‘Aiming for Excellence’

102nd Hinman will feature more than 65 experts and 230 courses

The Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting — a comprehensive source of continuing education in dentistry — is “Aiming for Excellence” in Atlanta from March 27–29. The 102nd Hinman will feature more than 65 dental authorities, more than 230 courses, all-day educational tracks for every dental professional and nearly 400 companies demonstrating the latest in dentistry.

“Hinman offers the highest caliber of continuing education and world-class exhibits to help everyone in attendance achieve excellence in their careers and practices,” said Dr. Brian Carpenter, general chairman of the 2014 Hinman Dental Meeting. “We have assembled an impressive roster of speakers and special courses designed to elevate learning for our more than 22,000 dentists and dental professionals who attend our annual meeting.”

Across three days, Hinman will offer more than 230 courses, including 75 participation and interactive courses, giving dental professionals an opportunity to learn new procedures and fine-tune their skills. Topics range from Botox and dermal fillers to myofascial pain treatment and interactive CEREC instruction.

Four new all-day educational tracks will be offered for the entire dental team. The “Hygiene, Health & Happiness” track will be on Thursday, featuring six speakers covering topics that range from perio and antibiotic premedication to great cases and OTCs.

Both “Achieving Excellence in Assisting” and “Business Office Bullseye” will be on Friday — providing assistants and office staff with courses that cover time-consuming office procedures.

The Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting returns to the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta for its 2014 meeting, March 27–29. The 102nd Hinman features more than 65 dental experts, more than 230 courses and hands-on workshops, all-day educational tracks for dentists, dental hygienists, assistants and office staff, and nearly 400 companies in the exhibit hall.

Photo/Provided by Georgia World Congress Center

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Researchers say chairside medical screenings could save up to $102.6 million in annual health care costs

Screening for diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol in the dental office could save the health care system up to $102.6 million each year, according to a study published by the ADA Health Policy Resources Center.

HPRC staff looked at data from various sources to estimate the cost savings associated with conducting medical screenings in the dental office for adults 40 and older who had undiagnosed diabetes, hypercholesterolemia or hypertension. These patients had no reported history of coronary heart disease or diabetes, no disease-specific risk factors, were not on medication for the conditions and had not seen a physician in a year.

The HPRC researchers, including Kamary Nasseh, PhD, Barbara Greenberg, PhD, Marko Vujicic, PhD, managing vice president of HPRC and Dr. Michael Glick, editor of the Journal of the American Dental Association, published their findings in the Feb. 13 issue of the American Journal of Public Health.

The authors estimated that the screenings could save anywhere from $424.4 million per year, or $115.21 per person screened, to $604.6 million, or $132.72 per person. The range depends on whether the patients actually visit their physician’s office after being referred by their dentist.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 7.8 percent of the U.S. population has undiagnosed hypertension, 27 percent undiagnosed diabetes and 8.2 percent undiagnosed high cholesterol.

“As we dentists know, leaving conditions undiagnosed and untreated typically leads to more expensive procedures down the road,” said ADA President Charles Norman. “The same goes for medical conditions, and if dentists can help catch some of these earlier, we’re helping not only the patient save money down the road but the health care system as a whole.”

To see a detailed “Screening for Chronic Diseases” poster-style graphic, you can visit www.ADA.org/442.csspx.

(Source: American Dental Association)