Tongue microbiome research underscores key role of oral health

Elderly individuals with fewer teeth, people with poor dental hygiene and people with more cavities constantly ingest more dysbiotic microbiota, which could be harmful to their respiratory health, according to new research published in the journal mSphere. The findings come from a large, population-based study that identified variations in the tongue microbiota among community-dwelling elderly adults in Japan.

"Fewer teeth, poorer dental hygiene and more dental caries experience are closely related to dysbiotic shift in the tongue microbiota composition, which might be harmful to the respiratory health of elderly adults with swallowing problems," said corresponding author Yoshihisa Yamashita, PhD, DDS, Section of Preventive and Public Health Dentistry, Division of Oral Health, Growth and Development, Faculty of Dental Science, Kyushu University, Fukuoka.

Prior to this study, researchers knew that constant aspiration of saliva can lead to pneumonia, a major cause of death among elderly adults with swallowing impairments, and that tongue microbiota are a dominant source of oral microbial populations that are ingested with saliva. Previous research has also shown that in institutionalized frail elderly adults, the dysbiotic shift of indigenous tongue microbiota is associated with an increased risk of death from pneumonia.

In the new study, Yamashita and colleagues set out to understand the variations in tongue microbiota composition related to oral health conditions among community-dwelling elderly adults and to identify factors associated with the dysbiotic shift in the tongue microbiota. They investigated the tongue microbiota status and dental conditions of 506 adults aged 70 to 80 years living in the town of Hisayama, Japan, who received a dental examination during a health examination of the town’s residents performed in 2016.

The scientists collected the tongue microbiota from the center area of the tongue dorsum using a modified electric toothbrush as a sampling device and used next-generation sequencing approaches to analyze the samples. The researchers found that the total bacterial density was independent of the conditions of teeth surrounding the tongue, whereas the microbiota composition, especially the relative abundances of predominant commensals, showed an association with tooth conditions.

"Commensal microbiota composition, especially the relative abundances of predominant commensals, showed an association with tooth conditions. "Commensal microbiota composition, especially the relative abundances of predominant commensals, showed an association with tooth conditions," said Yamashita. "Two cohabiting groups of predominant commensals exist in the tongue microbiota; one of which was associated with dysbiotic shift in the tongue microbiota composition, which might be harmful to the respiratory health of elderly adults with swallowing problems."

Photo/ www.sxc.hu

According to researcher Yoshihisa Yamashita, PhD, DDS: ‘Fewer teeth, poorer dental hygiene and more dental caries experience are closely related to dysbiotic shift in the tongue microbiota composition, which might be harmful to the respiratory health of elderly adults with swallowing problems.’
Henry Schein launches 2018 Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Communities program

Henry Schein Inc. has announced the launch of its 2018 Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Communities (HLHC) program, an initiative that supports community health centers in their efforts to provide medical and oral health screenings at free health events held in underserved communities across the U.S. HLHC is a flagship initiative of Henry Schein Cares, the company’s global corporate social responsibility program.

Held in conjunction with National Health Center Week (Aug. 12-18), HLHC is conducted in partnership with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). The program supports 14 free community health events hosted by community health centers throughout the summer and fall, providing each with a $5,000 donation of health care products from the company and a $5,000 cash grant from the Henry Schein Cares Foundation. Since its inception 12 years ago, HLHC has supported more than 350 community health events.

According to NACHC, community health centers provide continuous primary and preventive care to millions of patients, reduce the risk of chronic disease, and produce $24 billion in annual health systems savings by, among other things, reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits. They also lower the cost of children’s primary care by approximately 35 percent.

HLHC is co-sponsored by state and local community health organizations and supported by Henry Schein’s supplier partners. Each HLHC-supported community health event is staffed by local physicians, nurses, dentists and community volunteers who screen for a range of health issues — including hypertension, asthma, diabetes, obesity and poor oral health — and associated risk factors that frequently affect children. Attendees at each event can also learn more about how to prevent and treat these problems, and receive assistance in finding a local community health center where they can regularly access care.

“Community health centers are a critical access point to a wide range of health care services, and we at Henry Schein are pleased to support their local outreach efforts through our Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Communities program,” said Stanley M. Bergman, chairman and CEO of Henry Schein. “Wellness and prevention are essential to overall health, and we gladly stand with NACHC and our supplier partners to support the essential health care screenings being provided at these community health events.”

About the National Association of Community Health Centers

Founded in 1971, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) serves as the national health care advocacy organization for America’s medically underserved and uninsured and the community health centers that serve their health care home.

NACHC works in conjunction with state and regional primary care associations, health center controlled networks and other public and private sector organizations to expand health care access to all in need.

About Henry Schein Cares

Henry Schein Cares stands on four pillars: engaging Team Schein Members to reach their potential, ensuring accountability by extending ethical business practices to all levels within Henry Schein, promoting environmental sustainability and expanding access to health care for underserved and at-risk communities around the world.

Health care activities supported by Henry Schein Cares focus on three main areas: advancing wellness, building capacity in the delivery of health care services and assisting in emergency preparedness and relief.

Firmly rooted in a deep commitment to social responsibility and the concept of enlightened self-interest championed by Benjamin Franklin, the philosophy behind Henry Schein Cares is a vision of “doing well by doing good.” Through the work of Henry Schein Cares to enhance access to care for those in need, the company believes that it is furthering its long-term success. “Helping Health Happen Blog” is a platform for health care professionals to share their volunteer experiences delivering assistance to those in need globally.

To read more about how Henry Schein Cares is making a difference, visit the blog www.helpinghealthhappen.org.

(Source: Henry Schein Inc.)

About the Henry Schein Cares Foundation

Established in 2008, the Henry Schein Cares Foundation works to foster, support and promote health-related, medical and animal health by helping to increase access to care in communities around the world. The Henry Schein Cares Foundation carries out its mission through financial and health care product donations to non-profit organizations supporting health care professionals and community-based programs focused on prevention, wellness and treatment, disaster preparedness and relief, and capacity building of health institutions that provide training and care.

The foundation is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Contributions to the foundation are tax-deductible as provided by law.

About Henry Schein

Henry Schein Inc. is a Fortune 500® company and a member of the S&P 500® and the Nasdaq 100® indexes. Henry Schein’s network of trusted advisors provides health-care professionals with the valued solutions they need to improve operational success and clinical outcomes. The company offers customers exclusive, innovative products and solutions, including practice management software, e-commerce solutions, specialty and surgical products, as well as a broad range of financial services. Henry Schein operates through a centralized and automated distribution network, with a selection of more than 120,000 branded products and Henry Schein private-brand products in stock, as well as more than 180,000 additional products available as special-order items.

Headquartered in Melville, N.Y., Henry Schein has operations or affiliates in 34 countries. The company’s sales reached a record $12.5 billion in 2017, and have grown at a compound annual rate of approximately 15 percent since Henry Schein became a public company in 1995. For more information, visit Henry Schein at www.henryschein.com, Face book.com/HenrySchein and @HenrySchein on Twitter.

The American Society for Microbiology is the largest single life science society, composed of more than 30,000 scientists and health professionals. ASM’s mission is to promote and advance the microbial sciences. ASM advances the microbial sciences through conferences, publications, certifications and educational opportunities. It enhances microbial capacity around the globe through training and resources. It provides a network for scientists in academia, industry and clinical settings. Additionally, ASM promotes a deeper understanding of the microbial sciences to diverse audiences.

(Source: ASM Communications)
V-Posil Mono-Fast extends line of V-Posil precision VPS impression materials

By VOCO Staff

After the successful introduction of V-Posil tray and wash impression materials, VOCO is expanding its V-Posil line with a monophase viscosity in V-Posil Mono-Fast.

V-Posil Mono-Fast, as with the rest of the V-Posil viscosities, offers optimized timing that provides up to two minutes of adjustable working time as well as an abbreviated two-minute thermo-activated set time. According to VOCO, V-Posil provides exceptional tear strength and elastic recovery (99.6 percent) to ensure dimensional accuracy of the impression after its removal.

Post-set hydrophilicity ensures more accurate stone models

Lab technicians will appreciate V-Posil’s unique post-set contact angle of less than six degrees (<6°), providing a post-set hydrophilicity that ensures more accurate stone models for better fitting restorations, VOCO asserts.

Indicated for wide variety of procedures, situations

This VPS material is indicated for taking impressions over fixed/removable restorations and implants (i.e., transferring impression posts and bridge components), functional impressions, fabricating crown and bridgework or inlays, fabricating full or partial dentures, rendering impressions, transferring root posts when fabricating posts and cores indirectly, multi-tray, simultaneous as well as the putty-wash technique.

The material is available in 50 ml cartridge refills and in the 380 ml automix “Dynamic Dispenser” cartridge.

Contact VOCO

To learn more about V-Posil Mono-Fast and other VOCO products, you can contact VOCO at www.vocomerica.com, (888) 658-2584 or infousa@voco.com.
ICD looks toward its 2020 centennial celebration

By Nathalie Schüller
Dental Tribune International

The International College of Dentists (ICD) will celebrate its centennial in 2020. Considered the world’s oldest and largest honor society for dentists, the ICD was conceived by Drs. Louis Ottofy and Tsurukichi Okumura with the vision to start an organization of outstanding dentists to maintain professional collegiality and friendship, monitor and evaluate the progress of dentistry and disseminate such information to dentists worldwide.

Today, the ICD has 12,000 fellows in 122 affiliated countries, from a diversity of cultures and social backgrounds and with different professional experiences. It aims to recognize their outstanding contributions to the dental profession in upholding the college core values of leadership, recognition, humanitarianism, education and professional relations. Dental Tribune spoke with Dr. Dov Sydney, the international editor and director of communications and chair of the college centennial committee.

How did you become involved in the ICD?

... A patient (of mine) who was a dentist told me about the volunteer work he was doing for an ICD clinic for blind people. I had no idea then what the ICD was about. He told me more about the ICD and asked whether I would like to become involved in the clinic to help the patients and, based on my background and CV, said he would like to nominate me to become a fellow. That was in 1996 and I was proud to agree. I was active in the Israel District and then moved to the European Section board as regent, editor and website manager. Later, I was asked to serve as the international editor and director of communications.

While our organization is focused on improving access and quality of oral health, we are also a professional society of shared interests and values, so there is also the meaningful fellowship and camaraderie aspect. This is a unique group in which there is the absence of an atmosphere of competition and the need to show how successful one is or how many papers one has published. The ICD promotes a collaborative, sharing relationship guided by the universal principle that all members are equals regardless of their national origin, culture or language.

What is your major joy, your main motivation, in being part of the ICD?

As the international editor and director of communications, I see all of the reports and images of ICD events and projects that take place around the world. I select the ones that will appear online and in our journal. ... (In these images) one can truly see the kind of impact so many of our projects have on the people who are the recipients of ICD compassion and dedication. It is evident in (people's) eyes — a palpable image of someone's unselfishness, caring for another human being, some receiving care for the very first time in their lives.

Is dental care the main thing we should worry about in areas that are so destitute?

Oral disease is usually treatable, often preventable, and yet if one has a bad toothache, one cannot function, if one loses one's teeth, one cannot eat. In many parts of the world where nutrition is poor, without functional teeth to eat properly and digest food, overall health is affected. Furthermore, there are places in the world where dental infections are so neglected and serious that they can lead to major disease states and even death.

Another strength of the ICD is that we look at the overall impact of our projects on the community. I recall reporting on a group that went to Nepal to help children in great need of dental care. When the team arrived, they encountered unexpected problems. The community was suffering from mass diarrhea, a major disease in the (developing world). People can become extremely ill and die from not having access to clean running water. The water used to brush the children's teeth was contaminated. The team developed a program to bring running water into the village for toilets and sinks for toothbrushing. The rate of diarrhea went from 75 percent to 5 percent. Children were able to go back to school. The adults could work. This is a good example of how ICD dental projects can have a major impact on a community and the overall health of the population.

How did you become involved in the ICD?

... A patient (of mine) who was a dentist told me about the volunteer work he was doing...
Going to the ‘Big D’

The city of Dallas will play host to the AAID 67th Annual Conference from Sept. 26–29. Photo/Provided by www.freeimages.com

A preview of the AAID 67th Annual Conference

By AAID Staff

Dental professionals from around the world will be moving on down to Dallas in September for the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID) 67th Annual Conference, to learn the most innovative and important techniques and topics in implant dentistry from world-renowned speakers and leaders in the field.

The schedule is packed with more than three full days of workshops, seminars, exhibits, networking and social events, along with cutting-edge research presented in the table clinics and ePosters. We also have a full track of education for each member of your dental team, along with a great program of sponsored workshops and seminars.

If you are interested in attending, make sure to visit the AAID website (www.aaid.com/aaid2018) and reserve your spot before rates increase on Sept. 6. See the full schedule of education, exhibits and social events, and book your hotel room today!

Education

From main podium presentations to sponsored workshops, the AAID 67th Annual Conference offers plenty of opportunities to learn from the best. Here are a few of the courses we’ve got in store this year:

Main podium:
- Dealing with Ridge Deficiencies: Current Options
- New Digital Full-Arch Implant Supported Dentistry Using Proven Prosthetic Principles
- Skilled Surgical Aspects for Bone Grafting Procedures
- Role of Socket Shield (SS) and Osseodensification on Single-Day Visit
- Paradigm Shift in Subcrestal Sinus Augmentation: Innovative Approaches for Bone Grafting
- Total Site Optimization: Expanding Horizons
- Osseodensification: Optimize the Site, Optimize the Outcome
- Site Preservation of Tissue (SPOT) to Optimize Implant Treatment
- Implant-Supported Prosthetic Restorations for Soft Tissue Shaping: Facilitating Esthetic and Functional Restoration
- Peri-Implantitis Management: How Should We Prevent It? How Should We Treat It?
- Strategies to Manage Implant Complications: Short- and Long-Term Considerations
- Guided Prosthetics: The Next Generation of “All-on-X”

Live surgery broadcast:
- Surgical Immediate Implant Placement with an Immediate Provisional Restoration: The Result of the Digital Workflow

Workshops and seminars:
- Diagnosis and Decisions in Treatment Planning
- Implant Solutions for the Edentulous Patient
- The Synergistic Effect of L-PRF and Advanced Clinical Procedures: Enhancing Your Clinical Outcomes in Implant Surgery
- Guided Prosthetics: Simplified Conversions for Full-Arch Immediate Loading
- Anterior Implant Esthetics: Refining Your Workflow to Get Exceptional Results
- Sterile and Aseptic Technique for the General Dentist’s Implant Practice: Two Choices Depending on the Size and Extent of the Case
- Advanced Ridge Augmentation and Bone Graft
- Planning and Execution of Guided Surgery
- Surgical Techniques Including Suturing
- Immediately Dentoalveolar Restorative (IDR) — Twelve-Year Follow-Up: The Step-by-Step Technique
- IV Access, Tips and Tricks
- Experience the Brilliance of a Revolutionary Implant and Tooth Delivery System
- State-of-the-Art with Sinus Augmentation

Brush or floss first?

New JOP study suggests the ideal sequence for removing plaque

By AAP Staff

Researchers have found that flossing before brushing may be the ideal sequence for the most thorough removal of dental plaque. The report is featured in the Journal of Periodontology (JOP), which is published by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP).

Titled “The Effect of Toothbrushing and Flossing Sequence on Interdental Plaque Reduction and Fluoride Retention: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial,” the study assessed 35 participants who were asked to brush their teeth first, then use dental floss to clean the spaces between their teeth (brush-floss). In a second phase, the same group was asked to use floss, then brush their teeth (floss-brush). Researchers found that the amount of plaque between the teeth and in the mouth overall was significantly reduced when participants used the floss-brush approach.

The researchers contend that as flossing loosens bacteria and debris from between the teeth, brushing afterwards (when the mouth is rinsed with water) further clears the mouth of these particles. Plaque bacteria are the primary culprit behind the development of periodontal disease, an inflammatory condition that occurs when bacteria accumulate below the gum line.

The study also found that fluoride, a mineral that aids in the prevention of cavities and tooth decay, remained in the mouth at higher levels when participants flossed before brushing. Study subjects used a fluoride toothpaste during both phases of the investigation.

The complete study can be found on the JOP portal of the Wiley Online Library. To learn more, visit perio.org

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Sponsored workshops and seminars:

• An Innovative Approach to Full-Arch Rehabilitation: Guided, Surgical and Prosthetic Hands-On
• Simple Approach for the Guided Implant Surgery in My Office
• Creating the Ultimate Internet Presence for Your Dental Practice
• Predictable Transcrestal Sinus Floor Elevation Using Hydraulic Lift
• Size Doesn’t Matter, Expansion Does
• How to Integrate Deepithelialized Amnion-Chorion Allograft into Your Dental Implant Practice to Improve Productivity and Increase Patient Satisfaction
• One-Step Alveolar Ridge Preservation Without the Need for a Membrane Plus Advanced Surgical Concepts in Bone Regeneration
• Guided Surgery and Emergency Implant: Two Hands-On Courses
• Management of Ridge Deformity: Maximizing Long-Term Esthetic Outcomes with a Triangular Neck Design Implant and Ossifying Scaffold
• A Human Living Tissue Graft to Enhance Osseointegration and Tissue Regeneration
• Lateral Sinus Lift Bone Grafting for Dental Implants

Dental Implant Team Network
This year, we will also have two full days of courses for your dental team. Thursday will feature the following courses for the whole team:
• Providing the Best Experience for Implant Patients: It’s Show Time!
• Review of Emergency Medical Skills: Dental Team Role
• Treatment Planning for Implant Dentistry

Then, on Friday, we have the following courses for each specific dental team role:

Administrative track:
• The Team’s Role in Case Presentations
• Why Medical Insurance Billing Should Be a Key Part of Today’s Dental Practice Model
• Treatment Planning for the Successful Dentist
• Blueprint to Increase Practice Growth
• Blueprint to Increase Implant Practice
• Overcoming Financial Objections

Dental assistant track:
• Implant Procedure and Latest Options
• Surgical Implant Motor Setup and Troubleshooting
• Aesthetic Technique
• Aesthetic Technique and Surgical Setup
• Post-Operative Care and Techniques

Dental hygienist track:
• Ensuring Implant Longevity
• Lumps and Bumps in the Mouth
• Prevention of Peri-implant Diseases: A Hygienist’s Perspective

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Chief Medical Correspondent, CNN
Named a “pop culture icon” by USA Today, Dr. Sanjay Gupta is perhaps the most media-savvy physician working today. He is a broadcaster, writer, podcaster and web contributor — all of which places him in a unique position to examine why certain health-related stories make the headlines and others don’t.

In this presentation, titled “Medicine in Media,” he takes a hard look at the media’s role in conveying sometimes frightening information, such as the H1N1 global pandemic and the post-9/11 incidents involving anthrax.

State Fair of Texas
This year’s State Fair of Texas kicks off Sept. 28, which conveniently coincides with the AAID 67th Annual Conference! The theme of the fair this year is “Celebrating Texas Innovation” and highlights some of the cool things to come from Texas, including America’s first self-contained modern shopping center, stadium nachos, handheld calculators and corn dogs.

Conveniently located less than six miles from the Hyatt Regency Dallas, the State Fair of Texas is a great way to extend your stay in Dallas and enjoy a unique, family-friendly event.

Join us in Dallas. You’ll learn, have fun and be able to take the future of implant dentistry back to your practice now!
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- Philip J. Gordon, DDS,
  Host of “Dental Implant Practices” podcast

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