Time to get a bead on C.E.

‘A Midwinter Mardi Gras’ in Chicago celebrates innovation, camaraderie, diversity

Attendees in the walkways near general registration at this year’s Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting will be able to walk away sporting more than a badge on a lanyard. Souvenir Mardi Gras beads also will be distributed.

No, you don’t need to have beads on to gain entry to the exhibit hall or any of the meeting’s more than 200 courses, hands-on workshops, lectures and live-patient demonstrations. The beads simply reflect the theme of the 154th annual Midwinter Meeting, presented by the Chicago Dental Society: ‘A Midwinter Mardi Gras: Celebrating Innovation, Camaraderie and Diversity.’

The 2019 Midwinter Meeting will be from Feb. 21–23 in Chicago’s McCormick Place West Building. Online registration continues until Monday, Feb. 18. And attendees are encouraged to register for courses early because of the meeting’s reputation for seeing many of its highly popular sessions quickly sell out. Even ‘no-additional-charge’ sessions require preregistration and on-time arrival.

Chicago Dental Society members don’t have to pay the meeting’s registration fee. But the society makes it easy for any ADA member to join the Chicago Dental Society prior to the meeting, offering an associate member option for $25, which enables waiver of the meeting’s normal registration fee. That still ends up being a $70 savings compared with the on-site registration cost.

Regardless of where you end up with your cost-of-admission strategy, the meeting’s benefits aren’t limited to the classrooms. The Midwinter Meeting has developed a strong reputation as a popular launch venue for new products and services being released by some of the industry’s most innovative companies. In the Midwinter Meeting’s exhibit hall you can try out the latest products and services available from more than 600 exhibiting companies.

The three days of exhibits will run from Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 21–23. On Thursday and Friday the hall will open at 9 a.m. and close at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday the hall again opens at 9 a.m. but will close at 4 p.m.

Beyond the classrooms and the exhibit hall, the Midwinter Meeting also delivers abundant opportunities to network with colleagues and other professionals throughout the dental community. Catch up with classmates at various Midwinter Meeting special events, gatherings and associated events, including the mentor luncheon, new-dentists reception and various dental school alumni reunions.

After the meeting, attendees are encouraged to take the opportunity to relax, rejuvenate and recharge. Dine in Chicago’s renowned restaurants. Shop the Magnificent Mile. Tour some of the city’s famed architecture or experience some of the many museums and cultural institutions for which the city is so well known. The opportunities are endless.

(Source: Chicago Dental Society)

Kettenbach acquires Airway Metrics

Kettenbach LP and Airway Metrics LLC have announced the acquisition by Kettenbach of all business assets of Airway Metrics effective Feb. 28.

Airway Metrics has a product system to assist dentists in determining the correct vertical and proutrusive dimensions needed in a bite to produce an optimum airway to manage OSA through professionally prescribed and delivered oral sleep appliances.

Supported by a large number of experts in dental sleep medicine, Airway Metrics has become an instrument in a growing number of dental offices that have been adding this therapy to their practices.

All current business agreements and relationships will continue as they were under Airway Metrics leadership. Airway Metrics can be contacted at (206) 949-8859 or sleep911@comcast.net.

Kettenbach will assume all business responsibilities effective March 1. Kettenbach can be contacted at (877) 532-2123 or custservice@kettenbachusa.com.

(Source: Kettenbach LP)
PDC expects 14,000

The 2019 Pacific Dental Conference will take place Thursday through Saturday, March 7-9, at the Vancouver Convention Centre in Vancouver, British Columbia. The meeting features a comprehensive agenda of more than 200 open sessions and hands-on courses presented by some of dentistry’s top clinicians and thought leaders. The program enables attendees to earn up to 20 C.E. credits.

The exhibit floor typically sells out months in advance, and this year is no exception. More than 300 dental companies and organizations will be available to help attendees try out the industry’s latest technological innovations and ever-improving products. And attendees will be able to take advantage of the many show specials. The exhibit hall will be open on Thursday and Friday, March 7-8.

On Saturday, March 9, in addition to the meeting’s final day of educational sessions, the Dental Technicians Association of British Columbia will hold its annual conference in conjunction with the annual PDC Lab Expo. The Dental Technicians Association conference features a keynote address and concurrent sessions. The PDC Lab Expo, Western Canada’s largest dental technology tradeshow, brings together dental technicians and dentists to exchange information and forge new business relationships with some of the industry’s top companies displaying their latest tools, technology, techniques and other advancements. All registered PDC attendees also have access to the PDC Lab Expo. Dentists and their team are invited to join the more than 3,000 dental technicians and denturists to explore the new options and technologies together.

The ability to network with the more than 14,000 dental professionals that attend the PDC isn’t limited to the courses and exhibit hall. Many dental-school class years hold annual reunions at the meeting and there are a number of socializing opportunities, including PDC After Hours and De La Vigne — French Wines Explored.

PDC After Hours takes place Friday evening and late into the night at Vancouver’s legendary Commodore Ballroom, featuring the Famous Players Band, widely recognized as Vancouver’s best live band because of the way they change the way people experience live music. The $25 (plus GST) cost includes two drinks, dinner and the live dance band. Guests must be at least 19 and have valid ID.

Your opportunity to enjoy David Lancelot’s wine selections at De La Vigne — French Wines Explored will be from 6-7:30 p.m. on Thursday in the Vancouver Convention Centre West Ballroom Foyer. The wine tasting will feature a selection from the northern region France’s Loire Valley through Burgundy, down to Rhone Valley and west to Bordeaux. The cost is $40 (plus GST).

You can register now at www.pdconf.com for one of the largest dental conferences in North America.

(Source: PDC)
Incisal Edge seeking ‘40 Under 40’ best young dentists

By Benco Dental Staff

Incisal Edge, a nationally distributed lifestyle magazine for dental professionals, will honor America’s finest young practitioners for the ninth consecutive year.

Nominating is open through Feb. 25 at IncisalEdgeMagazine.com, where last year’s honorees also are featured.

Annually, Incisal Edge’s “Top 40 Under 40” recognizes innovative and passionate young professionals in dentistry across the U.S. Whether they’re renowned for their medical innovations, volunteer work and philanthropy, or simply their commitment to outstanding patient care, these honorees — nominated by industry experts from around the country and vetted by an independent panel — represent the best of dentistry today, and the promise of even better dentistry tomorrow, according to the magazine’s publisher, Benco Dental.

“We’re proud to honor America’s rising stars who represent the very highest level of accomplishment right now — and aspire to even greater success in the future,” said Chuck Cohen, cofounder of Incisal Edge. “Our nominees are very clearly aligned with Benco Dental’s highest aim to drive dentistry forward, and their passion and artistry inspire us all year long.”

As part of yearlong accolades, honorees are celebrated in the dental lifestyle magazine with a series of informative profiles and a glossy pictorial. It all begins with an exclusive high-fashion photo shoot in the heart of New York City, and a whirlwind celebration of all they have achieved thus far in their professional careers.

On June 7 and 8, the top young dentists in the nation will receive the red-carpet treatment from magazine staff, renowned style director Joseph DeAcetis and a professional photography team. The resulting portfolio will serve as the centerpiece of the magazine’s fall edition.

Nomination deadline: Feb. 25
Nomination submissions must be completed on or before 11:59 p.m. EST, Feb. 25. Dentists are welcome to self-nominate or nominate a colleague or peer.

About Benco Dental
Benco Dental, headquartered in Northeastern Pennsylvania, describes itself as the largest privately owned dental distributor in the United States, offering a full array of supplies, equipment and services to dentists across the nation.

Founded in 1930 by Benjamin Cohen, the company has remained family-owned and today continues to focus on its mission to “deliver success, smile after smile.”

Within the past 88 years, the company has grown from a single downtown location to a national network that includes five distribution centers and three design showrooms.

For more information, you can visit www.benco.com or call (800) GO BENCO.

Members of the 2018 Incisal Edge 40 Under 40, being photographed by Sasha Maslov at Kimpton Hotel Eventi in New York City, are, clockwise from bottom left: Dr. Tuan Pham, Dr. David Choi, Dr. Kate Schacherl, Dr. Gregory M. Feldman, Dr. Malieka Johnson and Dr. Ellen Im.

Photo/Provided by Benco Dental

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Barrier protection viewed as critical in dental gloves

While caring for their patients, dental and other health-care professionals are constantly exposed to bodily fluids that may carry viruses and other infectious agents. It is therefore critical that the gloves these professionals use provide the best possible barrier protection.

Many types of gloves are available today, but it is important to know that not all gloves have the same barrier capability, depending on the type of material used. For example, natural rubber latex gloves have long been acknowledged as being superior for their very effective barrier properties, while non-latex gloves, such as vinyl (polyvinyl chloride), have been shown to have inferior barrier capability according to a number of independent studies.

Quality, safety top priorities
Other synthetic gloves, such as nitrile and polysoprene, perform much better than vinyl but are more costly, especially polysoprene gloves. Using gloves with inferior capability could expose both the patient and user to harmful infections.

Malaysia is the world’s largest medical gloves exporter (latex and nitrile). Both quality and users’ safety are of top priority to the nation’s glove industry. To this end, a quality certification program (the Standard Malaysian Glove, or the SMG) has currently been formulated for latex examination gloves.

All SMG-certified gloves must comply with stringent technical specifications to ensure the gloves are high in barrier effectiveness, low in protein and low in allergy risks, in addition to having excellent comfort, fit and durability — qualities that manufacturers of many synthetic gloves are trying to achieve. Latex gloves are green products, derived from a natural and sustainable resource, and are environmentally friendly. (You can learn more online by visiting www.smgonline.biz or www.latexgloves.info).

The use of low-protein, powder-free gloves has been demonstrated by many independent hospital studies to markedly reduce the incidence of latex sensitization and allergic reactions in workplaces.

More important, latex-allergic individuals donning non-latex gloves can now work alongside their coworkers wearing the improved low-protein gloves without any heightened allergy concern. However, for latex-allergic individuals, it is still important they use appropriate non-latex gloves, such as quality nitrile and polysoprene gloves, which provide them with effective barrier protection.

Extensive array of brand, prices
Selecting the right gloves should be an educated consideration to enhance safety for both patients and users. For decades, gloves made in Malaysia have been synonymous with quality and excellence, and they are widely available in an extensive array of brands, features and prices. They can be sourced either factory direct (www.mrepc.com/marketplace) or from established dental products distributors in the United States and Canada.

(Source: MREPC)
Work with confidence

Malaysia:
Your #1 Source For Quality Medical Gloves
Protection and Performance You Can Feel

Malaysia is the largest source for U.S. imports of natural and synthetic rubber gloves as reported in tariff and trade data by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission
New bulk restorative sets fast and strong — and lasts

*BISCO’s REVEAL HD Bulk has optimized refractive index to enable superior curing-light transmission*

By Johan Figueira, DDS, and Iveth Ramirez, DDS

Dentistry has always been a health-care service, with tooth decay its greatest adversary. Advancements in preventative treatment continually seek to improve overall oral health, while advancements in restorative materials are responsible for restorations that are stronger and long lasting.

The most recent improvements to many of these materials enable practitioners to simply and efficiently place large restorations without sacrificing strength and longevity. A new bulk-fill composite, REVEAL® HD Bulk from BISCO (www.bisco.com), is a perfect example of this innovation. It enables the clinician to place the material in one or two “bulk” increments despite a large preparation.

REVEAL HD Bulk contains a proprietary filler technology that allows an optimized refractive index for superior light transmission, which means that light can be effectively refracted and distributed through the material, allowing for an optimized depth of cure. The category-leading depth of cure allows for a strong restoration from the top-down so you can place the composite in 5-6 mm increments.*

A 28-year-old, male patient presented with a broken molar (#18 O/B surfaces) (Fig. 1). To approach this case using minimally invasive dentistry, a PA was first taken to evaluate decay and check occlusion. After a rubber dam was placed and all existing decay was excavated, SELECT HV ETCH® was placed along the uncut enamel margin, followed by ALL-BOND UNIVERSAL adhesive. Then, REVEAL HD Bulk was placed in two large increments (Fig. 2) and light cured. After occlusal adjustment and polish (Fig. 3), a final radiograph was taken (Fig. 4).

In summary, even though vulnerable adults continue to face challenges, more older people than ever before are keeping a greater number of their natural teeth for life as a result of decades of effective prevention and education. Bulk-fill composite is an invaluable “direct, one-appointment” option for posterior restorations because it offers a high depth of cure for quick and confident placement, but doesn’t sacrifice any of the other improvements of today’s composites, such as handling and polishability.

BISCO’s REVEAL HD Bulk saves time chairside and is an affordable solution.

* Varies based on the shade selected.

**Fig. 1**: Broken molar (#18 O/B surfaces).
**Fig. 2**: After a rubber dam is placed and all decay is excavated, REVEAL HD Bulk is placed in two large increments and light cured.
**Fig. 3**: Occlusal adjustment and polish.
**Fig. 4**: Final radiograph.

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Events kick off AO 2019

Hands-on workshops and pre-conference sessions have been announced for March 13 as a kick-off to the AO 2019 Annual Meeting, which takes place March 13-16 in Washington, D.C. (Photo/Provided by AO)

Full-day hands-on workshops, pre-conference sessions to provide head start for annual meeting

By AO Staff

On Wednesday, March 13, the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) will be partnering with leading international corporations in implant dentistry to offer myriad hands-on workshops, as well as pre-conference sessions, as an opportunity for members to earn C.E. credit toward the AO certificate in implant dentistry.

All of these sessions will be offered as part of AO’s 34th annual meeting, taking place March 13-16 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in downtown Washington, D.C.

Hands-on workshops, fitting the multi-disciplinary nature of the annual meeting and the background of the attendees and membership, will offer registrants the opportunity to fine-tune their skills using the newest materials and technology available today. New for 2019, these popular limited-attendance and often sold-out workshops will be full-day sessions (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

The list of AO 2019 hands-on workshop topics includes:

How No. 1
- “Digital Solutions: Innovations in Single-Tooth Replacement,” with Mark Montana, DDS, and Joseph Schmidt, DDS. (Supported by a grant from Dentsply Sirona.)

How No. 2
- “Modern Soft-Tissue Management with Applying Autogenous Transplants and Soft-Tissue Substitutes,” with Daniel Thoma, DMD. (Supported by a grant from Geistlich Biomaterials.)

How No. 3
- “The Edentulous Patient — Advanced Surgical Techniques for both Maxillary and Mandibular Arches,” with Jay Neugarten, DDS, MD. (Supported by a grant from Nobel Biocare.)

How No. 4
- “Implant-Supported Craniofacial Rehabilitation of the Resorbed or Resected Maxilla,” with Gregory Boyes-Varley, BDS, MD, and Dale Howes, BSc (Dent), BDS, M Dent (Pros), FCD(SA), FICD (Supported by a grant from Southern Implants.)

How No. 5
- Workshop No. 1: “Guided Surgery Treatment Planning Workflow,” with Adam Hamilton, BDSc, DCD. (Supported by a grant from Straumann.)
- Workshop No. 2: “The Chairside Workflow for Tooth-Borne Restorations: Scanning, Designing and Milling a Crown” with Marcus Abboud, DMD, PhD, and (Supported by a grant from Sirona.)

Periodontal disease bacteria linked to Alzheimer’s

Periodontists stress the importance of gum health in at-risk groups

By AAP Staff

A recent study has periodontists encouraging patients to maintain gum health in an effort to reduce their Alzheimer’s disease risk.

The study, published in the journal Science Advances, uncovered a potential link between P. gingivalis, the bacteria associated with periodontal disease, and Alzheimer’s. Researchers analyzed brain tissue, spinal fluid and saliva from Alzheimer’s patients — both living and deceased — and found evidence of P. gingivalis. Gingipains, the toxic enzyme secreted by P. gingivalis, were found in 96 percent of the 53 brain tissue samples examined, with higher levels detected in those with the pathology and symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease.

Additionally, researchers including co-author Mark I. Ryder DMD, professor of periodontology at the University of California, San Francisco, noted that the presence of P. gingivalis increased the production of amyloid beta, a component of the amyloid plaques whose accumulation contributes to Alzheimer’s. The study confirmed via animal testing that P. gingivalis can travel from the mouth to the brain and that the related gingipains can destroy brain neurons. These findings are noteworthy in that they suggest a biological mechanism for how periodontal disease bacteria may play a role in the development and progression of Alzheimer’s.

According to Richard Kao, DDS, PhD, president of the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), this study underscores the important role of gum health on overall wellness.

“Periodontists have long known that a healthy mouth contributes to a healthy body, and research has suggested an association between periodontal disease and dementia conditions, such as Alzheimer’s,” Kao said. “This new discovery supports the idea that gum health is fundamental to overall wellness.”

See AO, page B2

See DISEASE, page B2
Rodrigo Fuentenalba, DDS.

How No. 6

• “Same-Day Guided Immediate Placement and Provisionalization using Improved Digital Workflow,” with Gary A. Morris, DDS, P.J. Schaner, DMD, and Mark Palmer, president/CEO imaging. (Supported by a grant from Zimmer Biomet.)

Please note AO’s hands-on workshops are available for an additional registration cost. (Participants must be registered for the annual meeting to enroll in the hands-on workshops). Admission is by ticket only and attendance is limited. Pre-registration is required as on-site registrations will not be permitted.

The academy will also be offering two pre-conference limited attendance educational courses to assist its members in meeting C.E. requirements for the AO certificate in implant dentistry, however, registration is open to all attendees. Sessions will include:

• “Surgical Complications/Emergency Medicine,” with Michael Block, DMD (8 a.m. to noon).
• “The Art of Radiographic Imaging and Interpretation in Implant Dentistry,” with Bruno Azevedo, DDS, MS (1 to 5 p.m.).

Since 2016, AO members have been achieving the AO certificate in implant dentistry as a key way to demonstrate their education and experience that verifies core knowledge and clinical skills in the field of implant dentistry and gives patients confidence in the level of qualifications of their dental practitioner. These pre-conference sessions are a great way to earn C.E. credits toward the certificate.

Plan today to include hands-on workshops and/or pre-conference sessions as part of your schedule for the AO 2019 Annual Meeting and achieve your highest professional excellence. Register by Feb. 11 to guarantee you obtain advance registration discounts. At the same time, be sure to also make your hotel reservations to receive AO’s special convention hotel rates and best room availability.

See the AO 2019 Annual Meeting website for all the details at https://ao2019.osseo.org/.

AD

DISEASE, Page B1

Alzheimer’s,” Kao said. “These recent findings present strong evidence on how periodontal disease can impact the pathogenesis of Alzheimer’s disease and should highlight how crucial it is to manage periodontal disease, especially in older adults or individuals who have increased risk for dementia.”

Although the study results add to the evidence supporting a link between gum disease and Alzheimer’s, additional research is needed to better understand the etiology of Alzheimer’s and how periodontal disease bacteria can exacerbate progression. An upcoming FDA Phase II clinical trial will assess the benefits of using a novel small molecule inhibitor of these P. gingivalis gingipains in hindering the development and progression of Alzheimer’s. This clinical trial may add further insight to the link between gum disease and Alzheimer’s.

Kao encourages older adults and other at-risk individuals to maintain diligent oral care and promptly treat periodontal disease to help mitigate Alzheimer’s risk. “More than half of the U.S. population age 30 and older has some form of periodontal disease. Prevalence increases to 68 percent for those age 65 and older. Routine brushing, flossing once a day and visiting a periodontist can help identify any disease and treat as needed, potentially diminishing the risk of developing Alzheimer’s.”

The American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) represents more than 8,000 periodontists. Periodontics is one of the nine dental specialties recognized by the American Dental Association.
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Education presented by the California Implant Institute in Baja California, Mexico

By California Implant Institute Staff

The California Implant Institute, located in San Diego, Calif., is offering several continuing education courses for dentists to learn advanced implant-placement techniques on live patients with the guidance and expertise of highly experienced clinicians and educators. Participants convene in beautiful Baja California, Mexico, to receive this unique hands-on training to increase knowledge, confidence and skills, allowing them to expand the scope of their practice and provide the best patient care possible. Here is a list of available courses:

• Basic to Advanced Implant Placement Surgical Externship: Attendees implement step-by-step implant surgical protocols on live patients, increasing their knowledge and skill in the areas of flap design, implant placement, bone grafting and suturing techniques. Participants will perform and/or assist with at least 20 implant placement surgeries. Provides 48 C.E. credits.

• All-on-4 and Full-Arch Immediate Loading Surgical Externship: Attendees receive extensive training in the treatment planning, surgical, prosthetic and laboratory phases of full-arch immediate loading. Doctors participate in a few immediate full-arch restorations. Each participant is assigned two full arches and assists with many more cases. Provides 48 C.E. credits.

• Trefoil Surgical Externship: Attendees examine the indications and limitations of treatment with the Trefoil System, learn step-by-step the surgical and restorative procedures including lab work, review clinical cases treated with the Trefoil System, review scientific support material and clinical evidence, and discuss prosthetic maintenance and complications management. Participants place and/or assist with at least two Trefoil surgeries. Provides 32 C.E. credits.

• Advanced Bone Grafting Surgical Externship: Attendees increase their knowledge and skill level in the areas of advanced implant surgical techniques, including lateral window sinus lift, maxillary and mandibular ridge expansion, and connective tissue and block grafting. Participants also work with Piezotome units that are available at each working station. Provides 48 C.E. credits.

All programs are organized by Academic Director Dr. Louie Al-Faraje. A highly experienced clinician, educator and innovator, Al-Faraje is continually advancing the protocols for oral implantology surgical treatment. His California Implant Institute (CII) utilizes today’s most innovative and effective clinical solutions to create and maintain optimal oral health using dental implants and bone-grafting procedures. He is the author of four implant textbooks. Information about additional faculty members is available on the CII website.

For more details, visit the California Implant Institute website at www.implanteducation.net.

Dr. Louie Al-Faraje is the author of four implant textbooks and is the academic director for the California Implant Institute. (Photo/Provided by the California Implant Institute)
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A revolutionary paradigm shift in dynamic surgical navigation

By George Mandelaris, DDS, MS

A revolution in surgical guidance is afoot. A new dynamic navigation technology called “Trace and Place” (TaP for short) was developed by ClaroNav and is now available with its Navident system. I have had the opportunity to try the technology in a range of cases, and I am very impressed. Here’s a brief description of my experience.

Registration is accomplished using any recent CT scan of the jaw by selecting onscreen and then tracking three of the patient’s teeth or other structures (such as braces or abutments). The process is done in the chair, immediately before surgery. No stent/clip or guide needs to be prepared, and the entire registration process is typically accomplished in about three minutes.

Once the jaw is registered with its CT scan, on-screen guidance of the drill position and orientation is provided. The jaw surface is fully exposed, just like with free-hand drilling.

Because the jaw often moves during the operation, the system continuously tracks the position of the jaw and adjusts the registration to keep the jaw and its on-screen image in accurate alignment. Tracking the upper jaw is accompanied by a special head-tracking frame, which is not affected by movements of the lower jaw or changes in facial expressions.

Tracking the lower jaw is accomplished by connecting a lightweight plastic “jaw tracker” part, marked with optional targets, to a single tooth using a light-cured composite. The motions of the drill are tracked using another plastic part marked with optical targets.

After only a short experience with Trace and Place technology in my practice, I have come to believe that it is a real tipping point for dynamic navigation guidance. It has streamlined and simplified the workflow in both diagnostic and surgical phases to allow state-of-the-art technology to be an everyday component of my surgical implant practice. I can’t imagine going back.
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Dr. Louie Al-Faraje
Clinical Director,
California Implant Institute

A highly experienced clinician, educator, and innovator, Dr. Al-Faraje is continually advancing the protocols for oral implantology surgical treatments. His California Implant Institute in San Diego, CA, utilizes today’s most innovative and effective clinical solutions to create and maintain optimal oral health using dental implants and bone grafting procedures. He is the author of 4 Quintessence implant textbooks. Information about additional faculty members is available on our website.

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