ADA updates X-ray guidance

Recommendations have new section on limiting exposure

In an effort to decrease radiation exposure to patients, the American Dental Association’s Council on Scientific Affairs collaborated with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to update the ADA’s recommendations for dental X-ray examinations. And after extensive review, the updates have been released.

The ADA’s 27-page “Dental Radiograph Examinations: Recommendations for Patient Selection and Limiting Radiation Exposure,” in the professional resources area of www.ada.org, under “Oral Health Topics,” is intended to be used in conjunction with dentists’ professional judgment to determine whether and when dental X-rays are needed. The ADA recommends that dentists weigh the benefits of taking dental X-rays against the possible risk of exposing patients to the radiation, the effects of which can accumulate from multiple sources over time.

“As doctors of oral health, dentists are in the best position to make decisions on whether to prescribe dental X-rays after an oral examination and with consideration of the patient’s health history. Prescribing dental X-rays should be an individualized process,” said ADA President Robert A. Faiella, DMD, MMSc. Since 1989, the ADA has recommended the ALARA principle in relation to dental X-rays—that radiation exposure to patients be “as low as reasonably achievable.”

Changes to the recommendations include:
- Addition of a new section on limiting radiation exposure during radiographic examinations.
- Including new topics such as receptor selection, handheld X-ray units, technique charts and radiation risk communication.

The ADA’s Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA) consulted with dental radiology experts about a year ago to update the recommendations. The CSA then sent the recommendations for peer review and for review by non-dental organizations such as the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors and the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. The recommendations are intended to serve as a resource for dentists and are not intended to be standards of care, requirements or regulations.

(Source: American Dental Association)
Leading nearly 200 mission trips in 56 countries during his career, from Mexico to Africa, Southeast Asia and the Amazon jungle, Dr. Ron Lamb is the American Dental Association’s (ADA) 2012 Humanitarian Award recipient. He was presented with the award Oct. 18 during the ADA’s Annual Session in San Francisco.

Lamb has dedicated his life to helping those in need worldwide by providing dental care and collecting and distributing millions of dollars worth of dental equipment and supplies to thousands of international volunteer teams.

“I was struck by Dr. Lamb’s humility when I informed him of the decision of the board of trustees to bestow this honor upon him,” said Dr. William R. Calnon, ADA president. “It was obvious that his actions are a result of a true love for his fellow man. As World Dental Relief’s home page states, ‘Dr. Ron Lamb has touched the hearts and lives of people throughout the world with compassionate dental care.’ His many contributions make him a perfect choice for the ADA Humanitarian Award.”

After graduating from dental school in 1974, Lamb balanced his full-time dental practice by organizing and leading several mission trips to Mexico each year. He closed his practice in 1991 and began using the space for receiving and distributing supplies for his charitable dental organization, World Dental Relief.

“We wanted to try doing mission work for a solid year without the practice. We were going to depend upon donations and if we made it one year then we would do a second and third year. If we made it three years living on donations, then we would not go back into private practice. We cut the financial lifelines of our private practice, and it was a risk. But we have completed our 20th year of full-time service. Altogether, we have been doing this sort of work for 35 years.”

Through World Dental Relief, he has also provided 5,291 medical and dental teams with more than $15 million worth of supplies. World Dental Relief has also taken on special projects, including coordinating donations and shipping of dental equipment and a three-year cache of supplies needed to launch a dental school in Ethiopia. The organization has equipped more than 60 dental clinics and five prosthetic labs internationally.

Lamb has also designed and created portable dental equipment and provided tons of supplies for use by relief agencies responding to disasters, including the Mission of Mercy after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 and the earthquake in Haiti in 2010.

Lamb’s wife, Pam, and their children Tina and Bobby not only support his charitable endeavors, they also work for World Dental Relief.

Established in 2007, the ADA Humanitarian Award recognizes individual volunteer commitment and leadership that has had a broad impact on oral health and the improvement of the human condition. The award is bestowed on an ADA member dentist who has contributed at least 10 years to alleviate human suffering, demonstrated significant leadership, served as an inspiration to others and established a legacy that is of ongoing value and benefit to those in need in the U.S. and abroad. The award includes a $5,000 donation to a charity of the recipient’s choice.
Superstorm can’t stop N.Y. meeting

By Robert Selleck, Managing Editor

“Where you are sitting right now was under water,” Les Seldin, DDS, said to Greater New York Dental Meeting attendees at the Hurricane Sandy relief symposium, held Nov. 27 on the first level of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

Noting that all of the carpet had been replaced and the lower portion of the walls repainted, Seldin, a former GNYDM chairman who volunteered to moderate the symposium, told the group that if the storm had arrived a week later, the massive dental meeting likely would not be taking place.

The symposium gave dentists affected by the storm the opportunity to question experts on insurance, legal matters, financial issues, SBA loans and FEMA programs.

Meeting organizers, exhibitors and presenters scrambled to repair or replace damaged property prior to opening day, making the storm’s impact all but invisible. The primary cue the storm even happened was a strong outpouring of support throughout the meeting for dental practices affected by the storm.

In the Store-A-Tooth (Provia Labs) booth, Matthew Shaw, from left, Ellen Bereza and Ali Christiansen with special offers that benefit diabetes research organizations.

Nathalie Castillo, from left, demonstrates flossing with ‘Chompers the Dinosaur’ to Brooklyn PS 11 fourth graders Kelis Stevenson, 8, Kyla Ottley, 9, and Kelline Lubrun, 8, on Nov. 27. Castillo is in the dental hygiene program at Hostos Community College in the Bronx. Hostos students volunteered to help with the Greater New York Smiles program, a Greater New York Dental Meeting outreach program sponsored by Colgate Palmolive Company, DentAQuest (Doral) and the United Federation of Teachers.

The Greater New York Dental Meeting exhibit hall, still bustling on the final morning of the meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 28.
YDC ’13: Productivity, profitability and clinical excellence

The Yankee Dental Congress is designed to help dental professionals and their dental teammates “Build Bridges” to new opportunities in the dental profession, Jan. 30 to Feb. 3 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. YDC 2013 has reached out across the dental community to offer the latest industry has to offer in top-notch continuing dental education, including the following highlights:

- **Dentist as the CEO Series** – Join Debbie Rae, RDH, MBA, to improve the productivity and profitability of your practice. Gain valuable tips and strategies for controlling expenses, setting goals and hiring effectively.

- **Essentials of Management: “Mini-MBA” for Dentists** – Participants will gain strategic business skills from Bentley University faculty members in order to lead a profitable dental practice. Join your peers for a program that will change your leadership presence and provide practical and applicable business tools. This program grants participants free registration for Yankee Dental Congress 2013 and 2014.

- **Dental Management of Sleep Apnea Fast Track** – Whether you are a dental practitioner who has been treating sleep apnea patients or are just getting started in dental sleep medicine, this program will be helpful.

Yankee will also feature premier continuing dental education hands-on courses, lectures and workshops from crowd-favorite speakers, including:

- **Jeff Brucato, DDS** — Learn about the most current restorative materials available and their applications.

- **Alan Budenz, DDS** — Choose from three different courses that explore the delivery of local anesthesia and local anesthetic techniques.

- **Anthony Cardoza, DDS** — Perfect for the dentist looking to implement laser technology into his or her practice.

- **Stephen Chu, DMD** — Take a course (or two) with one of the best experts in implant dentistry.

- **Dave Juliani, DDS** — Discover new technology in the dental industry at “Technology Today, Success Tomorrow” and at the Dentaltown Panel, “Dentaltown Live: Talking Tech.”

Yankee also gives attendees the chance to relax and have lunch with Jennifer Weiner on Thursday, Jan. 31, or kick back with your favorite beverage, light fare and upbeat music on the Yankee Boardwalk, open to everyone Thursday evening. Learn more about interior decorating with design personality Candice Olson at “Candice on Design,” or share some giggles when Kathleen Madigan takes the stage for “Friday Night Laughs,” both on Friday, Feb. 1.

Register at www.yankeedental.com for Yankee Dental Congress 2013 and join nearly 28,000 dental professionals for four days that will inspire, inform and entertain you like nothing else.

(Source: Yankee Dental Congress)
International Dental Show
March 12–16

Approximately 118,000 attendees and more than 1900 exhibitors from 55-plus countries are expected at the world’s largest trade fair for dentistry and dental technology this March in Cologne, Germany. The International Dental Show takes place in Cologne every two years and is organized by the GFDI Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Dental-Industrie mbH and the commercial enterprise of the Association of German Dental Manufacturers (VDDI). It is staged by Cologne-based Koelnmesse GmbH. This 35th edition of the show will be March 12–16. The focus is on business and product information and the latest findings in science and research.

The entire dental industry, including all of the international market leaders, will be represented. Dental medicine and dental technology will be on display, as will equipment maintenance and infection prevention techniques.

The event will also showcase services as well as information, communication and organization tools. The broad range of products on display from around the world will give visitors the opportunity to get a comprehensive overview of the global dental industry in terms of services, product innovations and the latest trends.

Registration and ticket sales are available online at www.ids-cologne.de.

(Source: Koelnmesse GmbH)
DENTSPLY Professional presented a $3,534 check to the American Cancer Society on behalf of its associates and customers. This is the second consecutive year DENTSPLY Professional has made a contribution for every limited edition pink Midwest® RDH Freedom® Cordless Prophy System sold in support of the fight against breast cancer.

“With so many individuals affected each year by breast cancer, we are extremely proud to contribute to this cause through sales of our pink Midwest RDH Freedom Cordless Prophy System,” said product manager Autumn Anstine.

Presenting the check were associates who donated money as part of DENTSPLY Professional’s support of Lee National Denim Day, which raised funds during October for the American Cancer Society. Like many, Betty McFeely, DENTSPLY Professional’s Denim Day coordinator, had a personal connection to the cause: “As a breast cancer survivor, I am very happy to raise donations for Lee National Denim Day in support of the American Cancer Society and I am thrilled that DENTSPLY Professional has chosen to donate proceeds of our pink Midwest RDH Freedom Cordless Prophy System to them as well,” she said.

Donations help the American Cancer Society discover new ways to prevent, find and cure breast cancer while ensuring access to mammograms and providing free support to people with the disease.

(Source: DENTSPLY Professional)

Probiotics update

Two items need to be updated in the “What is a probiotic?” article on page D1 of the November 2012 Hygiene Tribune, Vol. 5, No. 5. The acclamation-phase dose for Evora Pro oral probiotic has changed from twice to once per day, and the children’s product is no longer available; Evora Pro is safe and effective for both children and adults.
Next up on XPsquared: endodontics class

Online C.E. module reviews latest thinking on how best to achieve predictable, successful root canal treatment

As part of its strategic partnership with Guardian Dental Insurance of America, xPApcé has formed a special endodontic education module that provides a step-by-step review on current thinking on how best to achieve predictable, successful root canal treatment.

An innovator in dental continuing education, xPApcé offers CERP-approved online C.E. courses with a mission to enhance patient outcomes, reduce risk, share knowledge and exchange ideas with the world’s leading scholars on a broad range of topics. Visit the website at www.xpapce.com.

Guardian is committed to meeting the needs of its network of 70,000 dentists and has joined with xPApcé to present academically vetted, scientifically valid and clinically relevant continuing education courses for the mutual benefit of Guardian dentists and their patients.

Scholars participating in the special xPApcé/Guardian endodontic module include Drs. Brett Gilbert, Tom Jovicich, Allan Deutsch, Peter Cathro, Cataлина Mendez and Ahmed HaShem. In addition, for the benefit of Guardian dentists and all professionals, xPApcé offers a course sponsored by Guardian that explains how best to submit insurance forms that will benefit patients. This course takes the mystery out of why certain submissions require more information and explains how to avoid delays for approvals and reimbursements.

xPApcé has also formed a strategic partnership with OsseoNews, offering selected modules on its website. The first module features a three-part series with Dr. Dennis Tarnow, discussing “Periodontal and Prosthetic Management of Furcated Teeth.” Future modules will address traumatic injuries to primary and secondary dentitions, sleep apnea and more.

What is xPApcé?
The letters in the name xPApcé stand for eXPert APproved Continuing Education. The core of xPApcé’s eLearning takes place in a unique format: an online dental community known as XPsquared. There, not only can dental professionals take C.E. courses, but they can visit vendors at their leisure, view new products, download PDFs, contact a sales rep, attend a meeting and more. Visit the site’s “Education and Vendor Hall” for a list of participating scholars and the courses that they give and to see the vendors that have booths inside the community. For information about becoming a vendor, contact the company at info@xpsquared.com.

If you want a quick snapshot of both sites, visit www.xpsquared.com, where all courses and vendors are listed.

(Source: xPApcé)
INTRODUCING
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Every procedure is different, and with the new Prime&Bond Elect™ Adhesive you instantly have the power to choose selective, total or self-etch. Built on the clinically proven chemistry of Prime&Bond® NT™ adhesive, control and flexibility are back in your hands.

Call your DENTSPLY Caulk representative or visit www.primeandbondelect.com for more information.