

Checkup



WEST COAST
DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE
AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

Volume 50 • Issue 1 • Spring 2020

Mission: *Helping Members Succeed*

Culture: *The Reliable Resource for Dentists*

Values: *Service, Commitment, Integrity and Excellence*

**SUMMER MEETING
BROCHURE INSIDE!**

President's Message



Hello WCDDA Members,

It has been a great start to 2020. Productive, hard work within the affiliates continues throughout the West Coast. January's House of Delegates meeting was engaging and informative, resulting in the advancement of the FDA's goals. Shortly thereafter, eleven West Coast members visited Kentucky's Bourbon Trail for lighthearted fun and socializing!

March exploded with restrictions and concerns regarding the Coronavirus. Please use this as an opportunity to learn and to improve business policies.

The standard PPE and disinfection used in dentistry is 100% effective against stronger virus families (than Coronavirus). Please add training and diligence on these principles to combat the virus effectively.

Remember our obligation as health care providers in decreasing cross contaminants: wash your hands thoroughly, use sanitizer, cover your cough with your arm, wipe surfaces at home and in the car with Lysol, decrease crowding in your office, allow patients to cancel and staff to self-isolate. Good luck to all with this pandemic and changing workplace.

Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the WCDDA. We will persevere through these times! 🍷


Craig Oldham, DMD
President

*Dental friends and family
enjoying the Kentucky
Bourbon Trail. Join us
next year for a ski trip to
Salt Lake City, Utah!*



*Pictured on the cover:
Human Papillomavirus-Summer Meeting Topic*

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2020 Annual Meeting Highlights

To view more meeting photos, visit [facebook.com/wcdda](https://www.facebook.com/wcdda) or <https://wcddaphotoalbums.shutterfly.com/>



Dr. Oscar Menendez (left) and Dr. Chris Bulnes (right) presented with the Kintsugi Awards during the WCDDA President's Reception.



HCC Dental student Angela Hinkle presenting her table clinic demonstration during the Annual Meeting.



WCDDA Past Presidents: (l-r) Drs. Larry Morgan, Fred Grassin, Natalie Carr-Bustillo, JP, Sam Desai, Terry Buckenheimer, Hugh Wunderlich, Oscar Menendez and Bob Hart.



WCDDA Annual Meeting attendees actively participating in Amy Kirsch's lecture.



Dr. Steve Krist was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his service to organized dentistry and the dental profession.



Dr. Becky Warnken was awarded with the Dr. Dan Bertoch Leadership Award for her initiative.



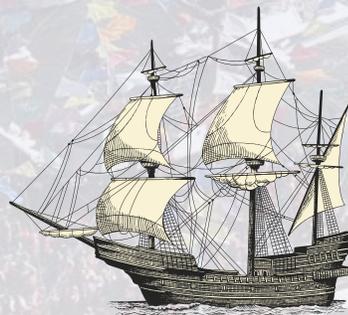
Central District Member, Dr. Bert Hughes proud of his Apple TV from the Annual Meeting WCDDA Fund raffle.

WCDDA is hosting its 2021 Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Gasparilla Parade!

Featuring: Dr. Michael Fling, presenting on *Contemporary Preps, Digital Impressions...*
 Dr. Rhonda Savage, presenting on *Accountability=Energized Team & Satisfied...*
Annual Meeting, January 29, 2021
CAMLS, Tampa

WCDDA Gasparilla Private Parade Tent
 Saturday, January 30th
 (Private tent includes: food, open bar and private restrooms)

Visit wcidental.org to purchase your tickets!



This is a fantastic opportunity for you to participate in a unique event with dental family, friends and parade goers. WCDDA Members \$175/ticket max 4 per member; Non-Members Dentist \$225/ticket, max 4 per non-member.

Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla hosts a parade that begins at 2 p.m. at Bay to Bay and Bayshore in South Tampa. The 4.5 mile Gasparilla Parade of the Pirates, which has been presented by Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla annually since 1904, winds its way into downtown Tampa, featuring 103 floats, 3 marching bands and over 50 participating social organizations (krewes).

Dentists' Day on the Hill

TESTIMONIALS:



"After having a Florida dental license for 30 years, I finally attended my first Dentists Day on the Hill event. It was very interesting to see political processes at work and to understand in more detail, the issues that are affecting the dental profession. I would recommend it to other doctors. I was never interested in politics in general, but I now have a greater appreciation for it.

The day itself was like running a race from office to office trying to catch the legislators in order to be heard. Towards the end of the day we all sat in on the children and families committee meeting, and that was an eye-opening experience. We listened to the different bill proposals and presentations from different lobbyist's and individuals who are trying to influence the senators to vote in their favor. As I sat and watched the legislators vote on the different bills, I got a better sense of just how important our presence is there. I also got to see how hard the FDA administrators and lobbyist's work to protect our profession. At the committee meeting one of the senators asked all the dentists to stand. We represented over half of the room and it was powerful!

It is important if we want to protect our profession, for dentists to commit to becoming active! I think it's like anything; we all do it when we're ready, but it is important that eventually we all step up and do our part."

Dr. Nancy Montgomery, St. Petersburg

Dr. Dan Bertoch Dentists' Day on the Hill Grant Recipient

"Early February, a handful of dentists, both young and practiced, dental students, and several spouses travelled to Tallahassee to lobby for our profession. We traded in our scrubs for business casual attire and left the loupes at home. Entering the Florida State Capitol was slightly different than walking into a dental office on a [Tuesday] morning. I felt a sense of awe and inspiration walking into the rotunda, shoes clinking on the marble floors, and countless groups of people from various organizations hustling to their next meeting with senators and representatives.

This year was particularly important for our profession. We were primarily focusing on shutting down SB 152, which promotes dental therapy legislation in Florida. This bill would lower the standard of care by introducing a new licensed dental provider, known as a "dental therapist". A dental therapist would undergo a 3-year training program right out of high school, and then be authorized to perform irreversible procedures such as the administration of local anesthesia, extractions, restorations, and partial root canals.

We urged members of the Legislature to support the Dental Student Loan Repayment Program, and to allocate funds for the Donated Dental Services program. Supporting the Student Loan Repayment Program would provide funding to place dental graduates in underserved areas to work as full-time Medicaid providers, during which time they would receive \$50,000 toward their dental school loans each year for a maximum of 5 years. Funding for the Donated Dental Services Program would allow for two full-time coordinators to be employed and would cover operational expenses and allows dentists and dental labs to donate free dental care to those who cannot afford care, or who are disabled, elderly, or medically compromised.

Continued on page 3

Now what are a bunch of dentists with light up toothbrush name tags doing on Capitol Hill? Throughout the day we met with a several Senators and Representatives from across the state, during which time we shared why certain pieces of legislation matter to us and how they affect our profession. Who would know better than the professional who deals with the outcome of these matters daily? That was our purpose on the hill. Many of us spoke our minds regarding matters that mean the most to us. Current dental students expressed their concern with the high amounts of student loan debt most young dentists face upon graduation. The fact that legislators took the time out of their busy schedules to meet with us shows that they indeed care about the future of our profession.

One of my favorite moments from DDOH happened during a Senate Committee Meeting. The committee was voting on the Dental Therapist legislature. One of the legislators asked all the dentists in the room to stand up. 150 dentists stood up! It was a sight to see. We may have been the reason why this bill was temporarily postponed that day.

Although we weren't relieving a patient from pain by initiating a root canal or delivering an anterior crown case, we were making a significant impact on our profession for the days and years to come. The most important thing we can do is voice our concerns and express the importance of organized dentistry because there is no better way to preserve and protect our wonderful profession!"

Dr. Alexis Diaczynsky, Naples

Dr. Dan Bertoch Dentists' Day on the Hill Grant Recipient

Affiliate Corner

The Pinellas County Dental Association (PCDA) was awarded with the WCDDA Affiliate of the Year Award. PCDA President-Elect, Dr. Kristie Johnson accepted the award on behalf of PCDA.



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Southeast Florida



Marcie Smith, CFP
West Coast



Michael Connor
Central Florida



Ricardo D'Avila
Miami - Dade, FL



Mary Ann Serkin
Northeast, FL



Ron Rubenstein
Practice Sales



Dr. Marshall Berger
Broward County



Dr. Jack Saxonhouse
Palm Beach County



Dr. Tony Hodge
Treasure Coast



Dr. Cariton Schwartz
Northwest, FL



Dr. Jerry Pyser
Statewide
Representation



Dr. Janice Luke
Palm Beach / Broward County



Melanie Aranda
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Member Benefits, Tools

ADA" Find a Dentist" Feature: The online tool, mouthhealthy.org promotes your practice by allowing you to keep your profile up to date and making it easy for potential patients to locate your practice.

FDA Services: Provides a wide range of insurance at affordable rates. Individual/ Group Health, Professional Liability, Term Life, Workers Compensation, Disability, Malpractice, Auto and Pension plans are available. Contact Rick D'Angelo at (813) 475-6948 or rick.dangelo@fdaservices.com.

The Dentist Supply Company (TDSC): Offers members a new way to shop for dental supplies. TDSC is a member dentist led organization built to provide consistent, competitive pricing on dental supplies to members of organized dentistry regardless of practice size. Visit fdaservices.com/tdsc.

ADA Credentialing: Spend more time with patients and less time on cumbersome, redundant paperwork. Think like a dentist and run your office like an entrepreneur with ADA's Credentialing Service. Visit ada.org/credentialing.

ADA/FDA/WCDDA Websites: Information right at your fingertips, visit ada.org, floridadental.org and wcdental.org to access important information on laws, rules, and continuing education and employment opportunities.. Visit ADA's New Dentist Blog, newdentistblog.ada.org and FDA's Beyond the Bite Blog, <https://blog.floridadental.org/>.

CE Programs/Annual Meetings/ Affiliate Meetings: Each association hosts annual meetings and monthly meetings that provide high quality continuing education to members and their staff at a significantly reduced rate. WCDDA's Annual Winter and Summer Meetings, WCDDA Affiliate Meetings, Florida Dental Convention (FDC) and the ADA's Annual Session.

THIRD-PARTY PAYER CONCERNS:

Working closely with the various insurance plans, Medicaid managed-care plans, the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), Department of Health, Board of Dentistry and other state and federal agencies, the FDA Director of Third-Party Payer and Professional Affairs addresses issues relating to third-party payers such as: Insurance and Medicaid managed-care plan reimbursement, contracting with commercial insurance and Medicaid managed-care plans, filing complaints with the Office of Insurance Regulation and/or the AHCA, general third-party payer questions, and regulatory issues with the Board of Dentistry. For additional information, contact Casey Stoutamire, Director of Third-Party Payer & Professional Affairs at (800) 877-9922 or cstoutamire@floridadental.org.

YOU OFTEN CAN AVOID COSTLY LEGAL FEES and malpractice suits by using this free service available only to members. Peer Review doesn't always have to be started by a disgruntled patient. A frustrated dentist who feels that everything has been done to satisfy the patient, with no success, also can recommend Peer Review. This is a service provided by colleagues to other members to help mediate problems, and most of the time avoid costly and emotionally draining litigation or Board of Dentistry complaints.

FDAPAC AND ADPAC

Dentistry's state and federal political action committees ensure the association has a place at the table when lawmakers are debating legislation that affects dentistry. The FDA Political Action Committee (FDAPAC) Board of Directors and American Dental Political Action Committee (ADPAC) work hard to identify and support dental-friendly candidates. To stay informed, visit ada.org/advocacy.aspx and <https://www.floridadental.org/>.

FLUORIDATION

The FDA is a leading advocate for fluoridation and many times must act fast when the removal of fluoride is threatened. As Florida's advocate for oral health, the FDA helps educate community leaders on the benefits of fluoridation and provides expert testimony before commission meetings, when needed. The FDA works with state agencies and the ADA to promote fluoridation. To increase education efforts and promote fluoridation, the FDA created a fluoridation specific website, floridafluoridation.org

MANAGED-CARE HANDBOOK

You Want Me to Sign What? A Florida Dentist's Handbook on Managed-care Contracts is a comprehensive reference including information on reimbursement, risk, negotiating, and rights and duties of both parties. Contact the WCDDA office to obtain your copy, 813.654.2500.

ADA CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

This interactive web resource offers members relevant and effective solutions you can use every day: managing your career, expanding your knowledge and balancing your life. Visit <https://success.ada.org/en>.

- Marketing Strategies for Your Practice - <https://bit.ly/2BT6HOc>

and Many Resources

- Running a successful dental practice presents new challenges every day. The ADA's Guidelines for Practice Success™ (GPS™) delivers the resources you need to achieve your practice goals. <https://success.ada.org/en/practice-management/guidelines-for-practice-success>
- Survey of Dental Fees, <https://success.ada.org/en/practice-management/finances/survey-of-dental-fees>

FDA CAREER CENTER gives dentists and dental employers a better way to find each other and make that perfect match. Visit, floridadental.org/member-center/fda-career-center.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: This FDA program was developed as a resource to help dental students gain a practical, professional perspective of dentistry from established member dentists. To volunteer, complete and submit a profile by visiting <http://careers.floridadental.org/ementor/>. For additional information or if at any time a change in the mentor/protégé relationship is needed, please contact Kerry Gómez-Ríos at membership@floridadental.org.

Top 10 Members-Only Online Resources: Marketing Tool-Kit, Legal Resources, Hurricane Readiness, and more! <https://www.floridadental.org/member-center/member-resources>

Free Online CE: Members receive up to 10 hours of FREE online CE courses at floridadental.org.

CE Broker Tracking: Continuing education attendance records are uploaded into CEbroker.com for each member who attends a meeting at the FDA, WCDDA and affiliate levels.

WCDDA Webinars: Free webinars provided by the WCDDA. wcdental.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AND HOW TO JOIN, CALL 800.260.5277 OR VISIT, floridadental.org/member-center/benefits OR wcdental.org.



We are pleased to announce...

Mark L. McClendon, D.D.S.
has sold his practice in
Arcadia, Florida

William J. Holth, D.D.S.
has sold his practice in
Sebring, Florida

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New Members

The following dentists have recently joined or reinstated membership to the WCDDA, FDA and ADA! Congratulations and welcome!

Dr. Aneesha Amarnath, Naples
Dr. Dayron Baez, Largo
Dr. Matthew Benson, Cape Coral
Dr. Joshua Colvin, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Tracy Couillard, Naples
Dr. Michael DeMarsh, Tampa
Dr. Riham Diasti, Tampa
Dr. Denise Gay, Naples
Dr. Monica Ghattas, Palm Harbor
Dr. Samantha Graffeo- Gardner, Naples
Dr. Janel Hanna, Sarasota
Dr. Anna Hill-Moses, Tampa
Dr. Nicholas Hoepfner, Tampa
Dr. Matthew Keller, Bonita Springs
Dr. Mona Khalaj, Tampa
Dr. Thao Trang Latham, Bonita Springs
Dr. Jason Latham, Fort Myers
Dr. Alex Lopez, Naples
Dr. Sean Matheny, Port Charlotte
Dr. Stephanie Mazariegos, Tampa
Dr. Caitlin McLaughlin-Raiger, Naples
Dr. Thao Nguyen, Bradenton
Dr. Cynthia Odukomaiya, Tampa
Dr. Sneha Patel, Tampa
Dr. Belinda Phan, Fort Myers
Dr. Austin Sampson, Clearwater
Dr. James Sorrento, Apollo Beach
Dr. Ai Streacker, Sarasota
Dr. Jonathan Tanner, Clearwater
Dr. Stephanie Zastrow, Bradenton



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In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our colleagues.

Lloyd Branch, DDS of St. Petersburg – August 27, 2019
Antonio Castro, DDS of Lutz – December 1, 2019
Tiffany Chen, DDS of Winter Haven – December 31, 2019
Timothy Conway, DMD of Palmetto – July 11, 2019
John Flower, DDS of Englewood – February 7, 2020
Brad Gosen, DDS of Brooksville – July 1, 2019
L. Edward Linebaugh, DDS of Tampa – December 6, 2019
Glen Loudermilk, DDS of Holmes Beach – August 10, 2018
Samuel Miller, DDS of Palmetto – December 27, 2019
Thomas Siper, DDS of Tarpon Springs – January 3, 2020
Norman Steuer, DDS of Clearwater – March 1, 2020
William Von Sick, DMD of New Port Richey – December 20, 2019

A contribution has been made to the West Coast Fund in their memory. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please make your check payable to the Florida Dental Health Foundation, indicate WCDDA Fund in the memo. Mail: Florida Dental Association, Attn: Foundation, 545 John Knox Road, Suite 200, Tallahassee, Florida 32303.

Members Showing Commitment

Congratulations to the following members for their continued dedication to the WCDDA! The year 2020 marks their major milestone in supporting organized dentistry.

LONGEST TENURE - 76 YEARS
Dr. Clare F. McCreary, Largo

60 Year

Dr. Richard Bolvin, South Pasadena
Dr. Felix Cannella, Tampa
Dr. Vincent Caranante, Indian Shores
Dr. George Carver, Dade City

Dr. Joe Dunlap, Clearwater
Dr. Daniel Endrizal, Fort Myers
Dr. Harold Goodis, Bradenton
Dr. Gerald Laboda, Fort Myers

Dr. Ronald Manus, South Pasadena
Dr. Alfred Phillips, Winchester VA
Dr. George Safirstein, Clearwater
Dr. Joe Wright, Bradenton

Dr. Gresham Yeager, Cary NC

Life

Dr. Charles Chadwick, Pompano Beach
Dr. Joel Madas, Venice
Dr. Joseph Carbone, Sarasota
Dr. David Mc Lane, Inverness
Dr. Jerold Geisenheimer, Fort Myers
Dr. John Fady, Indian Rocks Beach
Dr. Rick Papineau, Largo
Dr. Alan Kaplon, Kissimmee
Dr. Louis Brown, Tampa
Dr. Timothy Hogan, Fort Myers
Dr. Richard Navin, Bonita Springs
Dr. Reinaldo Gonzalez-Ramos, San Juan PR
Dr. Daria Friel, Fort Myers Beach
Dr. Richard Quealy, Bradenton
Dr. Paul Bivens, Safety Harbor
Dr. Patrick Curry, Bradenton
Dr. Stephen Komara, Dunedin
Dr. Gery Benza, Naples
Dr. Theodosios Frantzis, Tarpon Springs
Dr. Scott McClure, Bradenton
Dr. David Monier, Inverness
Dr. Julio Maya, Temple Terrace
Dr. Gary Snyder, Bedford VA
Dr. Anthony Denavarra, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Brian Allen, Osprey
Dr. John Corsten, Estero
Dr. William Sterrett, Palm Harbor
Dr. George Miller, Lakewood Ranch
Dr. Mitchell Lasoff, Fort Myers
Dr. Dean Laukhuf, Bradenton

Dr. Randy Jones, Lakeland
Dr. Philip Maiese, Longboat Key
Dr. Kathleen DiVito, Largo
Dr. Gary Sellers, Las Cruces NM
Dr. Leslie Brown, Seminole
Dr. William Wiltison, Largo
Dr. Carl Magyar, Crystal River
Dr. Ronald Myers, Tampa
Dr. Joseph Bender, Port Charlotte
Dr. Nedra Preston, Lexington KY
Dr. Angela Rasmussen, Tampa
Dr. Priscilla Coe, Naples
Dr. Theodore Grellner, Tampa
Dr. Richard Carpenter, Hudson
Dr. James Carelli, Hernando
Dr. Richard Fox, Bonita Springs
Dr. Gary Gordon, Naples
Dr. Dennis Jones, Port Charlotte
Dr. Mark Kinard, Bonita Springs
Dr. Ronald Trapp, Fort Myers
Dr. Sue Hamilton, Hayward WI
Dr. Stephen Obrochta, Saint Petersburg
Dr. John Haley, Largo
Dr. Douglas Jungman, Bradenton
Dr. Gary Swanson, Fort Myers
Dr. Steven Krouse, Osprey
Dr. Jay Krasne, Tampa
Dr. Nicholas Colmenares, Tampa
Dr. Mukesh Kapadia, Tampa
Dr. Harvey Valdez, Plant City

Dr. Oscar Menendez, Palm Harbor
Dr. J. Edward Carroll, Lakeland
Dr. Ellen Shemancik, Fort Myers
Dr. James Zientek, Sheboygan WI
Dr. Sandra Cahill, Tampa
Dr. Michael Fetty, Osprey
Dr. Leo Cullinan, Naples
Dr. Kay O'Leary, Port Charlotte
Dr. Frank Coscia, Santa Rosa CA
Dr. Gregg McNeal, Cape Coral
Dr. Brian Beirl, Seminole
Dr. Paul Miller, New Port Richey
Dr. Donald Klag, Dunedin
Dr. James Hosner, Fort Myers
Dr. Bradley Bartel, Winter Haven
Dr. Richard Hirsch, Odessa
Dr. John Penny, St. Pete Beach
Dr. Jack Hazan, Lakewood Ranch
Dr. Ollie Rollings, Lagrange GA
Dr. Ronnie Miller, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Thomas Seifert, Avon Park
Dr. Stephen Hattton, Breckenridge CO
Dr. E. Easter, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Jeffrey Janoff, Venice
Dr. Carl Friedman, Ruskin
Dr. Howard Rosov, Arnold MD
Dr. C. Tully, North Augusta SC
Dr. Orlando Hudson, Redstone CO
Dr. Ernest Traina, Temple Terrace
Dr. Curtis Curington, Saint Leo

Dr. Daniel Miller, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Robert Hearn, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Carl Neff, Clearwater
Dr. Donald Cummings, Bradenton
Dr. Thomas Wilson, Lakeland
Dr. William Baker, Tampa
Dr. David Clary, Naples
Dr. Scott Bryington, Zephyrhills
Dr. Matthew Nieber, Saint Petersburg
Dr. David Alfano, Tampa
Dr. Richard Devita, Sarasota
Dr. Michael Stewart, Palm Harbor
Dr. Jack Corn, Sarasota
Dr. Richard Gelder, Port Charlotte
Dr. Gilbert Sarabia, New Port Richey
Dr. Steven Boe, Naples
Dr. Angel Lopez, Tampa
Dr. I. Warren Hersch, Homosassa
Dr. L. Berry, Largo
Dr. Eva Ackley, New Port Richey
Dr. Eugene Kulaga Sarasota
Dr. Mark Mellman, Tampa
Dr. Gregory Hill, Fort Myers
Dr. Craig Wood, Ft Myers
Dr. John Singer, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Farah Poustchi Amin, Clearwater Bch.
Dr. Kirpal Parmar, Naples

50 Year

Dr. John Adams, Homosassa
Dr. Paul Anderson, Pine Mountain GA
Dr. Wayne Barnhisel, Vidalia GA
Dr. Larry Brooks, Tampa
Dr. William Cooper, Fort Myers

Dr. L. De Jongh, Palmetto
Dr. Chester Dissinger, Lakeland
Dr. William Dunk, Gainesville
Dr. Steven Feldman, Venice
Dr. Paul Giorgetti, Venice

Dr. Gary Godley, Naples
Dr. Frederick Hemerick, Belleair Bluffs
Dr. Roger Koslen, Naples
Dr. Myles Levitt, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Frank Lodato, Tampa

Dr. William Mathews, Bradenton
Dr. Barbara Morgan, Odessa
Dr. T. Pulliam, Tampa
Dr. Michael Reynolds, Saint Petersburg
Dr. William Strupp, Clearwater

35 Year

Dr. Rodney Anthony, Clearwater
Dr. L. Berry, Largo
Dr. Dewey Bracy, Saint Petersburg
Dr. J. Edward Carroll, Lakeland
Dr. Louis Cerillo, Tampa
Dr. John Cherry, Brandon
Dr. Michael Childers, Bradenton
Dr. Jack Corn, Sarasota
Dr. James Crandall, Fort Myers
Dr. Leo Cullinan, Naples
Dr. Timothy Davis, Naples
Dr. Robert Davis, Sarasota
Dr. Randall Diez, Tampa
Dr. Robert Evans, Naples
Dr. John Ferullo, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Tama Franko, Saint Petersburg

Dr. Jay Froug, Bradenton
Dr. Gregory Gauthier, Tampa
Dr. James Gibney, Spring Hill
Dr. Paul Guidi, Clearwater
Dr. Sharon Gunsett, Fort Myers
Dr. John Hlis, Lutz
Dr. Warren Hoffman, Sarasota
Dr. Rodney Holcombe, Tampa
Dr. Barry Hothersall, Sarasota
Dr. Steven Jakubaitis, Punta Gorda
Dr. Oivind Jensen, Naples
Dr. Alex Johnson, Palm Harbor
Dr. Nicholas Kavouklis, Tampa
Dr. Kevin Kiley, Palm Harbor
Dr. Gregory Langston, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Chander Malik, Sarasota

Dr. Charles Martin, Tampa
Dr. Luis Martinez, Saint Petersburg
Dr. Linda May, Bartow
Dr. Silas McAninch, Sarasota
Dr. Timothy Muscaro, Tampa
Dr. Timothy Palmer, Venice
Dr. Dwight Pate, Auburndale
Dr. Mark Piper, Saint Petersburg
Dr. James Pitts, Palm Harbor
Dr. Guillermo Porro, Tampa
Dr. Susan Puhr, Safety Harbor
Dr. Alan Rembos, Naples
Dr. Paul Rodeghero, Clearwater
Dr. Kenneth Rogers, Winter Haven
Dr. Kenneth Schweizer, Sarasota
Dr. Gregory Scott, Lakeland

Dr. Albert Smiley, Tampa
Dr. Kevin Snyder, Crystal River
Dr. Gary Steen, Tampa
Dr. Carol Stevens, Port Charlotte
Dr. Mark Streater, Fort Myers
Dr. Mark Szarejko, Palm Harbor
Dr. John Thee, South Pasadena
Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, Bradenton
Dr. Angella Tomlinson, Tampa
Dr. Eric Turke, Tampa
Dr. Kurt Weber, Seffner
Dr. David Willey, Sebring
Dr. Robert Williams, Saint Petersburg

25 Year

Dr. Patrick Abbey, Tampa
Dr. Scott Arnold, Brandon
Dr. John Bindeman, Clearwater
Dr. Edson Bustamante, Tampa
Dr. Richard Chumbler, North Fort Myers
Dr. Amy Creech-Gionis, Tampa

Dr. Greg Engelman, Pinellas Park
Dr. Freshte Esfahanian, Tampa
Dr. John Eycleshimer, Winter Haven
Dr. Robert Fischer, Fort Myers
Dr. Raj Grove, Oldsmar
Dr. Ulises Guzman, Tampa

Dr. Paul Horton, Sebring
Dr. Patrick Johnson, Tampa
Dr. Carol Kirkwood, Tampa
Dr. Jose Matos, Tampa
Dr. David O'Sullivan, Naples
Dr. Robert Prisbe, Lakeland

Dr. Marta Rivera, Tampa
Dr. Juan Rodriguez, Naples
Dr. Robert Rollings, Cape Coral
Dr. Michael Sardzinski, Venice
Dr. Monica Scheurer, Sarasota
Dr. Tina Thomas, Sebring



Association Business - Official Calls

Official Calls

There will be a WCDDA Executive Cabinet meeting on May 8, 2020 at the central office in Brandon.



Dr. Rita Hurst

There will be a caucus of the West Coast District Dental Association's Delegation on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via conference call. There will be twelve sites throughout the West Coast district.

The West Coast District Dental Association will hold a breakfast caucus in conjunction with the Florida Dental Association's House of Delegates meeting Saturday, June 12-13, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. at the Gaylord Palms, Orlando.

Dr. Rita Hurst
WCDDA Secretary

*You're invited to attend
WCDDA's
Officer Installation*

*Saturday, August 8th
5:00 p.m.*

The Ritz-Carlton, Naples Beach Resort

*Event held in conjunction with the
West Coast District Dental Association's
2020 Summer Meeting.*

POSTPONED!

APRIL 24-25 JACKSONVILLE 2020
PREREGISTER AT FLA-MOM.ORG FLA-MOM

Mark Your Calendar 2020-2021

WCDDA Executive Cabinet Meeting, Brandon May 8, 2020

WCDDA Delegation Caucus, Various Sites June 2, 2020

FDA House of Delegates, Gaylord Palms (no FDC in June). . . June 12-13, 2020

WCDDA 33rd Summer Meeting, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. . Aug. 7-9, 2020

America's Dental Meeting & FDC, Orlando October 15-17, 2020

FDA House of Delegates, Tampa Marriott January 23, 2021

WCDDA 99th Annual Meeting, CAMLS Tampa Jan. 29, 2021

WCDDA Gasparilla Parade Private Tent, Tampa. Jan. 30, 2021

Florida Dental Convention, Orlando June 24-26, 2021

WCDDA 34th Summer Meeting, The Ritz-Carlton, Naples. . Aug. 6-8, 2021

America's Dental Meeting, Las Vegas October 11-15, 2021

Dentistry has changed over the years. Our commitment hasn't.



Transitions are hard.

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*- Dr. Freddie W.,
Customer Since 2004*



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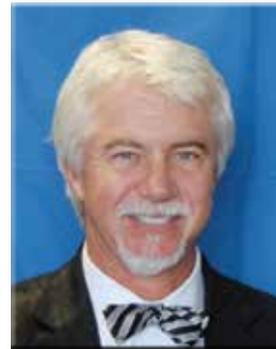
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HYPERTENSION AND ORAL HEALTH

Risks can be magnified while undergoing dental care

Reprinted with permission from the Arkansas Dental Association
Arkansas Dentistry Vol 89 # 1, Spring 2017,
Hypertension and Oral Health by Lindy Bollen, Jr, DDS, pp 30-31



Lindy Bollen, Jr. DDS

DR. LINDY BOLLEN, JR., DDS

Director, Office of Oral Health

Back in the days of dental school, we all learned how to use a sphygmomanometer and stethoscope to measure the blood pressure of all patients. This was an essential step in our process of checking our patients' readiness for any dental procedures. This is considered the standard of care. Heaven forbid we would ever ask for a starting check from an instructor without first providing this essential information. To omit this step would surely land us in a hot seat for negligence from the especially stern professors. Yet after entering private practice, do you or your staff still perform this simple and revealing exam of your patient's vital signs?

It is important to keep in mind that a significant number of your patients may have poorly controlled or undiagnosed hypertension. Patients sitting in your treatment chair with elevated blood pressure are at higher risk of experiencing a stroke or myocardial infarction. In this disease state there is additional stress placed on the ventricles, an increase in heart rate, and increase in oxygen demand that can all lead to cardiac compromise. Risk for such cardiovascular events is magnified by procedural stress, epinephrine exposure, and even the dreaded "white coat syndrome".

Hypertension, known as the silent killer, is on the rise in the United States. According to the 2011-2012 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

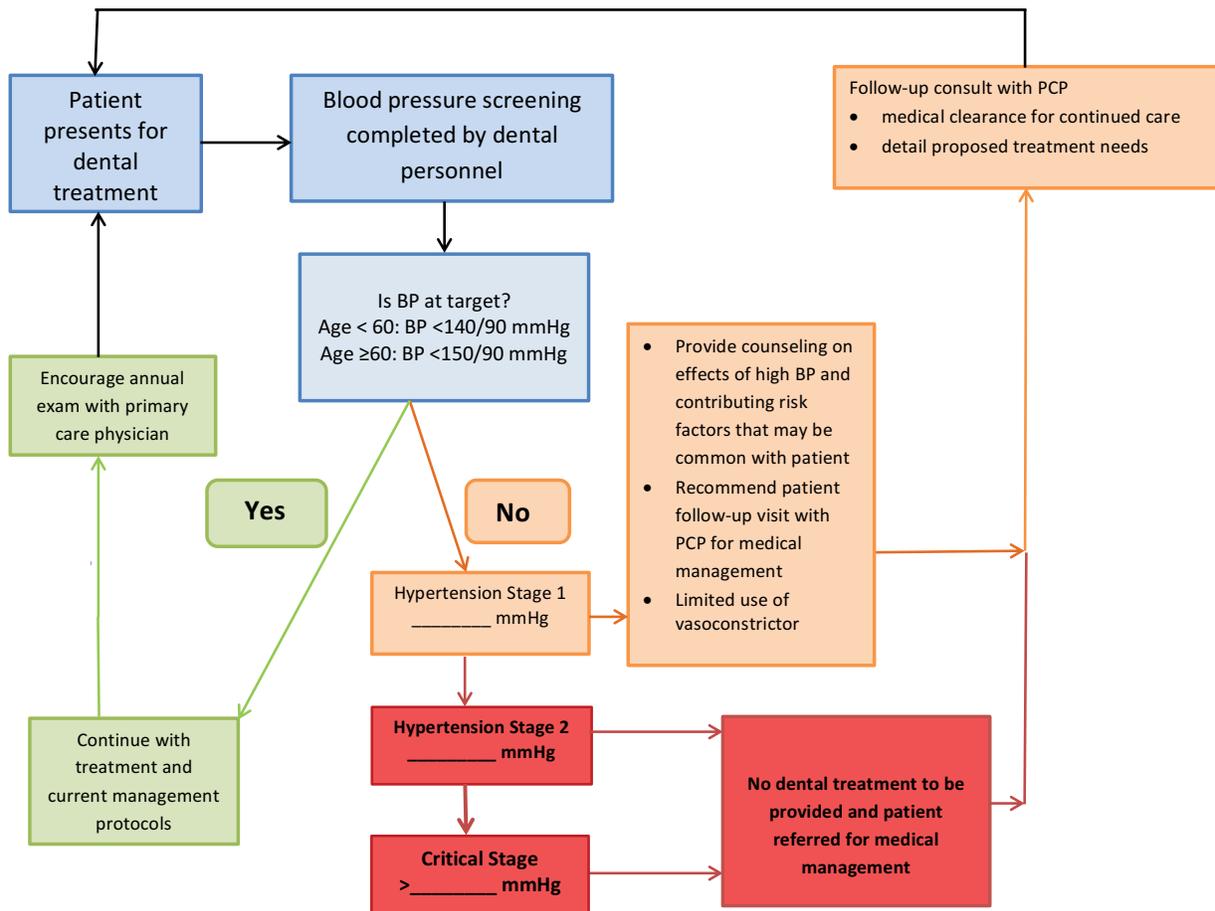
I would like to suggest the best course of action is to visit with your medical colleagues. Compare notes with them and develop your own protocol for hypertension that best fit your patient population.

(NHANES), 1 of 3 US adults has high blood pressure with nearly half (48%) that do not have their blood pressure under control! A closer look at this uncontrolled group revealed that one-third is not even taking their medications. It is not safe to assume all patients are in compliance with their medication protocols. Even if they list hypertensive medications on your health form, they may only take the medications when they "feel bad". At every visit there should be a review of medication to detect any changes as well as inquiring to the frequency of use. As a dentist, you have the opportunity to continue educating your patients about the need to follow doctor's orders to keep hypertension controlled.

So what values are we to consider when evaluating our patients? The Joint National Committee on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure defines hypertension as a systolic blood pressure greater than or equal to

140 mmHg or a diastolic blood pressure greater than or equal to 90 mmHg as recorded during two or more readings on two or more occasions. That may be true for national values, but here in Arkansas those types of readings could well be considered the "Southern norm." If we held to that standard and did not treat patients unless their BP was lower than this mark, nearly two-thirds of the patients recently treated at the last ArMOM event in Monticello would have been denied treatment. I would like to suggest the best course of action is to visit with your medical colleagues. Compare notes with them and develop your own protocol for hypertension that best fit your patient population. Set the values for what you will consider pre-hypertensive, Stage 1, and Stage 2 in a format for staff to reference (see example). When hypertension is detected in a patient you have protocols in place for treatment and/or referring to a primary care physician.

Management of Undiagnosed and Uncontrolled Hypertension



Patients deemed to be Stage 1 hypertensive, treatment may still progress with precautionary measures. This is an ideal time to discuss the effects of hypertension and recommend a follow up with their physician to determine the best course of action to control the problem. The use of local anesthesia with a vasoconstrictor is permissible and advised. However, the dosage should be kept to a minimum and not extend beyond 0.04mg of epinephrine. A single cartridge of lidocaine with 1:100,000 concentration of epinephrine contains 0.018 mg of epinephrine. Even though the half-life of epinephrine is short, it is best not to extend beyond 0.04 mg (two cartridges) without continuous monitoring of cardiac status.

Patients that are detected in Stage 2 hypertension should not have dental treatment as a safety precaution. Instead this is the time for referral to a primary care physician. Delaying your treatment

may also serve as a warning to the patient that this is a serious event and not to be taken lightly. Advising your patient that you will need medical clearance before proceeding with even the most routine services such as dental prophylaxis can serve as a subliminal 'wake up' message of urgency.

Dental care is one of the few medical services that a large proportion of the population utilizes for routine preventive services. This is a perfect opportunity to check your patients for signs of dental issues and to provide a simple screening check to determine the presence of hypertension. Patients that have controlled hypertension may require special attention due to side effects from medicine. Issues such as xerostomia are common with many of the hypertensive medications used today.

Many people with dry mouth may resort to lozenges/candy as a means to stimulate saliva but doing so increases

the incidence for dental decay. Gingival hyperplasia may result if the patient is taking calcium channel blockers. Based on the patient's medical history and oral examination, you may need to modify the frequency of preventive services three or four times a year in order to help these patients better maintain good oral hygiene.

There is an ongoing effort to develop a balanced health care delivery from all health professionals. As a dental profession, we are in a position to help guide our patients toward interceptive care should we discover a hypertensive patient. Early detection and treatment of high blood pressure results in better patient outcomes and may alert you, and the patient, to a very serious undiagnosed health issue. It is our professional responsibility to inform our patients of their hypertensive condition, to offer medical advice, and to provide referrals as indicated. **AD**

West Coast District Dental Association Annual Summer Meeting



August 7-9, 2020
The Ritz-Carlton, Naples

Annual Summer Meeting Program

THE RITZ-CARLTON, NAPLES

AUGUST 7-9, 2020

REGISTER ONLINE
at wcdental.org

Friday, August 7th

Cycling: No drop ride, all levels welcome 7:00 a.m.

Registration and Exhibits 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Backwater Fishing 7:30 a.m. - Noon
The Bayview Park Boat Ramp (arrive at boat ramp by 7:30 a.m.)

HPV & EBV Viruses are Causing an Epidemic of Cancerous
& Precancerous Lesions in the Oral Cavity
3 CE Credits 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Volleyball Tournament 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Bump, set, spike with your fellow teammates! Compile your
teams and come play with the WCDDA, right here at the Ritz.

Cigars and Cordials 9:00 p.m.
Come join fellow aficionados at our annual Cigars and Cordials event.
(Cigars and Cordials are at your own expense)

Saturday, August 8th

5k Fun Run (Free Event) 7:00 a.m.

Registration and Exhibits 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Clinical Features of Early Oral Cancers & Precancerous Lesions
3 CE Credits 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Golf Tournament at Tiburon 8:30 a.m.
Shotgun start. Fee includes: greens fees, cart, lunch & awards.

Family Fun - LIVE! 9:00 a.m.
Join WCDDA families and friends for a FUN, LIVE commercial
video competition. Complete details will be kept top secret until
the event starts. Tip: Video features You the star and the beautiful
venue! Lights, Camera, Action.

WCDDA Officer Installation 5:00 p.m.

Beer, Wine & Cheese Reception 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 9th

Cycling: No drop ride, all levels welcome 7:00 a.m.

Registration and Exhibits 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Potpourri of Oral Pathology
3 CE Credits 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location

The Ritz-Carlton, Naples is located at 280 Vanderbilt Beach Road,
Naples, FL 34108. Maps can be found online at
<http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/Naples/>.

Hotel Reservations & Meeting Registration

A reservation link will be provided once you have registered for the Summer Meeting, visit www.wcdental.org to register and receive the housing link. Limit 2 rooms per registrant, the West Coast District Dental Association room block rate is \$214.00 per night. Individuals not registered for the meeting will be charged the hotel rack rate instead of the group rate upon checkout. Registrants desiring more than two rooms may check back after May 31, 2020 at which time if there are still rooms remaining in the group room block, the additional rooms will be made available on a first come basis. CE fees after July 13th increase by \$20.00 per registrant. Pre-registered dentists receive a WCDDA amenity. Refund and Cancellation Policy: All requests for refunds or cancellations must be made in writing to the WCDDA prior to the pre-registration deadline of July 24, 2020. A cancellation/processing fee of 15% will be charged. No refunds will be given if cancellation is received after the pre-registration deadline. No refunds will be given on site. Questions concerning reservations should be addressed with The Ritz-Carlton, Naples (239) 598-3300. Questions concerning meeting registration should be addressed with the WCDDA office (813) 654-2500.

Leisure Reservations

For spa, golf or dinner within the hotel, pool and beach cabana reservations please call (239) 514-6001.

**Attention
Cyclists!**

No drop ride on Friday & Sunday.
Departing from The Ritz-Carlton at
7:00 a.m., returning prior to CE.
All levels welcome!

Support the WCDDA Fund

Make a donation to support the WCDDA Fund for your chance to win a variety of items that will be raffled throughout the meeting. A complete list of items will be featured in the onsite program. Raffle tickets start at \$5.00. You do not have to be present to win. **You may purchase tickets on the enclosed registration form or online.**

The WCDDA Fund supports local dental health education, access to care projects, careers in dentistry and disaster relief.

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WCDDA is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider.
ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, August 7th

HPV & EBV Viruses are Causing an Epidemic of Cancerous and Precancerous Lesions in the Oral Cavity

Dr. Donald Cohen

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 3 CEUs

This series of seminars will present a potpourri of interesting case studies in oral and maxillofacial pathology covering a variety of conditions encountered in general and specialty dental practices. The presenter will utilize an audience response system called Poll Everywhere, which will enable participants to use their cell phones to anonymously respond and interact with the presenter. In addition, the lecture will be customized by the audience responses and questions to better facilitate learning. Emphasis will be placed on lesions and conditions commonly seen in dental practice, especially those difficult to diagnose or to manage, newly diagnosed conditions and, especially premalignant or early malignant lesions.

The first seminar will focus on HPV and EBV viruses, which are causing an epidemic of cancerous and precancerous lesions and recalcitrant ulcers in the oral cavity. The lecture will demonstrate how to recognize these lesions and what we as dentists can do about them.

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Saturday, August 8th

Clinical Features of Early Oral Cancers and Precancerous Lesions

Dr. Donald Cohen

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 3 CEUs

This seminar will focus on early oral cancers and pre-cancers, especially their clinical features. Early forms of cancer often have specific patterns based on location. Gingival cancers and especially pre-cancers have recently presented with a new clinical appearance. I have coined the appearance “ring around the collar.” This innocuous-looking circumferential leukoplakia of the marginal gingiva is very important to recognize and treat early. Also gingival cancers often resemble gingivitis and erythroplakia must be distinguished from chronic gingivitis. Multiple examples of early cancers from all oral and oropharyngeal sites will be shown to improve the clinician’s ability to recognize these often benign-appearing lesions.

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Sunday, August 9th

Potpourri of Oral Pathology

Dr. Donald Cohen

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 3 CEUs

The third seminar will be entitled “Potpourri of Oral Pathology.” This will consist of a series of interesting clinical cases taken from the archives of the large oral pathology database at the University of Florida. These cases will challenge the diagnostic acumen of the course participants and help markedly improve their ability to recognize some important pathologic entities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Upon completion of the three courses, participants should be able to recognize and formulate a differential diagnosis and understand the etiology and management of various oral lesions and diseases.
2. Recognize and understand the association of HPV with numerous oral lesions and the enormous implication of HPV-driven cancers and lesions to our dental practice. EBV-related ulcers have recently been seen in older patients and patients who are immune compromised. These ulcers are recalcitrant and difficult to treat and must be managed differently.
3. Recognize the clinical features of early squamous cell carcinoma and other malignancies of the oral cavity.
4. Better recognize abnormalities.
5. Improve diagnostic skills and management techniques of oral soft and hard tissue lesions through practice sessions utilizing anonymous audience response device.

Participants are cautioned of the potential risk of using knowledge when incorporating techniques and procedures into your practice, especially when a course has not provided supervised clinical experience in the technique or procedure to ensure that you have attained competence.

The West Coast Dental Association and Program Committee make every effort to present high-caliber speakers in their respective areas of expertise. The speakers’ presentations in no way imply endorsement of any product, technique or service presented during these presentations. The Florida Dental Association specifically disclaims responsibility for any material presented.

**West Coast District Dental Association
Annual Summer Meeting - Registration Form
August 7-9, 2020**



Please Print Clearly

Name of Registering Dentist: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ ADA #: _____ License #: _____

Staff Name: _____ Staff Name: _____ Staff Name: _____

CE Fees	<input type="checkbox"/> MEMBER \$265.00 (WCDDA, FDA, ADA)	<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER \$405.00	<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENT/
All Inclusive:	<input type="checkbox"/> RETIRED MEMBERS \$70.00	<input type="checkbox"/> STAFF \$65.00	STUDENT FREE

Friday, August 7th
.....

- | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 a.m. Cycling (All levels welcome)..... Free | No. of riders _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7:30 a.m. Fishing Trip \$200.00 | No. of attendees _____ | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 p.m. Volleyball (Team name if applicable) Free | No. of players _____ | Name: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 a.m. HPV & EBV Viruses are Causing an Epidemic of... | No. of attendees _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 p.m. Cigars & Cordials. At your own expense | No. of attendees _____ | |

Saturday, August 8th
.....

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 a.m. Fun Run. Free | No. of runners _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 a.m. Clinical Features of Early Oral Cancers... | No. of attendees _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf at Tiburon \$140.00 | No. of attendees _____ | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Fun - LIVE!..... Free | No. of attendees _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 p.m. Officer Installation. Free | No. of attendees _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 p.m. Beer, Wine & Cheese Reception Free | No. of attendees _____ | |

Sunday, August 9th
.....

- | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 a.m. Cycling (All levels welcome) Free | No. of riders _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 a.m. Potpourri of Oral Pathology | No. of attendees _____ | |
| Raffle Tickets: 1 for \$5.00 – 10 for \$25.00 – 25 for \$50.00 | No. of tickets _____ | \$ _____ |

Registration + Events **TOTAL** \$ _____

Payment Method: Check: *Made payable to WCDDA* Visa MasterCard Amex
 Credit Card No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV Code: _____
 Signature: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Please mail or fax this form to the WCDDA:
 1114 Kyle Wood Lane • Brandon, FL 33511 • (813) 654-2500 Fax (813) 654-2505

Coronavirus Resources

The COVID-19 outbreak and its impact on our daily lives is rapidly evolving. Here are some resources and guidance to help dentists navigate this unprecedented time for their practices, staff and patients.

The American Dental Association has developed a website page dedicated to COVID-19 Resources for Dentists. To view all resources and download guidance or templates for the information below – visit <https://www.ada.org/en/member-center/coronavirus-resource-toolkit-for-ada-members>

Practice Management Resources

Summary of ADA SARS-CoV-2 Guidance

An overview document about how this virus impacts dentistry and the resources available from the ADA.

Emergency Procedures — Dentists

A guide to which procedures are considered emergencies and non-emergencies.

Emergency Procedures — Patients

Help patients understand when they should — or shouldn't — make a dental appointment.

Employment Agreements

This is an uncertain time for many employees, including dentists. Access a breakdown of the common terms in dentists' employment agreements that may apply now.

Letter to Patients

A template designed to help you communicate changes to your practice due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

COVID-19 Coding and Billing Guidance

You may see some patients via teledentistry during the COVID-19 outbreak. This quick guide outlines different billing codes your practice may need to use.

The ADA Code of Ethics and COVID-19

As a result of the pandemic, ethical principles may require different steps than dentists are used to taking. Access the ADA Code of Ethics applies during these extreme circumstances.

Handling Vendor Payment Disputes

This guide helps dentists understand how to handle payment disputes with vendors and difficulties accessing patient data.

Renegotiating Existing Contracts

The COVID-19 pandemic may impact your obligations under existing contracts. This guide will help you when renegotiating payment terms.

Contract Obligations during COVID-19

Understand “*force majeure*” contractual provisions and how events related to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply to your contract obligations.

Safety and Clinical Guidance

ADA and OSAP Webinar

Infection control experts answer dentists' questions on protocol and procedures in light of COVID-19

JADA Infection Control Resources

The Journal of the American Dental Association has compiled a collection of relevant articles on infection control and opened them to the public.

OSHA Guidance Summary: Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

As employers, practice owners have a responsibility to ensure safe working conditions for staff. Here's how the COVID-19 pandemic affects that responsibility.

Hand Hygiene for the Dental Team

An overview of effective hand hygiene practices that help reduce the risk of infection transmission.

Tucson Medical Center's Donning and Doffing Instructions

Learn the correct sequence for donning and doffing gowns, masks, respirators, goggles, face shields and gloves.

Tucson Medical Center's Guide to Putting On and Taking Off Respirators

Respirators play an important role in keeping you safe. Here's how to properly put them on and take them off.

The WCDDA has pre-recorded webinars available to members to access at www.wcdental.org. These webinars were created between the WCDDA and other professionals to help doctors navigate their way through situations arising due to COVID-19.



WEST COAST DISTRICT DENTAL ASSOCIATION

A COMPONENT OF THE AMERICAN & FLORIDA DENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

1114 Kyle Wood Lane
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Helping Members Succeed

Values:
*Service, Commitment,
Integrity and Excellence*

Culture:
*The Reliable Resource
for Dentists.*

The WCDDA Newsletter is published two times a year, in the Fall and the Spring. The Editor of the association and staff organize, print and mail to membership. The position of the editor is elected by the Executive Cabinet and does not have a specified term. The editorial staff holds the right to deny ads submitted for publishing. The newsletter may publish signed articles relating to all phases of dentistry, but assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by the contributors. Publication in this newsletter does not imply the West Coast District Dental Association endorses any products or services that are advertised. Views, editorials, news columns and/or articles are those of the author's and not necessarily of the editor, staff, or members of the West Coast District Dental Association.

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	Lee	

Tip of the Tongue



Hugh Wunderlich, DDS

Keep Calm and Carry On. A deadly virus is spreading through Florida. It easily spreads from human contact but maybe you can get it from your dog or cat. It started in a foreign country and is spreading here. There is no treatment vaccine or cure. There is a global shortage of masks and gloves. Sound like news from last week? Guess what ... those were the headlines from 35 years ago when HIV was "spreading" from Haiti. So much was not known or understood about about the virus in the early stages. Now for better or worse we get information in unvetted and unedited real time over the Internet. I seem to remember in the early 80's the ADA recommending we should wear gloves and masks for every patient. Every patient. It was not yet mandatory. Believe it or not all you Florida dentists with five digits in your dental license, we all used to be "wet-fingered". Nobody wore gloves. We used to scrub the blood from under our finger nails after an extraction. This is where 'universal precautions' were born. Back then testing for HIV was of limited value. With no test kits for the Coronavirus being readily available everyone is a suspect. You should treat or suspect every patient that comes into your office is infectious. There is and will be push back from policies that will affect our lives and livelihood. In the 1980's some Endodontists in particular felt that they could not "feel" the files through the mandated gloves. And now mandates about treating emergency vs non-emergency patients is being implemented. All this digital information about the Coronavirus has sparked much hysteria. Some reactions seem justified others not so much. Each state seems to develop their own criteria. Have you tried to buy toilet paper today? The stock market has been a barometer of this unrest. Much like 35 years ago this virus will change the way we do business. Again. Change is never easy and this crisis is not going away anytime soon.

In 1939 the British Government was expecting an invasion, not by a virus but by Nazi Germany. This was a real threat that required national sacrifice and preparation. That national crisis defined an entire generation. They claim it was the Greatest Generation. To inspire the country the Queen embraced a national campaign and slogan that is applicable even today. This too could be our finest hour. Keep Calm and Carry On.