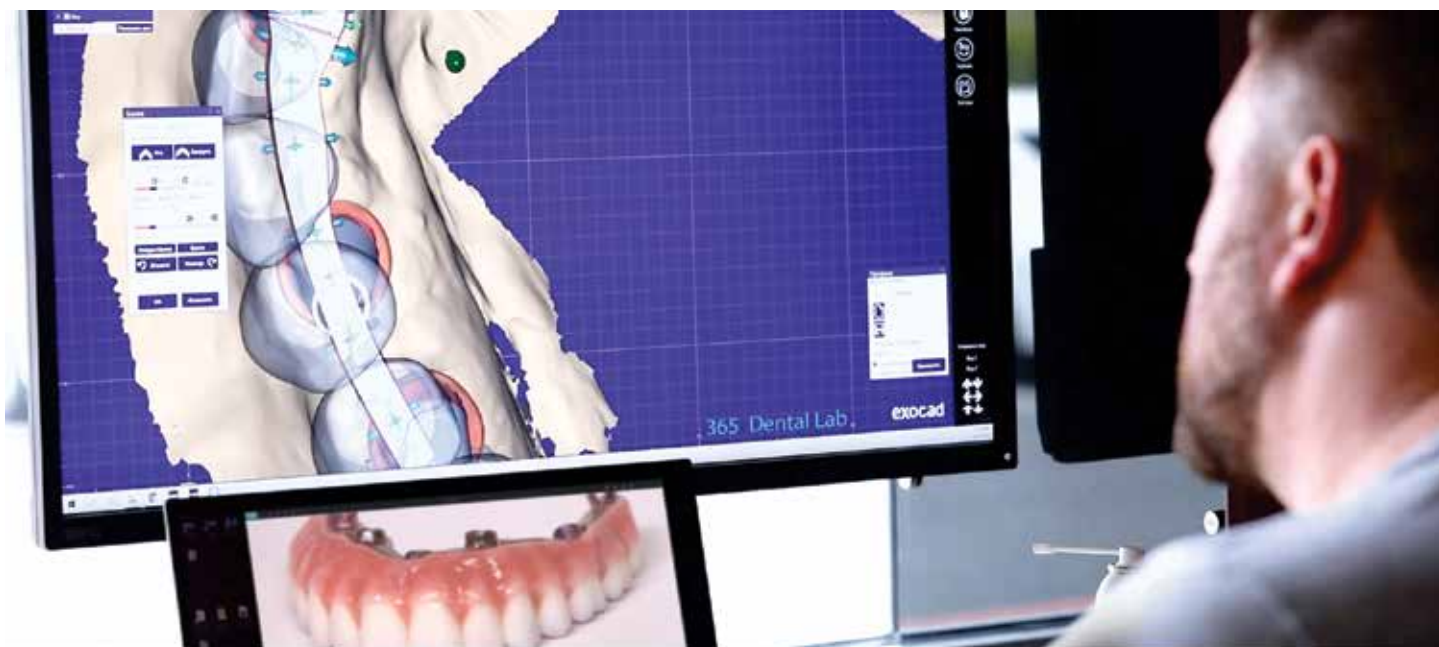
Expanded Crime Victim Protections

All employers must provide time off if an employee is a victim of a crime, but if you have 25 or more employees, under the new AB 2499, you will now need to provide job-protected leave to an employee who is a victim, or who has a family member who is a victim, of a "qualifying act of violence." The law also permits the use of sick leave for this purpose. ■

If you need additional information about all of the new laws signed by the Governor, you can receive a free copy of CEA's New Employment Law Guide by visiting www.employers.org/pages/2025-employment-law-guide/.

If you have any other HR questions, please give the HR Hotline, powered by CEA a call at 888-784-4031.

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By Ranna Alrabadi
CNU Dental Student

*Ranna Alrabadi is a dental student in the inaugural class (D4) 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.*

Why Not Suture on a Saturday?

I would like to start off by expressing my gratitude for being the first dental student on the Nugget editorial advisory committee.

Thank you to Dr. Hillendahl, Cathy Levering, and the Nugget editorial committee members and staff for their endless support. It is truly an honor to have this position.

I am looking forward to providing interesting articles and content for our readers reaching the SDDS community and beyond.

Many dental students would agree they gain most of their hands-on experience in dentistry while performing procedures on patients. While this is true, there are other ways of enhancing hands-on skills outside of the clinic.

I remember some of my first dental extractions with suturing being the grand finale. I recall positioning the suture in the needle holder as I prepared to suture the extraction site. As dental students, faculty are available to guide us along the way. Yet, I was determined to become more advanced and independent in my suturing techniques.

It was not until Dr. Peter Yanni, a periodontist in our clinic, recommended that I order a suture pad and a castroviejo and practice at home that I noticed a difference in my suturing skills.

One of the advantages of suture pads is they come with a variety of pre-cut wounds typically on a silicone material, allowing users to adapt to lacerations of different shapes and sizes. This is beneficial for a dental student since surgery often presents with the unexpected as there is no "one size fits all" incision. I appreciate that suture pads provide a clean surface to practice on. Not to mention forgoing the challenges that patient management can often present with.

I also found that the silicone material mimicked tissue quite well, allowing the suture needles to penetrate the silicone

with ease. In addition to the suture pad, I was also able to find edentulous and non-edentulous silicone models of the maxilla and mandible with pre-cut incisions. This allowed me to practice suturing flaps, an experience I did not have in clinic. I even went a step further and used a scalpel and made incisions on the silicone models in preparation for one of my surgical extractions.

While suturing, I followed online videos showing the different suturing techniques. I was able to practice simple interrupted, continuous, and cross-mattress sutures. Many of the videos were led by doctors in the medical field. It was interesting to see similarities in surgical approaches between the professions of medicine and dentistry. These educational videos serve as a reminder of the great responsibility that comes with being a healthcare professional.

I enjoyed experimenting with different types of suture materials. From silk, chromic cat gut and polyester braided, to nylon and polypropylene monofilament, I began to develop a preference for certain suture materials over others. I was also able to use different suture needle sizes, affecting the angle at which I positioned the needle in the castroviejo and the needle holder.

As for instruments, it was my first time using a castroviejo. I had never even heard of this instrument before it was recommended to me. Once I learned how to use it, I immediately noticed the greater

range of motion and ergonomics that it provided compared to a traditional needle holder. Although I prefer the castroviejo, I did practice with both instruments since I wanted to be proficient in using either one. This would allow me greater flexibility in the event I had one instrument over another during a procedure. I enjoyed working with the castroviejo so much that I would have it sterilized and ready to go for my extraction appointments in clinic.

As I practiced suturing on weekends, I began to build muscle memory as it became second nature. It was very fulfilling to perform extractions on patients and become efficient and confident at placing sutures independently. Completing one extraction procedure after another, I was eager to place the suture. This is in contrast to before my at home practice, where I was not as enthusiastic about suturing.

It is incredible how one's outlook can change with taking the time and effort to improve. For me, I practice whenever I feel

that I want to sharpen my skills. Anytime I see an extraction appointment on my clinic schedule I highly look forward to it from start to finish. I make sure to prepare beforehand by discussing my surgical approach with faculty. Usually the weekend before an extraction, I like to place a suture for practice as I have found this to be effective.

Just recently, I was at a clinic rotation where I completed a surgical extraction on #18 and placed a suture. On another patient, it was my first time suturing a buccal mucosa laceration. Yet I did not have difficulty since I have been practicing in my free time as the sutures were placed successfully and with ease. I appreciate that suturing requires a level of focus and patience in handling delicate tissue and approximating the location I want the suture to be placed.

One of the many advantages of suturing at home is the ability to practice at your own pace and style of learning. It is for

this reason that I highly recommend at home suturing for anyone interested in advancing their skillset. Suture kits are readily available online and are affordable.

At home suturing has been a complete game changer as I have seen first-hand my progression and improvement. It has also shown me that hands-on practice is not limited to in the clinic or sim lab as there are other ways of refining your skills. I found that suturing can be fun, and with all the different types of sutures out there, the possibilities are endless.

I would like to thank Dr. Yanni for his surgical expertise and for recommending at home suture practice. It sure has made a difference.

So, as I typically say, "Why not suture on a Saturday?" ■



José M. Virrueta

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Data Backup: What's Your Risk Tolerance?

Patient and case selection is an essential component of a dental practice. TDIC risk management analysts explain how being selective in patients you accept into your practice helps to avoid costly risks.

Whether from human error, viruses, technical malfunctions, natural disasters or theft, data loss can have a huge impact on any business. In fact, nearly half of all small businesses in the U.S. have experienced some form of data loss according to online backup provider Carbonite. Accounting firm Price Waterhouse Coopers found that 7 out of 10 small firms that experience a major data loss go out of business within a year.

Luckily, there are ways to avoid complete devastation. Topping the list is making sure your backups are running regularly and accurately.

The Case for Backup Data

"Having a backup system for storing information is critical, but it is also critical to check those systems," said Sheila Davis, assistant vice president of TDIC's Risk Management department. "If you don't perform regular backups, and you don't check to make sure those backups are functioning, you run the risk of losing everything."

"Too often, people forget to check their backups," Davis said. "Backups are a fail-safe. But even fail-safes should be double checked."

John Christopher, senior manager of marketing communications at DriveSavers Data Recovery, said, "Backups are not routinely evaluated for effectiveness.

Often, data is lost when the administrator of a computer system believes the backup system is functioning when it is not. Then, when the primary system fails, there isn't a backup. Backup systems must be regularly maintained, and files that have been backed up must be regularly reviewed to ensure that scheduled backups are functioning properly and all copied data is corruption-free and useable."

Cost is one of the major reasons business owners fail to back up their computers. There are upfront costs, such as hardware, and ongoing costs, such as monthly monitoring fees and storage fees. But the costs associated with a data loss are much greater, so maintaining backups is a small price to pay.

Another reason dentists fail to back up their data simply comes down to frequency and continuity. Recent studies of businesses found that 41% of users "rarely or never" back up their data. Of those who do, only 10% back up their data daily, while 34% run data backup monthly. Despite the efforts of users who do back up data, one survey found that 79% of businesses have experienced a cloud data breach, and 43% have experienced more than 10 breaches in recent years.

Why the discrepancy? Half-measures don't provide full protection. Real-time backups make the difference. "What could be more time consuming than having to rebuild your entire system and reconstructing all of your patient records?" Davis asked.

Most experts recommend real-time backups, also known as continuous backups, in which changes are automatically saved as they are

made. That way, if a data loss does occur, there will be no gaps in data recovery. Other options include conducting a full backup at a set time, such as once a day or once a week.

"We advise dentists who perform hard backups to disconnect the drive and store it off-site in a secure location. Better yet, we recommend investing in a HIPAA-compliant cloud-based data backup service," Davis said.

Christopher notes that it's best to have multiple backups stored in multiple locations.

"Keep one backup off-site in case some type of accident or disaster occurs," he said. "Automate your backup system so there is less likelihood of human error. Regularly check the data on your backup devices to ensure it is useable and to ensure that backups are performing as expected."

Finding Resources and Support

If you have concerns about practice data management in the face of cyber security threats or weather-related disasters, contact TDIC's Risk Management Advice Line. ■

TDIC's Risk Management Advice Line is a benefit to TDIC policyholders. To schedule a consultation with an experienced risk management analyst, visit tdicinsurance.com/RMconsult or call 1.877.269.8844.

YOU ARE A DENTIST. You've been to school, taken your Boards and settled into practice. End of story?

Not quite. Are you up to speed on tax laws, potential deductions and other important business issues?

In this monthly column, we will offer information pertinent to you, the dentist as the business owner.

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Upcoming BUSINESS FORUM

NOV
14

Ask Me Anything (In-person course)

Presented by SDDS Members, SDDS Vendor Members, TDIC, CDA
Sponsored by ADA and TDIC

Whether you are an early career dentist or a seasoned practitioner looking to gain insights, overcome challenges and work toward a successful dental career, this evening will bring everyone together to discuss various topics such as DSOs vs private practice, disability insurance, work/life balance, what new dentists think and want, what seasoned dentists have learned along the way ("words to the wise"), getting involved in organized dentistry and managing it all!

Join SDDS and our panel as they share what works/worked, what didn't work, what expectations are for the future of the practice of dentistry – bring your burning questions and plan your course!

Learning Objectives:

- Learn from dentists of all ages and levels; hear what matters in the journey of your career
- Ask questions to the experts and industry partners
- Learn practical strategies and tips that you can immediately apply to your professional life
- Connect with fellow dentists, share experiences, and build a supportive network
- Learn about the resources that your local, state and national dental associations provide you as a member

No CEU • \$75

6:00pm: Registration

6:30–8:30pm: Class

SDDS Classroom:

2035 Hurley Way, Suite 200 | Sacramento

4:30–6:30pm: Complimentary
Professional Headshots

Email events@sdds.org
to schedule your time



Register online
today with this
QR code.



Do You Have the Spirit?

The Foundation is dear to our hearts in Sacramento. Our Foundation continues to grow through the generosity of our donors and members. This is the time of year for remembrance and recognition. I am asking you to consider a donation to the Foundation in lieu of the other gifts that you give to your friends, family and peers. Each time I receive a Spirit of Giving card it sits on my desk long after the holidays are over and I appreciate the generous thoughts and gesture even more than a gift of chocolates or baked goods. Most of us don't need the sweets during the

holidays and you can think of the Spirit of Giving as the low carb, gluten free, diabetic friendly gift that keeps on giving. It's effect goes well beyond the individuals who give and receive. The lives of many in our community are impacted in positive ways by your contributions. Thanks to all of you in advance who decide to take this opportunity to make the heart of our dental society grow even larger.

Thanks for the support,



By Viren Patel, DDS
Foundation Past President



What You Do Makes a Difference



"The gift I have been given goes far beyond simply fixing my smile - it is essentially a second chance to enjoy life, a fresh start."

- Melissa Gandy
(work done by Dr. Robert Daby)



20% of SDDS Members Participate in SFK!

"Sir Enamel fights the Sugar Bugs ...always a crowd pleaser in our elementary schools."

- SCUSD School Nurse

Are you a member of the SDDS Foundation? Contact us today to start giving back.

JOIN US FOR THE 2024 HOLIDAY PARTY

FRIDAY
DEC 6

Use enclosed
insert to register

SACRAMENTO DISTRICT DENTAL FOUNDATION DOES...

broadway & music circus

**Tickets & Dates
Available Now!**



THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2025

KIMBERLY AKIMBO is the winner of five 2023 Tony Awards including BEST MUSICAL! Kimberly is about to turn 16 and recently moved with her family to a new town in suburban New Jersey. In this “howlingly funny heartbreaker of a show” (The New Yorker), Kim is forced to navigate family dysfunction, a rare genetic condition, her first crush ... and possible felony charges. Ever the optimist, she is determined to find happiness against all odds and embark on a great adventure.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Featuring a book by Tina Fey, **MEAN GIRLS** tells the story of a naïve newbie who falls prey to a trio of lionized frenemies. Entertainment Weekly calls it “A MARVEL: dazzling and hilarious!” and USA Today says, “We’ll let you in on a little secret, because we’re such good friends: GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!”



TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

TINA – The Tina Turner Musical, the triumphant story of the Queen of Rock and Roll set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her most beloved hits! **TINA**—The Tina Turner Musical presents Tina’s journey against all odds to become one of the world’s most beloved artists of all time. Featuring her much loved songs, **TINA**—The Tina Turner Musical is written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Katori Hall.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025

Winner of the 2023 Tony Award® for Best Revival of a Musical. Leo and Lucille Frank are a newlywed Jewish couple struggling to make a life in the old red hills of Georgia. When Leo is accused of an unspeakable crime, it propels them into an unimaginable test of faith, humanity, justice, and devotion. Riveting and gloriously hopeful, **PARADE** reminds us that to love, we must truly see one another.



Purchase Tickets online with
this QR code or visit sdds.org

*Please Note: Hamilton is **SOLD OUT**; thanks to everyone
for ordering your tickets early*



Membership Renewal Updates

Provided By California Dental Association

As part of continued efforts to streamline managing your membership, you may see a few changes at your next renewal.

While the “membership year” had been running from January 1 to December 31, we have transitioned to anniversary date renewal for members who join after June 10, 2024. The membership year is now a rolling one that’s based on the date you joined or your last renewal. This means that all members will have 12 full months between dues payments (unless you break your dues into convenient monthly payments).

If you’re enrolled in autopay, no action is needed when it’s time to renew! Your membership and monthly debits will continue unless you initiate a change like updating your payment method, voluntary contributions or paying the balance in full.

If you’re a Life Retired member, you’ll enjoy automatic renewal as well.

If it’s time to renew your membership, here are a few things to know:

- We encourage you to choose the convenience of autopay and easy monthly debits.
- The renewal grace period will now be 30 days rather than three months. Payment must be received within 30 days of your renewal due date. For the majority of members, this means that renewal will still open in November with the payment due date by December 31 and a grace period that extends to January 30, 2025.
- If payment isn’t received or enrollment in autopay isn’t completed before the grace period ends, members will need to reapply to rejoin.

If you’re **planning to retire by the end of 2024**, congratulations! Contact Sacramento District Dental Society for assistance transitioning your membership type at the local, CDA and ADA levels.

Regardless of your membership type, the renewal period provides an opportunity to update your voluntary deductions like contributions to the political action committee and non-profit foundations.

We’d also encourage you to update your contact information, communication preferences and practice profile. This ensures you’ll receive the latest news and member-exclusive benefits that are relevant to you and your practice.

Visit cda.org and sign in to My Account to manage your membership, update your details and renew when it’s time.



Don’t hesitate to ask.

When you need an advocate for your physical, mental or emotional health, 24/7 confidential assistance and peer-to-peer support is available.

When you don’t know where to turn, there is help. CDA’s Wellness Program exists to support and advocate for the mental, emotional, and physical wellness of dental professionals and their families.

Whether your wellness challenge is anxiety, depression, mental illness, physical illness, or substance dependence, we have volunteer members who can relate. They are available around the clock to offer confidential peer-to-peer support, assistance finding specialists or treatment facilities and guidance for your support network.

Visit cda.org/Wellness-Program to learn more.

Call or text for 24/7 confidential assistance.

Northern California
530.864.4264

San Francisco Bay Area
510.209.5637

Central California
916.947.5676

Southern California
310.487.5040

San Diego
619.275.7190



Check Out Our RECENT EVENTS

SDDS Annual Shred Day was a Success!

47 members attended this year's event! 268 boxes were shredded and 31 pieces of e-Waste collected. We also want to thank the following for their help with this year's event: TDIC staff; Red Dog Shredz; CSUS Pre-Dental Club; Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps and Clear, Inc. (e-Waste Recycler) Thank you to our sponsor - TDIC



September General Meeting

The September General Meeting was so good! If you weren't there, you definitely missed out. We had the annual Throwdown, the topic this year was Scanners. Drs. Jenny Apekian, Darrell Chun and David Lopes all shared thought provoking messages and were so interesting to listen to.



International College of Dentists Inductees

We want to take a moment to recognize some of our amazing SDDS members. Congratulations to the 2024 International College of Dentists Inductees (not all pictured). Dr. Craig Alpha, Dr. Ron Ask, Dr. Kim Lucas-Benton, Dr. Andrea Cervantes, Dr. Diana Fat, Dr. Carl Hillendahl, Dr. Matt Korn, Dr. Upendra Patel, Dr. Chirag Vaid, Dr. Rashidah Wiley and awarded the Honorary Fellowship - Cathy Levering.



The entire SDDS team + Cathy's husband and daughter went to Nashville to support and celebrate this amazing accomplishment. They even had special shirts made for the occasion.



Nurse Meeting to Kick-off SFK 2024-25

The SDDS classroom was packed with 90 school nurses at our annual Nurse's Meeting. This meeting kicks-off Smiles for Kids 2024-25.





By **Jeffrey Sue, DDS**
2024 Secretary

September 3, 2024

Highlights of the Board Meeting

President's Report

Dr. Vasanthan shared that the Ice Cream Social was a success! It was great seeing dentists mixed with the students from CNU and UOP Collaborative. Also Dr. Vasanthan was the Keynote speaker at CNU's White Coat Ceremony. He elaborated how it was great to have an SDDS presence at the event. He also shared about his campus visit at the new building for CNU.

Secretary's Report

Dr. Jeff Sue reviewed the membership statistics. Our current market share is 81%, which includes the retirees. With just the actives, the market share is 77%. The retention rate is 95.2% with an engagement rate of 81% of actives. This is the highest for a large Society in the nation! The new application process for membership has changed to the anniversary date instead of the renewal period starting in January; no more half year and quarter year dues. Renewals are coming up and the deadline to pay dues is now January 30th; members who have not paid will be dropped at that time but they can always reapply – their new anniversary date will be the date of reapplication (no longer Jan. 1).

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Nima Aflatooni presented the financial report the Board. Income is on par with this time of the year, and expenses are lower than normal. An analysis of which faculty were members of the tripartite was shared; faculty average market share is 50% and below. ADA and CDA is looking at that for future planning. The August financials, interest and investments are continuing to grow as we remain conservative.

Board of Component Representatives Report

Dr. Volki Felahy reported on the component (BCR) board meetings. They have confirmed the support that a new Council on Professionalism and Ethics will be initiated by CDA in 2025.

New Business / New Ideas

- Sunset Bill - DA to licensure pathway alternatives were included in this bill, as well as an 8 hour infection control requirement for all unlicensed personnel who interact with patients. This requirement is effective January 1.
- CDA HOD is scheduled for Nov 8-9.
- Committee chair and member recruitment starts in November; Dr.

Aflatooni will present next year chair suggestions to be approved at the November Board meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Cathy updated the Board on CE planning for 2025 and upcoming events. November will be strategic planning benchmarking as well as the 2025 Committee and chair selection. Our CE and Member Survey shows that members want CE in various ways, webinars, in person, mostly weeknights, some still on Fridays. We'll try to do a combination of all.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01pm

Next Board meeting:
November 5, 2024 at 6pm

"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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SUITE 320:	± 1,100 - 2,360 RSF	
<i>*Suites 300 and 320 can be contiguous to ±4,203 SF</i>		

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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*The Sacramento District Dental Society
Invites You to Join Us for*

THE POLAR EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE



**Limited tickets available!
Make sure to act fast!**

**Thursday, December 12, 2024 • Train departs
at 6:30pm from the Polar Express Train Station!**

Please arrive at least 45 minutes prior to departure.
Boarding begins 15 minutes before departure.

**\$85
PER PERSON**

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**All SDDS Members
and Guests Welcome**

*Please note: these tickets are available to
SDDS members before the public has access
to purchase any from the Railroad Museum*

Use enclosed form to purchase tickets

Want to be part of SDDS?

Want to get involved... a little or a lot?

Fall is the time that committees finish their programs, wrapping up their planned goals and evaluating accomplishments. Then, the suggestions for the coming year are put forth to the Board for approval for the next year. And it all starts over again in January. Would you like to be part of a committee next year?

If you'd like to network with fellow members of SDDS, meet new people, and do great things for the SDDS – we'd love for you to join us. Most committees meet only 3-4 times a year and the committees come up with ideas, programs and events that enhance the Strategic Plan.

Here are the committees that would love to have you participate:

- Membership and Engagement Committee
- Continuing Education Committee

- Leadership Development Committee
- *Nugget* Editorial Advisory Committee
- CPR Committee (be an instructor)
- Pre-Dental Club (CSUS) Advisory Committee
- Put me anywhere!

If you're interested in serving on a committee, complete the enclosed form and get it back to us. It can be emailed, mailed or faxed to the SDDS office.

2024 SDDS Committees Schedule

Leadership

Board of Directors

Nov 5

Executive Committee

Dec 13

Check the next *Nugget* for the 2025 Committee Schedule

Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

Smiles for Kids

Volunteers needed: Doctors to "adopt" patients for Smiles for Kids for follow-up care. To volunteer, Contact: SDDS office 916.446.1227 • smilesforkids@sdds.org

Smiles for Big Kids

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

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 3, 2024 – 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

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



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Dave Nelson

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El Dorado Hills, CA 95762



Danny Smith

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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.

With 58-years serving SDDS dentists, we have the experience you need to make the process easier, faster and safer.

That's why more than 5,500 California Dentists have purchased or sold practices through PPS!



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Ray@PPSsellsDDS.com

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

(as of 10/11/24)

2,016

MARKET SHARE:

81%

RETENTION RATE: 99.5%
ENGAGEMENT RATE:
83% active / 55% retired

TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS:
1,385

TOTAL RETIRED
MEMBERS: 359

TOTAL DUAL
MEMBERS: 10

TOTAL AFFILIATE
MEMBERS: 5

TOTAL STUDENT
MEMBERS: 199

TOTAL CURRENT
APPLICANTS: 0

TOTAL DHP
MEMBERS: 58

TOTAL NEW
MEMBERS FOR 2024: 65

Nov/Dec
2024

New Members

SRIMANTH ALLURI, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Alluri recently graduated in 2024 from CA. Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC. His current practice location is pending.

M. SHADI ANIS, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Anis earned his dental degree from University De La Salle in 2023. He currently practices at Galt Healthy Smile in Galt.

COREY BAFFORD, DMD

General Practice

Dr. Bafford earned his dental degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2024. He currently practices at Arden Oaks Dental Care in Sacramento.

CLEO BAILEY, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Bailey earned her dental degree from UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2024. Her practice location is currently pending.

YUQI CAO, DMD

General Practice

Dr. Cao earned her dental degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry in 2024. Her practice location is currently pending.

SHAYAL CHAND, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Chand earned her dental degree from UCLA School of Dentistry in 2024. She currently practices at Greenhaven Modern Dentistry in Sacramento.

NATASHA ELLOWAY, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Elloway earned her dental degree from Loma Linda University in 2019. She currently practices at Randal Elloway DDS in Red Bluff.

JOSEPH FARKASH, DDS *Transferred!*

General Practice

Transfer from San Fernando Dental Society
Dr. Farkash earned his dental degree from the University of Michigan in 2016. He currently practices at Golden Foothills Oral and Facial Surgery in El Dorado Hills.

LEILA JAMSHIDI, DDS *Transferred!*

General Practice

Dr. Jamshidi earned her dental degree from UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2024. She currently practices at Citrus Heights Modern Dentistry in Citrus Heights.

INDERJEET KAUR, DMD

General Practice

Dr. Kaur earned her dental degree from New York University in 2024. She currently practices at Laguna West Dental Care in Elk Grove.

USMAN KHAN, DDS *Transferred!*

General Practice

Dr. Khan earned his dental degree from UCSF School of Dentistry in 2024. He currently practices at Woodland Smiles Dentistry in Woodland.

OLGA KNYSH, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Knysh earned her dental degree from Loma Linda University in 2024. She currently practices at Smile Quest in Rocklin.

IVETA MARKOVA-MITEV, DDS

Pediatric Dentistry

Dr. Markova-Mitev earned her dental degree from UCSF School of Dentistry in 2014 and went on to earn her specialty of Pediatric Dentistry in 2017.

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

JAMSHID MUBARIK, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Mubarik earned his dental degree from an International College in 2021. He currently practices at Sacramento Community Clinic in Sacramento.

AMIR NOJOURI, DDS

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. Nojoumi earned his dental degree from Roseman University of Health Sciences in 2016 and went on to earn his specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at University California in 2024. He currently practices at Sierra Foothills Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Auburn.

SHON TYLER, DDS

General Practice

Dr. Tyler earned his dental degree from Howard University College of Dentistry in 2023. He currently practices at Monica Crooks, DDS office in Sacramento.

KEITH WHITE, DDS

General Practice

Dr. White earned his dental degree from University of Texas in 1984. He currently practices at Madison Square Dental Care in Citrus Heights.

Congratulations to Our New Retired Members!

Mark Douglas, DDS
Jayanth Kumar, DDS
Mai-Ly Ramirez, DDS

Upcoming DUES NOTICE

2025 Dues invoices will be sent via email to all members in early December

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!

In Memoriam

Richard Fife, DDS

Dr. Richard Fife passed away in July 2024. He graduated from Dental School in 1965 from UOP Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. Dr. Fife became a SDDS member in 1965 and was an active member for 59 years.

M. Franklin Godfrey, DDS

Dr. M. Franklin Godfrey, JR passed away in July 2024. He graduated from Loma Linda University in 1962. Dr. Godfrey became a SDDS member in 1963 and continued to be an active member for 61 years.

Leslie McIntyre, DDS

Dr. Leslie McIntyre passed away July 22, 2024. He graduated from UCSF School of Dentistry in 1969. He then joined SDDS in 1969 and continued to be a member for 55 years. Dr. McIntyre opened a dental practice in Fair Oaks where he practiced for over 20 years.

We're Blowing your horn!



Congratulations to...

Dr. Ramsen Warda and Family on their newest addition, Noa Gee Warda. Baby Noa was born July 2, 2024 **(1)**

Dr. Kayla Keppler and Dr. Lance Metsger on their marriage on August 31, 2024. **(2)**

Dr. Dan Haberman and Cathy Levering for both having sons as Broadcasters for Big 10 and Fox College Day Football Pictured to the right, Guy Haberman and Jeff Levering. **(3)**

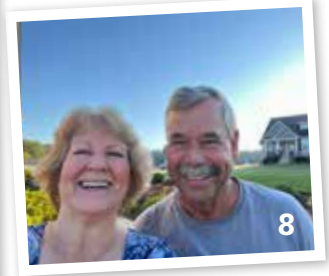
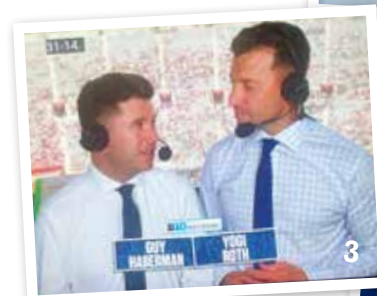
Drs. Karisa Yamamoto and Michael Nguyen on their marriage. They met in dental school at UCSF, married in Santa Barbara on August 10, 2024 and honeymooned in Italy on the Amalfi Coast and Puglia region. They both love boats. **(4)**

Dr. Paul Dewhirst on turning 93 years old. He and his wife have been married for 70 years. He's a proud USC grad, along with 16 of his family members! **(5)**

Dr. Wai Chan for being sworn in as the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees, California Northstate University. Pictured with CNU President Dr. Alvin Cheung and Immediate Past Chairman of the Board Dr. Shelton Duruisseau. **(6)**

Dr. Margaret Delmore for being appointed the new Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of California Northstate University. Pictured with Dr. Wai Chan. **(7)**

Dr. Nancy Archibald and husband, Steve Irwin for surviving Hurricane Helene. Over 9" of rain and 60-70mph winds. Thankfully they had a generator, so they didn't lose power. **(8)**



Vendor Member SPOTLIGHT

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NEW



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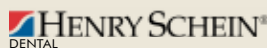
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Job Bank

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.

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 Michael Miyasaki, DDS • Sacramento • PT • GP
 Steve Kim, DDS • Carmichael • PT • GP
 Siamak Okhovat, DDS • Roseville • PT/FT • GP
 Anh Phan, DMD • Citrus Heights • PT • GP
 Peter Kim, DDS • Sacramento • PT • General
 Mark Phipps, DDS • Auburn • FT • General
 Monica Tavallaei, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP/PEDO
 Sabrina Jang, DDS • Sacramento • PT/FT • GP
 Denise Mar, DDS • Sacramento • PT • GP
 Nina Tecson, DDS • San Andreas, Sonora and Mariposa • FT/PT • GP
 Sean Khodai, DMD • Roseville • 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

Shahryar Khodai, DDS • Sacramento/Roseville • PT • GP
 Anthony Zapanta, DDS • Roseville/Sac • PT • GP
 Hayley Mathie, DDS • FT • GP
 Kaitlyn Liu, DDS • PT • GP

The Nugget Awarded Again!

We are excited to announce that *the Nugget* has been selected by the International College of Dentists to receive an award!

Special Citation Award May/June 2023 *Nugget*

Wellness Corner Article

Article Author: Dr. Karisa Yamamoto

The Special Citation Award is presented to the editor of a publication that demonstrates an unusual concept, presentation or other distinctive quality.



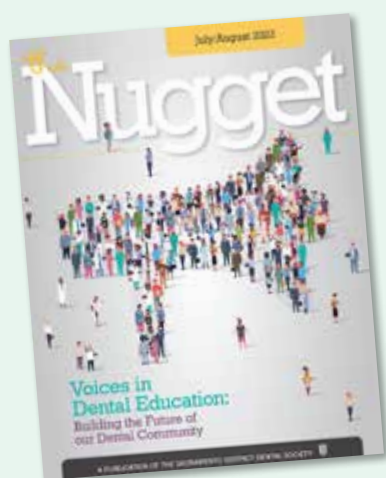
Previous Awards from the International College of Dentists (ICD)

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*
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, *unusual concept*
2016 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*
2015 • Special Citation Award, *unusual concept*
2014 • Outstanding Cover, *honorable mention*
2014 • Golden Pen, *honorable mention*
2013 • Outstanding Cover
2012 • Overall Newsletter



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Nugget issues online



Are You Interested in Joining the *Nugget* Editorial Committee?

We're always on the lookout for fresh ideas and new members to help curate future issues of *the Nugget*. You don't have to be a writer to be on the committee. We met twice a year and would love to have you join us, just complete the enclosed form and we'll invite you to the next meeting.

Classified Ads

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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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

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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

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Endodontic Equipment For Sale: Seldom used – Seiler Microscope, Kerr Endo Motor with Handpiece and Elements Obturation Unit with Pluggers. If interested contact kartrag@gmail.com. 11-12/24c

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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 11/8)	REGULAR (on/before 1/22)	LATE (begins 1/23)
INCLUDES FOOD!			
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Dentists (ADA Members) — ONE DAY ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> Friday ONLY	\$375	\$400	\$450
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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

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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.

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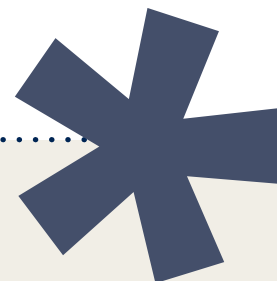
Attendees agree that if you register for the convention at the member price and your membership is not renewed by the date of the convention, you will be required to pay the balance for the non-member rate. To ensure you retain the member pricing, please make sure to renew your membership before February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

Please make checks payable to Sacramento District Dental Society (SDDS)
2035 Hurley Way, Ste 200 • Sacramento, CA 95825 • 916.446.1227 ph • 916.447.3818 fx • www.sdds.org

www.sdds.org • November/December 2024 | 43

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SDDS CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NOVEMBER

- 1** Continuing Education Course
Pearls in Our Backyard
SDDS Member Speakers
Friday • 9:30am–3:00pm
SDDS Classroom • 6 CEU, Core
- 8** CPR BLS Renewal
CPR – AHA BLS Blended Learning
Skills Testing, 3 Time Sessions
Friday • 8–8:45am, 9–9:45am,
10–10:45am
SDDS Classroom • 3 CEU, Core
- 12** General Membership Meeting
Dental Implants: Proceed with Caution!
Tamir Wardany, DDS, DABOI
Tuesday 5:45–9pm Social,
Dinner and Program
Hilton Sacramento Arden West
3 CEU, Core
- 14** Continuing Education Course
Ask Me Anything
Surprise Speakers
Thursday • 6:30–8:30pm
SDDS Classroom • No CEU

For more calendar info and to sign up
for courses online, visit: www.sdds.org

DECEMBER

- 6** Holiday Party
Del Paso Country Club / 6–10pm
- 10** Webinar
Harassment Prevention for
Employees and Supervisors
California Employers Association (CEA) - VM
Tuesday • Webinar
11am–12pm • Employees • 1 CEU, Core
11am–1pm • Supervisors • 2 CEU, Core



FEBRUARY 27-28, 2025 - REGISTER TODAY
The 44th Annual MidWinter Convention & Expo

Upcoming GENERAL MEETINGS

NOV
12

Dental Implants: Proceed with Caution!

Tuesday • 3 CEU, Core • \$89 early price
Presented by Tamir Wardany, DDS, DABOI

This lecture will focus on lending helpful treatment planning and procedural considerations toward decreasing the incidence of early implant complications and failures. With implant failures on the rise in the dental field, it is crucial to "read the caution signs," to avoid complications and to ultimately achieve predictable outcomes.

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

JAN
14

15 on 15

Tuesday • 3 CEU, Core • \$89 early price
Presented by Amanda Chen, DDS; Jeffrey Delgadillo, DDS; Mohd Khalaf, 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

Mohd Khalaf, DDS

When Tooth Pain Is a Medical Condition

Estella Kim, DDS

Integrating In-office Sedation and General Anesthesia

Richard Knight, DDS, MS

The Basics of Frenectomies in Children