

DCDS connection

Official Publication of DCDS
A tradition of integrity and care since 1908



Mission Statement

Serving the professional needs of our members

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Are You on the List?

DCDS offers online forms for easier communication

More and more, our members are looking for the convenience of online solutions when it comes to relaying information. Dallas County Dental Society is constantly looking for opportunities to provide better communication by making online forms available on the DCDS website. Below are a few of the latest forms that are now active. Please note that some will require member login with your ADA login information.

Committee Interest

If you are would like to be more involved in DCDS or later within the TDA/ADA, a great place to start is as a committee member. DCDS Members can complete and submit this form to join in on the numerous opportunities to serve within the Dallas County Dental Society: <https://www.dcds.org/member-center/committee-interest>.

Pro-Bono Reporting

The pro-bono care you provide makes a positive impact on your patients' lives. It also makes a positive impact on DCDS' legislative efforts with the Texas Dental Association on your behalf. DCDS is interested in learning about the amount of pro bono care our members provide, so we can pass the information on to our legislative team. Use this form whenever you provide provide pro-bono services: <https://www.dcds.org/member-center/pro-bono>.

Volunteering

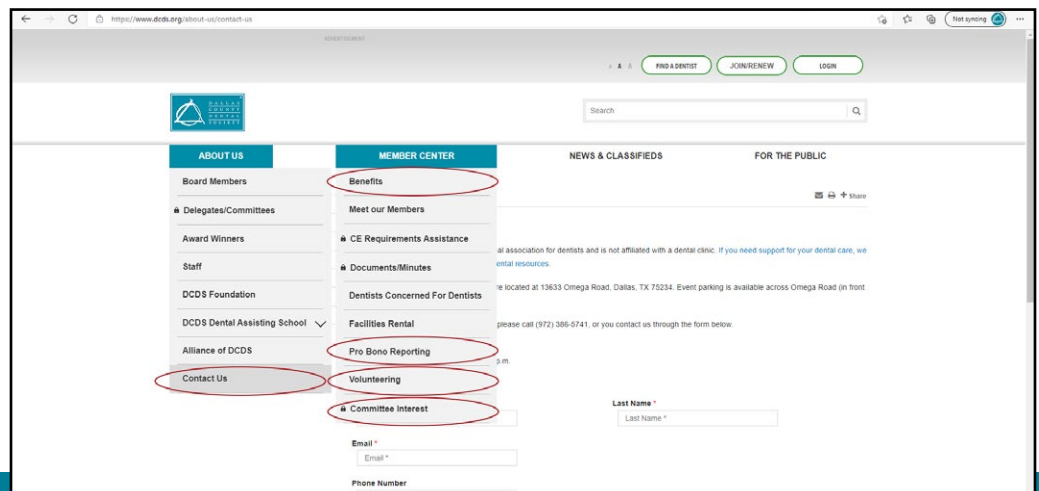
The DCDS Foundation offers dental service opportunities that make a significant difference in the community. Or if you are creating your own service opportunity at a school or nursing home, you can ask us for support. Sign up below to be contacted by the DCDS Foundation for upcoming community service efforts by going to <https://www.dcds.org/member-center/volunteering>.

Associate Membership

Do you know of an ADA member who would like to be a part of DCDS in addition to their own local component? Many do this to take advantage of DCDS sponsored CE courses or to have registration fees covered at the Southwest Dental Conference. You can have them sign up at <https://www.dcds.org/associate-membership-application>.

Contact Us Form

Got a question that is not time sensitive? Our general contact form offers you and your staff a convenient way to get what you want without having to draft email queries. It can be found at <https://www.dcds.org/about-us/contact-us>.



The Write Stuff

Missy Jaynes, DDS, President

A Positive Mindset



“When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.”

—Victor Frankl, *Man’s Search for Meaning*.

The recent ice storm tested everyone’s patience as “normal” life was interrupted. I spent two days snowbound at home with my husband and three dogs. I cleaned out closets, organized rooms, packed for a short trip with my daughter to Savannah and spent way too much time watching TV. Then I realized the Olympics are on.

I might be the only one watching them since viewership is down 43% from the 2018 Winter Olympics. The athletes are saying the food is horrible and there are no hot meals. Their parents could not come either for one reason or another. Some are missing their event they have trained for because they are positive with COVID. It is just sad! Some people are not watching the event since they oppose China due to human rights issues. I personally am watching in support of the American athletes, but it is hard to miss the political undertones of these Olympics!

However, to put things into perspective, this is nothing compared to the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich with the terrorists and hostage situation. I remember the horror that was playing out on the TV with the Israel athletes. Six year old me did not understand everything at that moment, but I remember how scared I was for the athletes as I watched. I had turned it on to watch Mark Spitz win gold medals, and boy, did it get turned into something else.

The icy weather also caused a last minute cancellation of a Leadership Conference in Austin where TDA was paying for us to learn and lead. My disappointment was deep as I was looking forward to meeting with peers in person to discuss issues affecting organized dentistry, including membership trends, recruitment and retention.

Again I needed objectivity. A book called *Man’s Search for Meaning*, given to me by Dr. Mac McDonald, came to mind. The book is Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl’s memoir of his life

in Nazi death camps and lessons for spiritual survival. Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering; but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it and move forward with renewed purpose. At the heart of his theory is a conviction that the primary human drive is not pleasure, but the pursuit of what we find meaningful: “The one thing you can’t take away from me is the way I choose to respond to what you do to me. The last of one’s freedoms is to choose one’s attitude in any given circumstance.”

In my opinion, Viktor Frankl figured it out. If you are stuck at home with COVID or icy weather, or disgusted with the world or the Olympics or even with your life, just take a moment to gain perspective on your situation. Choose a positive attitude to overcome the negative circumstances. We are dentists just trying to make dentistry better as well as ourselves!

TDA President, Debrah Worsham, DDS, (on left) presented DCDS President Missy Jaynes, DDS, MS, a plaque recognizing her service to organized dentistry at the DCDS General Membership Meeting in February.



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Contributions: articles, letters to the Editor, announcements, advertisements, or other materials submitted for inclusion in DCDS Connection should be submitted electronically via email to the managing editor. Submissions must be received by the second Friday of the month prior to the month of publication. Acceptance of any submission is at the discretion of the Editor, and subject to editing for brevity or content. Anonymous letters or contributions will not be considered for publication. All submitted items must be accompanied by contact information, including the author’s name, mailing address, telephone and/ or email address. Illustrations should be submitted as .jpeg, .pdf, .eps or .tiff files. Photographs should be high resolution (300 dpi or better) and include a copyright release or statement of permission. Display and classified advertising will be accepted from reputable firms or individuals on a space-available basis in accordance with DCDS Guidelines. For current advertising rates or more information call 972-386-5741 X 225, or email rosemary@dcds.org.

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 Managing EditorRosemary S. Martinez
 Executive Director Jane D. Evans

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Impressions

Editorial by Shad Hattaway, DDS, Editor

Upholding the Oath through Continuing Education



I recently just renewed my dental license, and I had the jurisprudence section of the licensing also needing review, so I reviewed it. I may be an outlier here, but I really enjoy reviewing all of the

state laws and things required for us to be licensed professionals. Somewhere in all the mundane information, there has to be a reason someone thought these guidelines should be written out and put into what we now accept as law.

One of the things I found most intriguing was the requirement for continued education. The Mission of the State Board of Dental Examiners for Texas is “to protect the public health and safety and promote high quality and safe dental care [...]” How does someone determine the number of hours required to continue their education every year to promote health and safety? The simple answer is they do not promote health and safety. Finishing the mission statement, we read “[...] providing enforcement, licensing, peer assistance, and related information services to licensees and their patients.” Having the absolute number of CE hours required every year helps with enforcement. For those unaware of the number of CE hours needed every year, the answer is 12 per year or 24 every two years.

Now the real question is, what is the adequate number of hours we need to improve ourselves as dentists every year? Every day, we go into our offices and “practice” dentistry.



There is no requirement for the time we need to practice every year, but we all know practice makes you better. Not all continuing education will make you a great dentist, but all great dentists will continue their education.

I think most of us fail to recognize that the continuing education requirement for licensure is a privilege. We are given the freedom not to take another licensing exam like we did to enter this profession by our commitment to become lifelong students. The word doctor is derived from the Latin verb “docere” which means to teach or study under a teacher. It has nothing to do with treating people. If you needed to take a board exam every year to continue practicing dentistry, how good of a student do you think you would be? How big of a gap would we have between treatment philosophy with the new graduates and the retiring septuagenarians?

We all took the Hippocratic Oath when we entered this profession — a pledge to uphold specific ethical standards. Forms of the oath will vary from school to school or even country to country. Even when I donned my white coat for the first time at the end of my first year of dental school, I was given two copies of a handbook on ethics and professionalism. One was from the ADA, and the other was a well-put-together purple (fun fact — the color of dentistry) booklet from the American College of Dentists. These booklets have differences right from page one. They both, however, grasp the same concept of recognizing the obligations that are associated with our titles as dentists. As dental professionals, we have special knowledge and skills to benefit the public, regardless of personal gain. We hold a unique position of trust within society, and subsequently, we are afforded certain privileges not available to the public at large.

Dentistry has changed and evolved dramatically over the years. Is it for our benefit? No, it has been for the benefit of the public. As more information has come to light, we alter and change the way we practice being safer and have more predictable outcomes to care.

“Not all continuing education will make you a great dentist, but all great dentists will continue their education.”

While in dental school, I always thought that life would be so much easier when I became a dentist. I would graduate and know everything there is to know about being a dentist. This mentality is so far from the truth it’s comical that I thought it. After my first year of practice, I learned it’s not the destination; it’s the process. The process of being a dentist is formed by the here and now. Dentists who have practiced for the past 40 years now have a different world than the one in which they graduated.

Continuing our education is not strictly for ourselves but for our profession. When we can unite around a common goal of helping those around us, we have something to celebrate. Whether you are the student or the teacher, share your knowledge to help a colleague learn from your mistakes and triumphs. Recognize that it may not make you a better dentist, but it will make you a better dental professional.

Whether you take 12 certified CE every year or share your treatment outcomes with a study group, it’s the process that brings us together. You did not stop being a student when you graduated from dental school. Embrace the responsibility you took when you became a dentist and celebrate the fact that you will never have all the answers. You will, however, always have a process of figuring things out. Stay safe and God bless.

In our efforts to minimize the confusion of tracking CE hours, the new TDA Dental Concierge app neatly organizes all users’ CE completion documentation, sorting them into appropriate requirement categories they apply toward, and storing them in a digital vault until needed. Read more about this great member benefit on page 4.

From The Hub

by Jane D. Evans, Executive Director

TDA Brings Simplicity to CE Tracking!



Free to members, a phone app developed by the Texas Dental Association and based on rules from the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners will simplify relicensure and CE audit submissions. We

are excited to announce that it debuted in February 2022.

Staying on top of Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) CE requirements is a messy affair. There's no clean and easy way of keeping track of CE courses taken, which requirements are outstanding; and wrangling CE documentation in the event of a TSBDE audit. This is about to change with the 2022 release of the new Dental Concierge app and learning management system commissioned by TDA and TDA Perks Program.

Here's what Dental Concierge can do—and how it will streamline the process.

Track Completed CE.

Dental Concierge neatly organizes all users' CE completion documentation, sorting them into appropriate requirement categories they apply toward, and storing them in a digital vault until needed. Progress toward meeting requirements is charted through a color-coded dashboard.

Documentation for courses completed through the app is automatically loaded and sorted into appropriate categories.

Information for courses completed outside the app need to be manually entered. Users simply upload a photo of the completion certificate, check the box for the requirement it applies toward, and enter the completion date.

Show What's Needed. Send Reminders.

Dental Concierge also shows users what courses and categories still need to be completed and fulfilled; and conveniently sends reminders as deadlines approach. Reminders are sent via app alerts or emails at a frequency customized by the user.

And handy, other compliance-related custom reminders can also be set; for example, for meeting OSHA requirements or testing x-ray equipment.

Offer High Quality Courses at Low Cost.

A comprehensive library of ADA CERP-qualified courses—live pre-recorded, and self-study—are available at lower cost to TDA members. All required categories except for PALS, BLS, ACLS and the Jurisprudence Assessment are offered.

Submit CE Documentation to TSBDE.

When a CE audit notice is delivered, providing documentation to TSBDE will be a snap for Dental Concierge users. Dental Concierge enables its users to easily see and compile the required information for TSBDE.

TDA Dental Concierge will be available for download through Google Play and the Apple App Store, free of charge for TDA members. The app is available to non-TDA members for a monthly fee of \$10.



Confused by TSBDE CE Requirements?

Don't be confused anymore.

With the free* Dental Concierge app, you can:

- Track the CE you completed; see what you lack.
- Get high-quality courses you need at low cost.
- Easily transfer information to TSBDE to comply with its auditing process.



*Dental Concierge is free for TDA members.

tdadentalconcierge.com

New Dentists

News and perspective from dentists under 10 years of practice

by Blair Goodall, DDS

The Importance of Strengthening Our Dental Team in a Challenging Pandemic Era



Throughout the course of the pandemic, it has become more difficult than ever before to maintain a solid dental team. When offices closed in March of 2020,

unemployment benefits became a way of life for a majority of the workforce. As our offices and other businesses started to reopen, those lingering benefits still remained in place for a large portion of the population, and thus, we started to experience staff shortages. It has become more important than ever to establish an office environment that is inviting, positive, supportive and fun because without our staff, we can't practice dentistry.

As the dentist, whether we are the practice owner, partner, or an associate, we assume a position of authority over our team. They often look to us for direction, support, and guidance throughout the day. We can do many small things on a daily basis that add up to make big impacts over time. First and foremost, providing clear communication is essential to running a

“It has become more important than ever to establish an office environment that is inviting, positive, supportive and fun because without our staff, we can't practice dentistry.”

successful dental practice. Performing a daily morning huddle in which we not only discuss the day's schedule but also have a check in with each team member is a way to make that communication easy and open. Aside from the daily tasks and schedule that need to be addressed, simply checking in on a team member about how they are doing personally can make them feel more valued.

Establishing positive office morale helps to keep the office in high spirits and offers a more inviting workplace culture that makes team members feel comfortable, even if an uncomfortable situation arises. Office outings or special team building lunches are just a

couple of ways in which we can boost office morale. Celebrating team members for their successes, no matter how small, also can have big impacts on their overall work ethic, attitude, and relationship with the team. Simple gestures of complimenting them in the office in front of a patient or other staff member, taking the time to write them an encouraging note, or giving them a small reward to honor their success are a few good examples of ways to recognize them. Addressing areas where they may fall short or mistakes that may have been made are equally important. Performing biannual reviews with staff members are a simple way to establish individual goals and address areas of needed improvement in a professional way.

When looking to hire a new staff member, consider how they fit with the core values of your practice and the workplace culture you have created for your team. Although applicants for dental staff may be fewer than we would like, it's important to retain the quality staff members that we already have. Maintaining a positive office environment strengthens the existing dental team and creates a practice where patients want to be and staff want to stay.

12TH ANNUAL DCDS SHRED-A-THON

Friday, April 8, 2021

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in back of DCDS Executive Office

RSVP VIA OUR WEBSITE TO CLAIM A DROP-OFF TIME SLOT!

<https://www.dcds.org/events>

Free to DCDS members. As a member benefit, DCDS has again contracted with Action Shred of Texas to provide on-site shredding and e-destruction services in the DCDS back parking lot. It's the perfect time to securely dispose of documents and electronics while making a positive impact on the environment!

On-site Shredding Services. X-rays should be separated from paper prior to drop off. Due to time constraints, some materials will be shredded at the Action Shred facility.

E-destruction Services. Action Shred will accept computers/laptops, monitors, printers, fax machines, mobile phones, PDAs, modems, smart phones, cords and cables, keyboards, copiers, and more!

Can't make it on this day? Contact Action Shred for preferred DCDS pricing at 214-352-0113 (option 2).

Questions? Contact ashley@dcds.org or 972-386-5741.



DCDS Member's Message Board

Upcoming Events

March 2 – Cocktails & Conversation:
Treating the Patient with Special Needs

April 8 – 13th Annual DCDS Shred-A-Thon

April 19 – General Membership Meeting

Register at www.dcds.org/events



Welcome New Members!

General Practice

Hessah Aman

Noura Arwani

Savitha Bathini

Cameron Blair

Nam Bui

Juan Diaz

Jenny Huang

Grace Lan

Eshaan Mehta

Tayo Ogunsola

Morgan Petty

Leslie Powell

Lianna Pulliam

Jessica Rudman

Brittany Spruiell

Olga Stepanchenko

Orthodontics

Codie Bontz

Brittany Spruiell

Prosthodontics

Ken Chen

Varun Pitti

In Memoriam:

Dr. Gottfred Olsen

Looking for a job?

Have a position to fill in your office?

Want to sell or buy office space and office equipment?

List it on the DCDS.org Job Bank/Practice Sales!
Members list for free (\$75/month for non-members.) Email a brief summary (100 words or less, in paragraph format) of the post to: rosemary@dcds.org.





REACH OUT TO HELP ANOTHER DENTIST

Watching a colleague suffer and feeling helpless is difficult and heartbreaking. Dentists Concerned for Dentists is a 24-hour confidential alcohol and drug abuse hotline you can call for assistance.

Your phone call could be the lifesaving step for someone who is hoping and waiting.

- Founded exclusively to help dentists, hygienists, assistants and family members.
- No fees or charges.
- All contact is held in absolute confidentiality.

The Dentists Concerned for Dentists program provides a strictly confidential peer assistance program for health care professionals who struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. Please share this confidential hotline with your colleagues.

A confidential phone call may be the greatest gift a peer dentist, staff or family member could receive.

DENTISTS CONCERNED FOR DENTISTS

24-hour Confidential Hotline
214-206-7496

HELP YOURSELF

If you're in crisis, there are options available to help you cope. You can call the above hotline at any time to speak to someone and get support. For confidential support available 24/7 for everyone in the United States, you can also call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

Need Meeting Space?

As a member of the DCDS, you can take advantage of low member rates when renting the Society's Executive Office for your next meeting.

The Dr. O.V. Cartwright Reception Hall is perfect for registration and a pre-function gathering.

The Dr. Paul P. Taylor Executive Board Room can seat 14 around a large conference table.

The Dr. D. Lamar Byrd Auditorium is 1,650 square feet of meeting space that can seat up to 200.

Audio/visual equipment is also available.

DCDS facilities include free parking, free wifi, use of small kitchenette, and ability to bring in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

For more info, contact Ashley Hawkins at 972-386-5741 x231 or email info@dcds.org.



Applause, Applause!



Congratulations to Carole Ann Boyd, DDS, who received the 2021 Lucy Hobbs Project® Industry Icon Award through Benco Dental. Dr. Boyd, a 1984 graduate of Baylor College of Dentistry, treated HIV-and AIDS-positive patients with dignity when the disease carried extraordinary stigma, and continues to provide support and create allies for the LGBTQ+ community today.

DCDS Membership Benefits

Being a member of the associations that work to protect your profession is important to the success of a practice...pass along the benefits to your peers!

- Free registration to DCDS’s annual Southwest Dental Conference
- Peer Review mediation service to reconcile complaints between patients and doctors
- Rent DCDS meeting facilities at special member rates
- Free or discounted continuing education via seminars & General Membership Meetings
- First opportunity to hire fully trained world-class assistants from DCDS Dental Assisting School
- Preprinted school excuse forms provided free of charge to dentists treating school-age children
- Confidential free notary public
- DCDS Connection, the bimonthly newsletter of Dallas County Dental Society (member advertising at reduced rates)
- Member mailing labels available for purchase
- Grassroots legislator contact program with state and national legislative representation
- License and permit renewal reminders
- Networking/social opportunities with colleagues

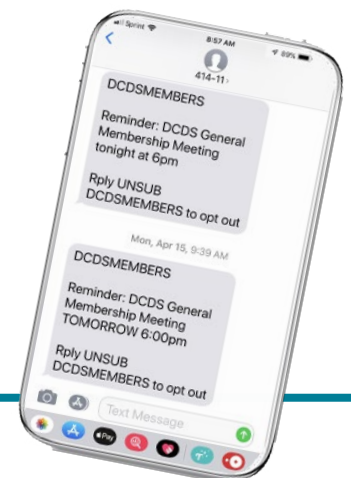
DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by Texas Dental Association, including free entry to TDA TEXAS Meeting.

DCDS members receive ALL membership benefits offered by American Dental Association, including photo directory and public referrals through Find-a-Dentist.

www.dcds.org/membership

TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS: Text DCDSMEMBERS to 37373

Have you ever wished you could receive reminders for DCDS meetings and events? Do you forget to put events/meetings on your calendar? DCDS implemented text messaging so you will not forget another meeting. Just sign up and you will be reminded of future meetings and events.



Treating the Patient with Special Needs

JONATHAN C. CLEMETSON, DDS, MS



Dr. Jonathan Clemetson is a graduate of Baylor College of Dentistry where he obtained his DDS and MS in Health Professions Education. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a BS in Medical Technology and is certified by The American Society of Clinical Pathologists. After dental school, he was accepted to the much-heralded General Practice Residency program at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is licensed and certified to perform IV conscious (parenteral) and enteral general dentistry cases and also performs general dentistry operating room cases for patients with special needs. Dr. Clemetson is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Diagnostic Sciences Department at Texas A&M College of Dentistry and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Student Development and Biomaterials Sciences.

There is an increasing population of Patients with Special Needs (PSN's). Patients are living longer, and there is a significant deficit of oral health care providers to meet their needs. There are guidelines prepared by the Surgeon General for Dental Schools to better prepare graduates to meet this need. This course will help you understand protocols for best practices for treating Patients with Special Needs.

Learning Objectives:

- Define Special Care Dentistry
- Learn statistics investigating the deficit of care
- Become familiar with a general assessment of Patients with Special Needs
- Determine steps to take in office to treat Patients with Special Needs
- Learn an overview of treating Patients with Special Needs in a hospital environment

Audience: Dentists, Office Staff

AGD Code: 750

CE Hours: 1 technical and/or scientific

CE Verification provided

Sponsored by:

DCDS Diversity & Inclusion Committee

ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR THIS VIRTUAL COURSE BY FEBRUARY 23.

Register online at www.dcds.org/events. A link to the 6:00 p.m. session will be sent to your email address.

DCDS Members	Free	Non-member dentist	\$25
DCDS Member staff	Free	Non-member staff	\$25
Students	Free		

Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is February 23, 2022. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after February 23, 2022.



MARCH 2

REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.DCDS.ORG/EVENTS

DALLAS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY • DALLAS, TEXAS 75244 • 972-386-5741 • INFO@DCDS.ORG

Dallas County Dental Society
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. Dallas County Dental Society designates one (1) credit per hour for CE activities, unless otherwise noted.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to ADA CERP at www.ada.org/goto/cefp.

ADA CERP® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

Increase Your Success with Complete Dentures

by M. Leif Stromberg, DDS

Part One of a Two Part Series



Millions of edentulous people in the United States live with a functional disability (a physical condition that limits their daily activities) and are unsatisfied with their smiles. Well-made

edentulous restorations can positively change the lives of many of these people. Dentists can enhance this population's physical and mental well-being by creating esthetic mouths and smiles, enabling them to chew their food better, and increasing the comfort and health of their stomatognathic system — WOW!

However, fabricating edentulous restorations comes with many challenges. To increase the predictability and success of complete denture services, learning and applying the fundamentals of denture fabrication is very important.

You never know what you are getting into when beginning the restoration of an edentulous patient. Determining acceptable denture teeth positions is often a significant challenge, partly due to the unpredictability of alveolar bone resorption patterns after tooth loss. Utilizing the edentulous alveolar ridges, as many dentists and dental laboratory technicians have been taught, is an unreliable guide for tooth placement because of this irregular resorptive pattern. Also, when starting the fabrication process, we do not know how the mandible moves during speech, what the patient's class of occlusion is, and how much space there is between the ridges for denture base material and the denture teeth.

Steps for Increased Predictability

Many dentists feel uneasy and anxious when delivering a set of dentures, not knowing if the patient will be dissatisfied or love the complete dentures. A favorable result often depends on the successful completion of each treatment step.

For increased case predictability, execute the fundamentals of the following steps:

1. Consultation and examination
2. Impressions
3. Records
4. Wax try-in
5. Delivery
6. Adjustments

The Consultation and Examination

During this step, it is important to do the following:

1. Understand the patient's wants and expectations.
2. Educate your patient on the challenges of denture fabrication.
3. Obtain written and verbal informed consent, including available options.
4. Perform a clinical evaluation of the stomatognathic system, including:
 - A) Alveolar ridges (bone loss and ridge form)
 - B) Tuberosities, hamular notches, retromolar pads
 - C) Movable/loose denture supporting tissues (e.g., tuberosities and alveolar ridges)
 - D) Mucosal thickness over alveolar ridges
 - E) Muscle attachments (especially near the crest of the ridge)
 - F) Condition of the denture supporting tissues including ulcerated areas and inflammation
 - G) Presence of tori
 - H) Shape of palate
 - I) Health and stability of the temporomandibular joints and possibly associated headaches and neck pain

Understand the patient's wants and expectations as clearly as possible before performing the clinical examination. Take the time to learn about the patient's history and outlook regarding dentures. Ask open-ended questions and listen to their responses. What if a patient says they think all dentists make bad dentures? Or perhaps, a patient says they have had no concerns with past dentures and want a new set. Which patient would you prefer to treat?

You are not selling an object, like a pencil, but

“You are not selling an object, like a pencil, but a service. It is important for you to understand, sense, and appreciate the patient's wants and needs of the denture service.”

a service. It is important for you to understand, sense, and appreciate the patient's wants and needs of the denture service. As you do your clinical examination, you can evaluate whether you think you can meet their desires and expectations with the conditions of their stomatognathic system.

Additional Considerations During the Consultation and Examination

Will this be a teaching and learning case for you to try new techniques and coordinate treatment with the dentist, assistant, and dental laboratory?

How many denture adjustments will be included after delivery of the new dentures? A set number of denture adjustments should be addressed before you start treatment. Inform the patient that many elements of the prostheses cannot be changed after the denture is processed and delivered. Before processing the complete dentures, the patient must approve the shade of the denture teeth, teeth positions, and teeth shapes at the wax try-in appointment.

Also, if the patient does not accept the final prostheses, will you refund all or part of the fee? What if insurance dictates the fee? Is it a fair fee for you?

You will be more successful if you select patients to treat who have a positive and understanding attitude toward the denture service and whose stomatognathic system conditions are healthy and ideal. Success will also increase if you are careful and perform each treatment step well.

...continued on page 11

...continued from page 10

The Impressions

Understanding and applying denture fabrication fundamentals includes knowing anatomical landmarks of the edentulous mouth, making accurate final impressions, and clearly showing the dental laboratory the borders of the complete dentures.

The following are important in the complete denture final impression step:

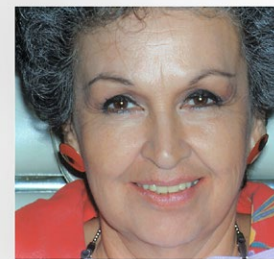
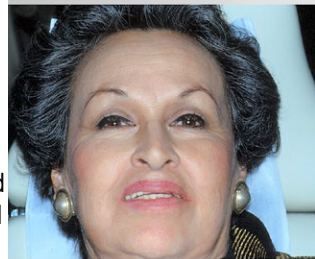
1. If appropriate, ask the patient to leave their existing dentures out of their mouth for 24 to 48 hours before impressions are made to reduce the effects of existing ill-fitting dentures on denture supporting tissues. Also, tissue conditioners can be used in a denture (or in a duplicate denture) to improve the health of the denture supporting areas.
2. Ask the patient not to use denture adhesive in their dentures on the appointment day before the final impressions.
3. Select appropriately sized edentulous impression trays
4. Final impressions should record the following anatomic landmarks:

- A) Maxilla – includes hamular notches, vibrating line, tuberosities, buccal and labial frenums, buccal and labial sulci, residual alveolar ridge, incisive papilla, and tissues of the hard palate
- B) Mandible – includes retromolar pads, buccal shelves, buccal and labial frenums, buccal, labial and lingual sulci, residual alveolar ridge, and genial tubercles.

5. Create final impressions so the denture bases can be fabricated with maximum extension over denture bearing areas without muscle impingement. Muscle impingement can cause dislodgment of the dentures and sore, ulcerated tissues.
6. Clearly mark the posterior extension of the maxillary denture on the upper master cast and the retromolar pads on the mandibular master cast so the laboratory technician can appropriately fabricate the dentures.

Alginate is an often abused impression material which can make accurate final impressions for complete dentures if handled carefully and

Dentures can be SO COOL !



UCLA, Ivoclar/VivadentInc, ACP

according to the manufacturer's instructions. An excellent alginate impression material for complete dentures is AccuDent XD Syringe Colloid and Tray Colloid by Ivoclar Vivadent, Inc. When making alginate impressions, always use tray adhesive, store impressions in a humidior, and pour them as soon as possible to prevent warping.

This is the conclusion of our first part of a 2-part series on complete denture fabrication. Our next article will discuss the remaining steps including: records, wax try-ins, delivery, and adjustments. If you have any questions about Part 1, please email me at strombergdds@gmail.com. I look forward to being with you for Part 2.



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Diversity + Inclusion: Smarter Decision Making

Sara Ehsani, DDS

Chairman of DCDS Membership Development Committee, Member of DCDS Diversity and Inclusion Committee



For me making it to the dental school (University of California, Los Angeles) and post-graduate school (University of Connecticut) for my Pediatric Dentistry residency program in the

United States was a matter of visa applications, attempting language proficiency tests, taking national board exams, attending multiple interviews, achieving immense honors in a short period of time, applying for private loans, getting financial support from my family and overcoming all the challenges that are particular to a student who had migrated from a developing country. As an international student, sometimes I felt more vulnerable towards experiencing self-doubt irrespective of my high achievements because of the additional cultural, financial, language, and academic barriers. These impostor-like feelings can limit people to explore their potential while they fear judgment and seek perfection. It is important to acknowledge that this self-doubt has not just been impacting international dentists, but also people of all ethnicities and socioeconomic classes who have questioned their competence and achievements at one point in their lives.

Diversifying the faculty and students in dental universities, as well as employees and staff in dental offices and organizations could help to reduce impostor syndrome, isolation, and other damaging psychological stress. Diverse teams

are more productive and perform better. When team members bring a variety of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences, they are more likely to solve problems and be innovative. The range of experience, expertise and working methods that a diverse workplace offers can boost problem-solving capacity and lead to greater productivity.

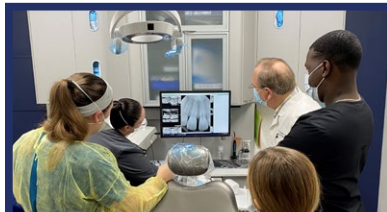
High-performing teams require keen recruitment, staffing and training strategies, all of which should focus on creating a diverse and inclusive culture. Research shows that inclusive teams perform up to 30% better in high-diversity environments, according to Gartner. Developing a culture that encourages diversity and inclusion creates a sense of belonging for all employees. Harvard Business Review reports that having a high sense of belonging can increase job performance by 56% or more, reduce turnover

by 50% and significantly decrease the number of sick days.

In addition, research suggests that more diverse racial, ethnic, and gender representation among dental providers can dramatically reduce barriers to access for the underserved families and improve oral health care utilization and outcomes by providing:

- Easier access to diverse patient groups, as similar backgrounds of patients and dental providers enable better relationships and communication.
- Better appreciation of cultural factors that impact patients' lifestyles (e.g., food habits, beliefs, customs, behaviors)
- Accessible healthcare to people from different backgrounds.

Although dentistry still struggles to be more inclusive, each of us can play an important role in eliminating bias at our workplace. Creating a compassionate, inclusive, and diverse dental workforce is critical to the success of our profession. Enriching our dental community with representatives of different genders, races, and nationalities is key for boosting our joint intellectual potential. At the same time, we need to make sure our dental organization has inclusive practices so that everyone feels they can be heard. By understanding and respecting our differences, we can work together towards our unified goal of providing better care for our patients and preserving the future of our profession.



Dental assistants who train through the DCDS Dental Assisting School know more than just the basics. They are specialized assistants who can take x-rays and perform CPR. They have foundational knowledge of nitrous oxide sedation and are HIPAA/OSHA proficient. They are trained to work as part of a dental team.

DCDS member dentists are given the unique (and first) opportunity to hire new, fully trained dental assistants from each graduating class. For more information, please contact the Program Director, Angela Bush, at info@dcdsdas.org or visit <https://www.dcdsdas.org/dental-assisting-school>.



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General Membership Meeting - April 2022

50 Shades of Gray: An Overview of Radiographic Pathology

PARAS PATEL, DDS



Dr. Paras B. Patel is a board certified oral and maxillofacial pathologist who obtained his dental degree from Howard University College of Dentistry in 2011. Dr. Patel went on to practice general dentistry for a couple of years in the Lubbock area working on a mobile dental unit. In 2014, he began his residency in oral and maxillofacial pathology at TAMU College of Dentistry. Upon completion of his residency, he took a position at the college and is currently a full-time faculty member in the department of diagnostic sciences. He maintains a clinical practice seeing patients who suffer from various oral diseases in the stomatology center (at the college of dentistry) and is a surgical pathologist in a busy biopsy service. Dr. Patel's fortunate circumstances and training allow him the opportunity to evaluate disease at the microscopic level, which has shaped and continues to shape the way he manages patients clinically.

Interpretation of radiographic pathology is often a daunting topic, but is ever present in our day to day clinical practices. This course will cover disease entities that are commonly encountered affecting the jaw bones that may be discovered through our imaging studies. It will familiarize the practitioner with the clinical and radiographic presentations of certain diseases and their etiology. We will discuss how to develop a differential diagnosis, what it takes to obtain a definitive diagnosis, and most importantly what treatment options are currently available to the oral healthcare team in managing these diseases and our patients.

Audience: Dentists
AGD Code: 731/739
CE Hours: 2 technical and/or scientific
CE Verification provided

Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with the radiographic features of the pathologic process that is observed
- Develop an accurate differential diagnosis for specific disease presentations
- Understand the etiopathogenesis of the discussed lesions
- Establish confidence in discussing specific diagnoses with patients
- Discuss treatment/management options for specific lesions with patients

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Cancellation Policy: The cancellation/refund deadline is April 12, 2022. A 20% administrative fee will be assessed for all cancellation requests on or prior to this date. Since this is a limited attendance course, "no shows" will forfeit the full course fee. No refunds will be granted after April 12, 2022.



APRIL 19

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FORT WORTH AGD CE SERIES #2 CHRISTENSEN BOTTOM LINE 2022

Presented by Dr. Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

Friday, April 1 | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Worthington Renaissance Fort Worth Hotel - 200 Main St, Fort Worth, TX 76102

7 HR LECTURE CREDIT | SUBJECT CODES:

070 Endodontics, 130 Electives, 180 Occlusion, 310 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery,
610 Fixed Prosthodontics, 690 Implants, 780 Esthetics/Cosmetic Dentistry

THE CHRISTENSEN BOTTOM LINE

This fast-moving “bottom line” course includes the areas of dentistry with the most activity and change in any given year. It is easily understood and has numerous summaries that help attendees to interpret the ongoing advancements in the profession. The course encourages audience participation, and questions and answers and is presented in an enjoyable and humorous manner.

Topics to be covered include • CAD/CAM • Implant Dentistry • Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery • Fixed Prosthodontics • Endodontics • Equipment • Esthetic Dentistry • Laboratory Technology • Occlusion • Lasers



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Gordon J. Christensen is Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Practical Clinical Courses (PCC), Chief Executive Officer of Clinicians Report Foundation (CR) and a practicing prosthodontist in Provo, Utah. Gordon and Dr. Rella Christensen are co-founders of the non-profit CLINICIANS REPORT FOUNDATION (previously named CRA). Since 1976, they have conducted research in all areas of dentistry and published the findings to the profession in the well-known CRA Newsletter, now called CLINICIANS REPORT. Gordon's degrees include: DDS, University of Southern California; MSD, University of Washington; PhD, University of Denver; and two honorary doctorates. Early in his career, Gordon helped initiate the University of Kentucky and University of Colorado dental schools and taught at the University of Washington. Currently, he is adjunct professor at the University of Utah

School of Dentistry. Gordon has presented thousands of hours of continuing education globally, made hundreds of educational videos used throughout the world, and published widely.

COURSE RATES

	Before March 1	After March 1
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*dentists practicing 7 years or less



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Texas A&M University College of Dentistry

By Carolyn Cox

First-in-Texas Fellowship: Program expands care for patients with special needs

The Compromised Care and Hospital Dentistry Fellowship at Texas A&M College of Dentistry is expanding treatment options for a unique population as the first special-needs-focused postdoctoral program in the state.

The fellowship serves patients with intellectual disabilities, developmental issues or medical conditions who require specialized dental treatment. Its champion is Dr. Dan Burch, clinical associate professor in pediatric dentistry, who was instrumental in creating the program two years ago from a five-year, \$3.3 million Health Resources and Services grant.

"HRSA has recently made a considerable effort to fund complex care and intellectual/developmental disability health care training projects," he explains. "There are very few educational training centers for special-needs dentistry in the U.S."

In the first 18 months of operations, the fellowship program saw 6,100 patients. Burch estimates that by June 2022, that number will reach 8,000 to 9,000 patients.

"The amazing thing is this is just across two fellows per year," he says. "This has been a really good program to implement for the community."

Current fellows Dr. Lianna Pulliam and Dr. Krizia Acosta, both class of 2021, are working to meet demand. Pulliam says the fellowship has exposed her to treatment methods and unique patients she didn't experience as a dental student.

"Working with this patient population has been amazing," Pulliam says. "Once you get used to seeing these beautiful souls that communicate in their own special ways every single day, I don't see myself practicing dentistry without caring for this population."

Special care fellows currently rotate through Children's Medical Center Dallas, Scottish Rite for Children, HHM Health and North Dallas Shared Ministries. Future growth will involve seeking out grants and other sources of funding, increasing the size of the fellowship from two to four, adding rotation sites, and increasing collaboration with private practices in the area.

Creating a campus clinic devoted to special needs dentistry is another priority. The space on the 8th floor of the Clinic and Education Building will contain multiple dental chairs, including one for bariatric patients and one with a wheelchair ramp, and accommodate sedation services ranging from oral sedation to general anesthesia.

"Although the College of Dentistry currently provides care for patients with special needs at local pediatric hospitals, over the years the need has intensified," Burch says, explaining that resulting delays in treatment times can compound issues these children are facing. The special needs fellowship and future clinic stand to impact not only the patients served but the number of dentists available to care for them.

"We're also expanding the abilities of our dental trainees and, by exposing them to this special patient population, giving them the chance to learn and understand how to manage these patients once they actually go into private practice settings," Burch says.



This unique population is a priority for current fellow Lianna Pulliam (left) and Dr. Dan Burch, pictured with a patient at Scottish Rite for Children.



Texas A&M College of Dentistry (formerly Baylor College of Dentistry) in Dallas is a part of Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Founded in 1905, the College of Dentistry is a nationally recognized center for oral health sciences education, research, specialized patient care and continuing dental education. Learn more at dentistryinsider.tamhsc.edu or follow @TAMUdental.



What is Charitybuzz?

Dallas County Dental Society Foundation has partnered with the online platform Charitybuzz to help raise funds for our charitable activities.

Charitybuzz is an internet company that raises funds for nonprofit organizations through online charity auctions with celebrities and brands. Auction experiences include music, entertainment, business, politics, sports, art, fashion and other industries.

The website allows for bidders all over the world to bid on items that have been posted—fundraising is not restricted to the community in which the item is offered. The site auctions unique experiences as well as items.

How can I help?

We encourage our members to visit [charitybuzz.com](https://www.charitybuzz.com) to experience the plethora of auction items that are listed, but also to obviously bid on those which will benefit the Dallas County Dental Society Foundation.

We also urge DCDS members to consider contributing an item or an experience that will allow DCDS Foundation to receive a sizeable return if the item sells. Examples include art, sports memorabilia, vacation homes or timeshares, as well as meetings with local or national celebrities.

In early January, DCDS Foundation will have active auction items that have been donated by a member: These items can be viewed at <https://www.charitybuzz.com/support/5604>.

NET FUNDS RAISED FOR DCDS FOUNDATION THROUGH CHARITYBUZZ SINCE JANUARY 2022: \$ 1,033.49



To donate an item or an experience, please contact Dr. Hedley Rakusin at htrakusin@gmail.com.

Your DCDS Foundation at Work!

by Dr. Michael Rainwater

Working in support of our community

DCDS Foundation is working in our community to improve education, access to dental care and promote the importance of dentistry to Dallas County residents. Recent events include:

A partnership with Farmers Branch elementary schools was initiated, and in December the Foundation delivered oral health kits and an educational video on the importance of dental health and the enjoyment of seeing a dentist. This is our Tooth Talk program.



Above: Principal Shanah Brown and the school nurse for Farmers Branch Elementary, with Dr. Michael Rainwater, DCDS Foundation Chairman, delivering their oral health kits.

Right: Nurse Marie Candel of Davis Elementary accepting a donation of oral health kits from DCDS Foundation.



Above: Donna Garcia from the City of Dallas After School Outreach Program, picking up oral health kits for distribution to after school programs.

In February 2022, our third year celebrating Give Kids a Smile - Dallas, we supplied 500 oral hygiene products and educated kids about dental care. GKAS - Dallas is under the leadership of Dr. Rei Iwase and continues a partnership with City of Dallas After School Outreach Program as well as with Title I DISD elementary schools. City of Dallas After School Outreach Program coordinator Donna Garcia is a vital part of our team.

Upcoming events supported by the DCDS Foundation include:



Charity Summit Dallas will host its third gathering this March. This DCDS Foundation event gathers charitable organizations that share a priority on dentistry. Goals of this summit are sharing ideas, opening up lines of communication and to provide and improve pathways to partnerships between these groups, to better serve Dallas County.

TDA's Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) event is coming in November with the focus on serving Veterans. This will be the eighth TMOM hosted by DCDS Foundation, making a difference for thousands of Dallas County residents. We expect to provide care for over 350 Veterans with basic unmet dental needs. Please consider volunteering, as we will need caring dentists, hygienists and dental assistants to make this weekend happen. Signup will open six weeks prior to the event at <https://tmomvolunteer.org/event/85/>. Stay tuned for more information!

Help us make these events bigger, better and more impactful for dentistry!

TO VOLUNTEER

WWW.DCDSFOUNDATION.ORG

TO GIVE

DCDS Foundation is now an eligible charity listed on AmazonSmile. This program through Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the Foundation when selected by customers. Our unique charity link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-2790709>.



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Contact Peter Hofmann DDS at 972 365-0872 for more info.

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Register early in March for the Southwest Dental Conference (SWDC), August 26-27th at the Hilton Anatole. This will be an event for the entire dental team with something for everyone to develop and grow professionally and personally. The Hilton Anatole will be a new venue with a more intimate setting, networking and fun at the Jade Waters waterpark.

Our theme for the 95th year of the SWDC is "Empowering Dentistry as Essential Health Care." Many of the courses will focus on the many connections between oral-systemic health and the importance of oral health for overall health.

We have something that will energize, inspire, and educate the entire dental team in all specialties of care and career stages.

Have you been wanting to add new procedures in your practice such as therapeutic Botox, clear aligner orthodontics or laser tongue and lip tie releases? Are you looking to improve

your clinical techniques like oral surgery, root canals, photography and occlusal equilibration? Come experience our hands-on workshops with smaller sized classes that will sell out quickly.

Have you been wanting to find practice management courses to take your practice to the next level — building efficiencies, setting goals, increasing case acceptance and navigating insurance challenges? Your entire team can receive a range of training: emergency preparedness, OSHA, HIPPA, fabricating exquisite temporaries, dental assistant mastery, navigating dental insurance successfully, implementing medical billing, equipment maintenance, improving teamwork and case acceptance. Your dental team will leave with many pearls and will be energized with ideas to bring back to the office.

Do you need to renew your Level I sedation permit or fulfill your prescription drug requirements? We have you covered.

Don't forget about our extremely popular CE Express 1-hour power courses for dentists and dental hygienists!

The Exhibit Hall will be buzzing with a packed house of new and returning vendors. See the latest and greatest that dentistry has to offer and enjoy entertainment and networking near the exhibit hall as well.

Save the date on your calendar and your team's calendar for August 26-27, 2022. Plan on booking rooms to stay at the Anatole for a weekend staycation. You will not want to miss the 95th Southwest Dental Conference!



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