



NORTHEASTERN SOCIETY OF PERIODONTISTS BULLETIN

VOLUME 34, No. 2

FALL 2005

FALL MEETING • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2005

Complications and Problem Solving in the New Era of Periodontal Therapy

New York Marriott Marquis Hotel • 1535 Broadway, New York, NY

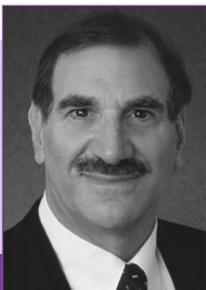
It is not uncommon to be witness to presentations that show magical results that we are less likely to reproduce consistently in a clinical setting. The speakers of this meeting are a different breed. They are not here to boast about how they can make magic, but rather to discuss their humble and confident ways of approaching and resolving problems in periodontics and implant treatment. NESPP Program Chairman Dr. Mark Snyder, with great effort and success, has put together a list of sought-after speakers. These experts have no hesitation in sharing with us the least talked about and the most valuable subject to the clinician: *Complications and Problem Solving in the New Era of Periodontal Therapy*. All evidence points to this being a great event, and one that you would not want to miss.

Program Agenda

8:00–9:00 A.M. Meeting registration
9:00–9:15 A.M. *I Really Don't See Many Complications, However . . .* Dr. Stuart Froum

9:15–10:30 A.M. *Medical Considerations in Patient Care: Identifying and Managing the Potential "Problem Patient,"* Dr. Brian Mealey
10:30–11:00 A.M. Coffee Break (be sure to visit the exhibit hall)
11:00 A.M.–12:15 P.M. *Management of Implant Complications,* Dr. Richard Lazzara
12:15 P.M. Luncheon for Learning
Presentation of Isador Hirschfeld Award
1:30–2:15 P.M. *Management of Implant-Associated Treatment Risks and Complications in an Atmosphere of Complete Disclosure,* Dr. Alan Rosenfeld
2:15–3:30 P.M. *Periodontal Surgery: Problems, Complications, and Solutions,* Dr. Gary M. Reiser
3:30–4:00 P.M. Discussion and adjournment of the meeting

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)



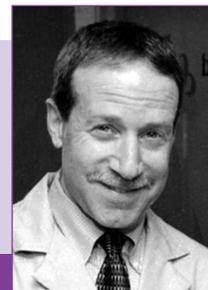
Stuart J. Froum



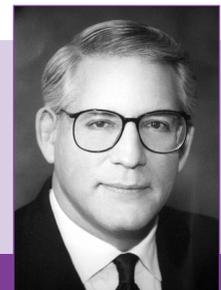
Brian L. Mealey



Richard J. Lazzara



Alan L. Rosenfeld



Gary M. Reiser

ADAC•E•R•P
CONTINUING EDUCATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM

PROVIDER CODE 05397-58

*The NESPP is a recognized ADA CERP provider.
Attendance at the meeting is open to all dues-paying members. Guests have to pay the required fee as stated in the program. No refunds are allowed. There is no cancellation policy for dues-paying members. Attendees will receive 7 credit hours for the Fall 2005 Meeting lectures.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**NESP Spring Meeting
April 7, 2006**

**NESP Fall Meeting
November 3, 2006**

Message from the President

Great Member Benefits

The program for the October 28, 2005 meeting of the NESP will be different from those presented previously. This program, entitled "Complications and Problem Solving in the New Era of Clinical Periodontics" (with a subtitle of "Getting Out of Trouble and Staying Out of Trouble") will showcase noted speakers who will discuss their failures, and then problem-solve them with you and/or demonstrate how to avoid them. It should be refreshing to see the problems presented by Richard Lazzara and Gary Reiser, and to hear Brian Mealey and Alan Rosenfeld let us know how to avoid getting into trouble.

In the past I have informed the membership about the NESP's excellent financial position. With this in mind, the Board of Directors will give back to the membership by offering two member benefits: a program for your dental hygienists and a full day with David Mathews.

The Dental Hygiene program was developed by Roy Feldman and is free to the membership (if space permits, members will be able to send more than one hygienist). Speakers include Susan Karabin, Brian Mealey, Tricia O'Hehir, and Deborah Dopson-Hartley.

Save the Date! Friday, February 10, 2006. Dave Mathews is one of the finest clinicians in periodontics. It is

not often that Dave agrees to give a full-day program; however, his experience with our group has been exceptionally positive and so he has agreed to come east again. Dave will share his techniques in detail with the membership, covering both what makes them successful and potential problems. We will ask you to pay only for the cost of lunch, which is mandatory with the day. NESP will pick up the cost of Dave's honorarium, AV, and mailings as a member benefit. Everyone who attends will leave with techniques that can be utilized in everyday practice.

I would like to thank the membership for allowing me to represent the Northeastern Society of Periodontists as their president. Our board is highly dedicated, and you are in good hands. I hope to see you all at the October 28 meeting. If you have any concerns do not hesitate to contact me. ■



Barry D. Wagenberg

New Members

The NESP welcomes the following new members:

Dr. Vanita Ahuja • New York, NY

Dr. Hiroshi Kimura • New York, NY

Dr. Daniel Nejat • Short Hills, NJ

Dr. Nancy Nie-Shiuh Chang • West Hartford, CT

Dr. Robert Perlman • Jacksonville, FL

Dr. Michael Plotno • Livingston, NJ

Dr. Edward Sugarman • Atlanta, GA

Dr. Richard Sugarman • Atlanta, GA

Dr. Joseph Zelig • New Milford, NJ

NESP MEETING PLATINUM SPONSORS

NESP would like to acknowledge
our Platinum sponsors

3I-Implant Innovations

Astra Tech

Nobel Biocare

Straumann

Sunstar/Butler

W. L. Gore

whose additional educational grants have enabled this society to provide excellent programming and parallel functions to our membership.

PERIODONTIC NEWS?

NESP Bulletin encourages news from advanced education programs in periodontics throughout the northeastern region. News may include faculty and student activities or achievements, research projects, departmental changes or any other related activities.

The deadline for the next issue is January 17, 2006. You may send all correspondence in care of the Editor, Dr. Mehdi Saber. Please see the last page for contact information.

Visit us at www.nesp.org

Guest Editorial

Even a Monkey Could Do It

by Timothy Donley, D.M.D.

I was already in a bad mood. The suction system had broken down (a day after the warranty expired). Meanwhile, one of my staff was in tears because she had just received the devastating news that an old boyfriend (someone whom she dated once six years ago) married someone else. The films were sticking in the processor (I learned that the scheduled monthly maintenance had last been done in about 1967), and my four-hour, sixteen-implant patient cancelled at the last minute (she decided instead to order a set of dentures online). Just another typical day at my office. Amidst all of this a call came in.

A patient was on the line asking my receptionist for the "price" of our implants. When told, the patient asked if we would be willing to "price match" an estimate she received from a dentist who practices in a tent down by the river. My receptionist put her on hold, finally found me unstoping the commode in the patients' bathroom and sought my answer. So many thoughts went through my mind.

I first felt insulted by the call. I am a specialist, for gosh sakes, not a car salesman. Then I just got mad. Not mad that the patient asked the question, but that she thought the question was a legitimate one to ask. That was not her fault. It is ours.

When they are faced with a serious medical problem, most people devote considerable effort toward finding

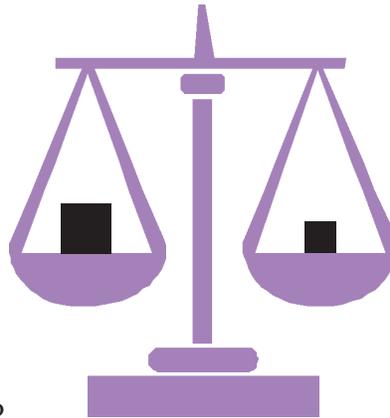
the practitioner most skilled to fix their problem. Almost all medical second opinions are sought to find out if there's a better way of handling a problem. No one seeks a second *dental* opinion to find the best solution to their problem. The only time a dental patient seeks a second opinion is to find someone who will do it cheaper. After all, all dentists are alike, aren't they?

You always hear people practically bragging about their medical care. They will often say things like, "Elmer went all the way to the Cleveland Clinic to have his bunions removed. There is a guy there who is the world's bunion removal expert." You hardly ever hear someone talk that way about a dentist.

We have led the public to believe that any dentist can solve any dental problem with equal aplomb. Certainly all dentists should be expected to provide a level of service that is at least at the standard of care. But patients should somehow know that some dentists put the time and effort into mastering a superior level of expertise in specific areas of dentistry. Those dentists should charge more for the care they render. Patients should realize why care from those dentists costs more.

Continuing to embrace the concept that all dentists are alike does not raise the standing of the least qualified among us. It lessens us all.

Reprinted with permission, *KDA Today*, official publication of the Kentucky Dental Association, May/June 2005, Dr. Timothy Donley, editor. ■



Future Meetings and Bulletin Deadlines

Members are encouraged to write or provide materials of interest to the bulletin.

NESP Spring Meeting
April 7, 2006

Bulletin Deadline: January 17, 2006

NESP Fall Meeting
November 3, 2006

Bulletin Deadline: August 15, 2006

Winner of the Marriott Vacation

Dr. Anca Bazile • Westport, CT

Isidor Hirschfeld Award Recipient

Dr. David Garber

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

STUART J. FROUM, D.D.S. will start the meeting with an introduction: *I Really Don't See Many Complications, However . . .*

Dr. Froum received his dental degree from NYU and completed his periodontal training at the Veterans Administration Hospital in New York City. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontics and a trustee of the American Academy of Periodontology. Currently he holds the position of clinical professor at NYU Dental Center in both the department of periodontics and the department of implant dentistry, where he is the director of research. Dr. Froum is currently on the research committee of the Academy of Osseointegration. He is also a member of the continuing education oversight committee of the AAP. He was the recipient of the Isidor Hirschfeld Award and the AAP Clinical Research Award. He has lectured extensively, contributed chapters in two textbooks and published over 70 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

BRIAN L. MEALEY, D.D.S., M.S. will present *Medical Considerations in Patient Care: Identifying and Managing the Potential "Problem Patient."* The vision of periodontology over the next two decades focuses on periodontists as practitioners of periodontal medicine, surgery, and dental implant therapy. A primary focus in every new patient encounter is to evaluate the patient's risk for potential complications or problems that may occur pre-, intra-, or post-operatively. Which patients are at high risk for such problems? Which are at lower risk? These are the decisions we must make every day. This lecture focuses on identification of common at-risk patient types, with particular attention paid to major cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events, bleeding, and acute diabetic emergencies. Some of these patients are at risk due to their underlying disease, while others are at risk due to medications they take. The lecture will also review prevention of adverse events and treatment of potential emergencies in the office.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

The attendees will:

- understand medical factors that place patients at risk for complications and emergencies during or after periodontal therapy;
- know how osteoporosis affects oral health and periodontal/implant therapy;
- comprehend current guidelines for evaluating and treating patients at risk for endocarditis, and those with hypertension and heart murmurs;
- know how to manage patients taking anticoagulants;

- understand current medical treatment methods for people with diabetes and how those methods affect risk for in-office diabetic emergencies;
- be familiar with appropriate clinical management of diabetic emergencies.

Dr. Mealey is an associate professor in the department of periodontics at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He is also an adjunct associate professor in the department of periodontics at Baylor College of Dentistry, Texas A&M University Health System in Dallas, Texas. He received his D.D.S. from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and his periodontics certificate from Wilford Hall and his Master of Science degree from the University of Texas. Dr. Mealey served 21 years in the United States Air Force, where he was the chair of the department of periodontics at Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio and the program director of the Air Force periodontics residency. He also served as the consultant in periodontics to the Air Force Surgeon General. He retired from active duty in 2004 in the rank of colonel. Dr. Mealey is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology. He has published over 60 articles, abstracts and textbook chapters in the scientific literature, with an emphasis on inter-relationships between oral and systemic health. He is co-editor and author of two textbooks, *Periodontics: Medicine, Surgery and Dental Implants*, and *Periodontal Medicine*. Dr. Mealey is a consultant to the American Dental Association Council on Scientific Affairs and a former member of the National Advisory Dental and Craniofacial Research Council at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Mealey's major awards include the AAP's Balint Orban Memorial Research Award, the F. Earl Robinson Regeneration Award, and the Fellowship Award. He has served the Academy on over 20 committees and task forces and is a former member of the AAP Board of Trustees.

RICHARD J. LAZZARA, D.M.D., M.Sc.D. will present *Management of Implant Complications*. Regardless of the clinical procedure, complications seem eventually to be part of therapeutic endeavors. Implant dentistry is no exception. This presentation will categorize complications in both the surgical and prosthetic aspects of implant therapy. Treatment of complications will be discussed in detail and various types of complications will be illustrated. Emphasis will be placed on the solution or management of these situations. By recognizing the causes for complications presented, the

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

clinician will be able to evaluate treatment plans for future cases to avoid these pitfalls.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Following this lecture, attendees will:

1. be able to recognize situations that may create complications;
2. learn how to reduce or avoid risk of complications;
3. learn how to treat resulting complications.

Dr. Lazzara practices periodontics and implant dentistry in West Palm Beach, Florida. He has published a number of articles and textbook chapters on the subject of osseointegrated implants. Research topics cover a variety of areas, including regenerative, restorative and early loading protocols. Recent focus has been the clinical benefits of the changing therapeutic protocols as a result of bioengineered surface technology. He is currently clinical assistant professor at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry and associate clinical professor at the University of Maryland, Periodontal and Implant Regenerative Center, and associate professor at the University of Miami. He has lectured extensively throughout the U.S. and internationally on the surgical and prosthetic applications of implant dentistry.

ALAN L. ROSENFELD, D.D.S., F.A.C.D. will present *Management of Implant-Associated Treatment Risks and Complications in an Atmosphere of Complete Disclosure*. This presentation will review in detail the utilization and implementation of contemporary CT scan technology to reduce risk and complications associated with implant treatment. Despite the increase in patient treatment complexity, little progress has been made toward reducing pre-operative risk and improving surgical predictability by utilizing advanced imaging technology. The most commonly used radiographs are inaccurate, limit analysis of buccolingual relationships, do not enable precise three-dimensional assessments of anatomy and do not fully integrate a presurgically defined prosthetic outcome as the means to establish precise guidance at the time of surgery. Unless we open our minds to the possibilities of precise, prosthetically directed surgery, we will continue to expose ourselves to the inherent risks and complications associated with mentally navigated implant surgery. Furthermore, we will lose the opportunity to offer our patients a minimally invasive surgical option and an important competitive advantage in the surgical implant marketplace.

Perhaps the most underappreciated value of 3-D computed tomography is the ability to consult with patients and referring doctors in an atmosphere of complete disclosure.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

- understand the limitations of currently used diagnostic radiographs for implant treatment planning;
- understand three-dimensional anatomy of the maxilla and mandible by utilizing imaging masks;
- understand how normal anatomy creates an inherent implant/prosthesis incompatibility;
- understand contemporary CT scans and their implication for treatment planning;
- understand the importance and characteristics of prosthetically directed scanning appliances;
- understand the commonly unknown factors which increase the risk of an adverse surgical outcome;
- understand the different types of surgical guides and their indications;
- understand minimally invasive implant surgery without bone exposure;
- understand the power of collaborative accountability, education and marketing from a CT perspective.

Dr. Rosenfeld limits his private practice to cosmetic and reconstructive periodontics and dental implants in Park Ridge, IL. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Dentistry and completed his specialty training in periodontology at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and the former director of graduate periodontology at Northwestern University Dental School. His collaboration with Drs. Richard Mecall and George Mandelaris has led to contributions in textbooks and numerous journal articles. He has lectured nationally and internationally, and has been using CT technology for the placement of dental implants since 1988. Dr. Rosenfeld is a professor of clinical periodontology at the University of Illinois College of Dentistry, where his chief responsibility is teaching implant and periodontal plastic surgery to graduate students. In addition, he has contributed in the development of Simplant planner. He serves on the medical advisory board of Materialise, the developer of Simplant planner and SurgiGuides.

GARY M. REISER, D.D.S. will present *Periodontal Surgery: Problems, Complications, and Solutions*. The multiple values of periodontal surgery are among the most valuable and yet least understood of dentistry's

Dental Hygiene in the Age of Systemic Disease

Special Member Benefit: Hygienist Program

SUSAN KARABIN, D.D.S. will present *Gender, Health, and Healing*. She will review current concepts and differences with regard to gender in immune response to viral and microbial challenges. There will be a discussion of the Institute of Medicine's Committee findings, and a definition of gender as it affects disease and organ systems. The "estrogen effect" on brain development and heart disease risk will be discussed in detail, along with pregnancy, pre-term low birth weight, and the effects of a chronic inflammatory state (periodontal disease) on outcomes and disease progression.

8:00 A.M.	Registration, Exhibits and Coffee
9:00 A.M.	Welcome Back, We've Been Here Before... Roy S. Feldman, D.D.S., DMSc Program Chairman Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
9:00-10:00 A.M.	Gender, Health and Healing Susan Karabin, D.D.S. New York, New York
10:00 A.M.	Exhibits and Coffee
10:30-11:15 A.M.	Local Factors in Diverse Disease— Simple Problems and Difficult Patients Trisha E. O'Hehir, R.D.H. Louisville, Kentucky
11:15 A.M.- 12:15 P.M.	Medical Considerations in Patient Care: Periodontal Medicine Brian Mealey, D.D.S., MS San Antonio, Texas
12:15 P.M.	Lunch Presentation of Isador Hirschfeld Award Luncheon for Learning
1:30-3:00 P.M.	T.E.A.M.—Hygiene: The Value of Dental Hygiene Deborah Dopson- Hartley, R.D.H. Tallahassee, Florida
3:00 P.M.	Discussion

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Participants will understand:

1. how gender affects immune response to infections;
2. the role of estrogen in organ system development;
3. the effects of periodontal disease on pregnancy and the risk of pre-term low birth weight.

Dr. Karabin is a diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology with a full-time practice in Manhattan. She completed her dental and periodontal training at Columbia School of Dental and Oral Surgery, where she currently holds the title of associate clinical professor. Dr. Karabin chaired the \$7.5 million capital campaign for the reconstruction of the dental school clinics and held the position of director of professional development. Her area of expertise is women's health and she has lectured and published nationally and internationally on related topics for more than a decade. She is on the editorial board of *The Journal of Gender Specific Medicine*, *The International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants*, and *Dentistry Today*. She presently holds the position of president of the New York Academy of Dentistry, president of the Northeast Society of Periodontists (Oct. 2005), and is president-elect of the American Academy of Periodontology.

TRISHA O'HEHIR, R.D.H. will present *Local Factors in Diverse Disease—Simple Problems and Difficult Patients*. This presentation will discuss an evidence-based approach to dental hygiene that assists in treatment of complex disease states, together with hygiene management techniques and improving patient compliance.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

1. participants will be able to distinguish between science and tradition in matters of dental infection;
2. participants will recognize and deal with risk factors for oral health and general health.



Susan Karabin



Trisha O'Hehir



Brian L. Mealey



Deborah Dopson-Hartley

Ms. O'Hehir is an international speaker, author, instrument designer, award-winning educator, editorial director of *Hygienetown Magazine*, president of Perio Reports Publishing, and author of the popular cartoon book, *The Toothpaste Secret*. She is based in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona and serves as vice president, Perio-Data™ Company and teaches as adjunct faculty, University of Louisville. Ms. O'Hehir is the current chair, Oral Research Group, International Association for Dental Research, and is considered an innovative and focused thinker who combines in continuing education programs current research findings, clinical applications, and alternatives for the practice of the future.

BRIAN L. MEALEY, D.D.S., M.S., will present *Medical Considerations in Patient Care: Periodontal Medicine*. This will be similar to his same-day course in the general meeting, with a focus toward hygienists. Please refer to his course details in the general meeting description section of this bulletin.

DEBORAH DOPSON-HARTLEY, R.D.H. will present *T.E.A.M.-Hygiene: The Value of Dental Hygiene*. Her presentation will introduce new insight and philosophy from a practicing hygienist to help attendees better understand the relationship of hygiene profitability, case representation, and acceptance of ideal comprehensive restorative dentistry. She will discuss how to set realistic hygiene goals for production, case presentation, case acceptance, and retention. Attendees will leave this intriguing and thought-provoking presentation with proven successful techniques that can be incorporated immediately into practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

1. the participant will understand the entire T.E.A.M.-Hygiene's role in practice development;
2. the participant will recognize practice patterns to schedule for higher production;
3. the participant will learn proven techniques that will assist with case presentation and acceptance.

Ms. Dopson-Hartley is a full-time practicing hygienist in Tampa, Florida. She sits on the boards of Contemporary Oral Hygiene, the Amara Institute, Global Dental Seminars, Canada, and is on the Executive Editorial Board and is a contributing editor for *Dentist's Money Digest*. Ms. Hartley's presentations introduce new insight, philosophy and understanding in hygiene profitability, case presentation and acceptance of comprehensive restorative aesthetic dentistry. Reflected in her courses are Deborah's 30 years of practice experience, which has allowed her perspective to establish goals for herself and for those she teaches. ■

AAP BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

AUGUST 2005

The board met from August 20–21, 2005. As usual, many activities were addressed at the meeting and a number of the previous initiatives were discussed and refined. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

The following are highlights of the August 2005 report:

- approved a second reading of the Bylaws revision, which will stipulate that only Board Certified AAP voting members elect the American Board of Periodontology Directors;
- a statement for the AAP News was approved regarding bisphosphonates as related to treatment in periodontal therapy;
- a budget with revenue of \$10,441,804 and expenditures of \$10,175,785 was approved. (The Board usually approves several hundred thousands of dollars in additional spending necessary during the year);
- approved a reduction of dues for full-time periodontal faculty;
- waived the policy of increasing dues by the Consumer Price Index for 2006;
- the editor of the journal, Dr. Robert Genco, announced his retirement at the end of his current contract. A search for editor will begin;
- approved several insurance code revisions related to sinus augmentation and three-dimensional radiography codes;
- a task force has been meeting to work on a protocol for referral guidelines. This task force has been highly active and their work will be important for all periodontists. We are working with the PreViser Group to determine if their program will be an effective tool for referral guidelines;
- approved funding for annual licensing and the purchase of the software for legislative and regulatory monitoring. This would enable the AAP to make State Periodontal Societies aware of any upcoming legislation that will affect the individual states.

We hope to see you all in Denver at the Annual Meeting.

Brian Chadroff and Barry Wagenberg
District VII Trustees

NYU NEWS

The Advanced Education Program in Periodontics concluded this academic year in outstanding fashion. Resident alumni/ae and faculty were successful in passing the examinations for certification by the American Board of Periodontology. Drs. Irene Boxser, Jaklin Morovati, and Stuart Segelnick are now diplomates of the American Board of Periodontology, and our program is justly proud of their accomplishment.

We are proud as well of this year's 2005 graduating class. Drs. Roya Mohajer, Mark Schlesinger, Melody Schiffer, Neha Shah, Allison Zaromb, and Joseph Zelig have completed our three year program with distinction. Dr. Mark Schlesinger received the dual honor of being recognized for his services as chief resident and honors clinician.

The incoming first year residency class has demonstrated high academic and professional achievement in their application to our three year program. The program welcomes Drs. Nancy Kim, David Lefkowitz, Amir Mostaghi, Keren Sperling, Sahar Verdi, and Michael Zidile. Dr. Nikisha Jodhan has transferred to our program and will enter the second year residency class. The faculty applauds their motivations for a career in periodontics.

Our advanced program participates in two annual scientific symposia that bring together residents and faculty from six advanced programs in the Northeast. In May, we

hosted residents and faculty of the P.G. programs of Boston University and the University of Pennsylvania for the annual two-day Tri-School Symposium. The Tri-School symposium brings together the three schools for a two day collaboration on research and clinical sciences. In addition, our program participated in the Metropolitan Periodontal Forum with residents and faculty from Columbia University and UMDNJ. The UMDNJ hosted this one-day science seminar in Newark, New Jersey. These symposia stimulate research in periodontics, and add a social exchange between residents and faculty that enhances each P.G. program.

Drs. Khalid Almas, Ron Craig, Bruce Davidson, Jeffrey Lemler, Veena Nanda, Robert Schoor, and Mea Weinberg of our faculty have been active in clinical research with manuscripts accepted and published in *JADA*, *J Perio.*, *Biomedical Materials Research*, and the *Journal of Long Term Care*. Dr. Stephanie Russell received her PhD in Epidemiology from Yale University.

We welcome two new faculty members in the Department of Periodontics: Drs. Gerard Epelbaum and Wayne Kye. Dr. Epelbaum received his specialty training at Columbia University, Dr. Kye from the University of Maryland.

Submitted by:
Robert S. Schoor, D.D.S.
Program Director

NEW RULES FOR NY STATE CE REGISTRY

In its infinite wisdom, NYS Dental Society has changed the rules for our giving them the list of attendees at the meeting. No longer will they accept poorly written names and missing ADA numbers where they have to look up the ADA number before they enter your name in the CE Registry.

NYS Continuing Education works like this: you are required to have the Verification of Attendance form available to any auditor if you are ever audited as to the number of CE credits that you have. It is a good idea to make a file to keep these forms in a central place when you complete a course. NYS also has a CE Registry where they compile your credits electronically and send you a list annually. In the past we have asked you to sign up for that list and I send it the NYS and they make the entries in their registry. They are inundated with poor cooperation from members who have illegi-

ble handwriting and absent ADA numbers. They have now said that **if the ADA number is missing, no credit in the registry will be entered; they also want the names and ADA numbers sent to them electronically.**

This is where it leaves us. After the meeting I will enter the information into the computer and send it to NYS. If there is no ADA number present, you will not get credit. Please make it easy for us all and have your ADA number available when you sign the form and *please* write legibly.

Looking forward to your presence at the October 28th meeting as it promises to be a wonderful program.

David I. Kratenstein, D.D.S., pc
Executive Director NESP

Influenza Pandemic? Dentists Urged to Consult Reliable Sources

The American Dental Association has issued a report on the potential worldwide spread of severe influenza and how dentists can be responsive to such an event in the United States.

The new report, "Influenza Pandemic," by Dr. Albert H. Guay, ADA chief policy advisor, is available from the Association online in the Dental Topics content area of ADA.org or by calling the ADA at extension 2844.

"The threat of an influenza pandemic is real, and prediction of a pandemic's onset or immediate containment remains impossible," says Dr. Guay. "Yet, this is not a reason for hysterics or panic. Instead, I urge dentists to pay attention to health reports from around the world, and to look for balanced information from reliable sources—not from alarmist opinions."

In his report, Dr. Guay outlines the historical characteristics and typical progression of an influenza pandemic. In discussing our federal government's strategies to handle a future event, he makes clear that no predetermined plan will be absolutely the best for whatever situation may occur, since information about the exact nature of a pandemic must await its emergence. Nonetheless, he says, a well-developed plan will allow a mechanism to be established for the most rapid response.

"How badly a potential pandemic might affect the United States is anybody's guess," he notes, "but we do know that our public health infrastructure in the United States is vastly different than in the past, when devastating influenza pandemics hit with little warning."

Surveillance and early detection are key steps to containing the initial outbreak of a new and potentially severe strain of influenza. Sick patients would likely go first to the medical community with flu-like symptoms, rather than go to the dentist for treatment.

"Dentists' role would be ancillary," says Dr. Guay, "but their vigilance concerning patient behaviors could still aid in the early detection of an influenza outbreak."

However, in the event of a full-scale pandemic, the medical community would not be able to control or monitor the situation on its own. Local medical resources could be overwhelmed.

"The surge capacity would be over the top," Dr. Guay says, "and dentists may need to play a hands-on and vital role to counteract the spread of disease and safeguard the public health."

Infection control procedures, for example, would likely need to increase, as well as apply beyond the operatory and dental treatment into the waiting room. Dental offices may be required to close down, except for emergency treatment. Two ADA councils, he notes, are considering which expanded infection control practices may be appropriate for dental offices to employ in the event of a severe influenza situation.

Dentists might also be mobilized in ways similar to a response to bioterrorism, such as administering medications and immunizations or using their dental offices as temporary medical centers.

"This is why the ADA is urging dentists to be familiar with their state dental society's emergency response plan," says Dr. Guay, "to keep themselves up-to-date with mass-disaster training programs and, above all, to pay attention and keep informed by monitoring world health events from reliable sources.

"The ADA will help," he adds, "by providing information to dentists in a timely manner." ■

Promoting Your Practice's Web Site

To learn more about the following subjects for web site promotion, visit the AAP site, perio.org.

- Print Promotion
- Site Referrals
- Search Engines
- Online Directories
- Strong Content
- Developing Your Web Site
- AAP Member Web Sites

Distribute AAP Patient Pages in Your Office

As a benefit to AAP members, a full-color Patient Page is now posted quarterly on perio.org for you to view, print out, or download to your computer.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

clinical modalities. Carefully diagnosed and executed procedures provide healthy, functional and esthetic results, which contribute remarkably to treatment outcomes. However, surgical outcomes vary and are dependent upon many factors, which include case selection, operator experience and skill. Several problems and complications may be encountered during or following surgery. The problems include flap management, suturing problems, membrane complications, failure to provide ideal root coverage, etc. These, as well as other problems, will be discussed and solutions suggested.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

- to review the essential nature of careful diagnosis and evaluation of the presurgical site;
- to demonstrate that flap design and flap closure are integrally related;

- to troubleshoot intra-operative problems;
- to manage post-operative complications.

Dr. Reiser has been an active participant in the periodontal community. He has served in various capacities and is the chairman of American Board of Periodontology, is an associate clinical professor in Tufts University department of periodontology, and served as the trustee to the American Academy of Periodontology from 1995 to 1999. He was chairman of the Dental Care Committee, member of Long Range Planning and Continuing Education Oversight Committees of AA, and received the AAP Clinical Research Award in 1999 and AAP Special Citation in 1998. Dr. Reiser has a private practice in periodontology and implantology in Swampscott, MA. ■

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