Genetic variation linked to increased periodontitis risk

Study findings suggest genetic testing can play central role in personalized prevention strategy

Study results published in June in the Journal of Dental Research demonstrate — possibly for the first time — the role genetic testing can play in the prevention of periodontitis, which reportedly affects 47 percent of adults in the United States. The study looked at the benefits of creating personalized preventive dental treatment plans based in part on a patient’s genetic makeup. Researchers explored the influence of three key risk factors for periodontal disease and tooth loss — smoking, diabetes and genetics — in relation to varied frequencies of preventive dental visits that included cleanings.

Part of the intent of the research was to accumulate data that would help measure societal costs and benefits of scheduling two preventive dental visits per year, the standard for patients covered by typical dental-care plans. The researchers examined claims data from 5,417 patients who had not previously been diagnosed with periodontitis by tracking 16 years of claims history and conducting genetic testing, researchers determined that patients with genetic variations of the IL-1 genotype, or one or more of the other risk factors examined, were at significantly increased risk for tooth loss and could benefit from greater frequency of preventive care. The IL-1 genetic variation, which nearly one in three Americans reportedly carry, was identified as the most prevalent risk factor.

At the other end of the spectrum, the data indicated minimal benefit in scheduling two versus one preventive visit for patients that remained free of the three risk factors targeted. The researchers did note, however, that the study was isolated on tooth loss as the measurement of the effectiveness of long-term preventive care. Other potential benefits of two or more annual preventive dental-care visits by patients not showing any of the three risks analyzed were not considered. For example, caries prevention was not considered.

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‘AN IMPOSSIBLE DREAM’

After 30 years, patient’s five Brånemark osseointegrated implants remain in place.

• page C1

CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry provides an opportunity to join thousands of dental professionals in one of the country’s most popular destinations, San Francisco. Attendees have access to top speakers, a three-day exhibit hall, abundant networking opportunities and a diverse lineup of continuing education sessions.

Photo/By Christian Heeb, California Travel and Tourism Commission

• See page A4
A recent study confirms that genetic testing can identify patients who have an increased inflammatory response to oral bacteria, which can significantly increase their risk for periodontitis and tooth loss. Photo by Dana Roth, www.dreamstime.com.

Periodontitis is a bacterially induced chronic disease that destroys the bone and gum tissues that support the teeth. It is one of the most common chronic diseases of the body. It causes bleeding and swelling of the gums, loose teeth, bad breath and, ultimately, lead to tooth loss. According to the researchers, severe periodontitis has been associated with increased risk for a number of other diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis.

The entire research paper, “Patient Stratification for Preventive Dental Care,” can be viewed on or downloaded from the Journal of Dental Research website at www.jdr.sagepub.com.

The Journal of Dental Research is a peer-reviewed scientific journal focused on emerging knowledge relevant to dentistry and the health and disease of the oral cavity and associated structures.

Highlights of the study
- Explores the frequency of preventive dental visits (dental cleanings) in adults and the role of three key risk factors: smoking, diabetes and genetics in the progression of periodontal disease leading to tooth loss.
- Stresses the importance of dental visits to diagnose the disease before sympotms present.
- Findings represent how genetics can be used to prevent a disease that is preventable, costly and preventable.
- For patients with one or more risk factors categorized as high risk, the traditional two dental cleanings per year had significantly greater value than one cleaning in preventing tooth loss.
- For high-risk patients with two or more risk factors, two cleanings per year did not appear to be sufficient to adequately prevent tooth loss.

About Interleukin Genetics

Interleukin Genetics develops and markets a line of genetic tests under the Inherent Health and PHT brands. It markets its tests through partnerships with health and wellness companies, health care professionals and other channels. Products include a proprietary genetic risk panel for periodontal disease and tooth loss susceptibility sold through dentists. It is headquartered in Waltham, Mass., where it also operates a DNA testing laboratory certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA). Learn more at www.ilgenetics.com.

(Sources: Journal of Dental Research and Interleukin Genetics)
1913 Rolls-Royce used as frontline dental surgery in WWI sells at auction

$1.1 million-plus bid wins vehicle at July 12 Bonhams Goodwood Festival of Speed Sale

A Rolls-Royce used as a mobile dental surgery during World War I sold for more than $1.1 million at the Bonhams Goodwood Festival of Speed Sale on July 12. The winning bid fell within the pre-auction of estimate of $925,000 to $1.23 million.

The winning bidder was described by the auction company as being a car enthusiast with no connection to dentistry.

The 1913 Rolls-Royce 45/50hp "Silver Ghost" London-to-Edinburgh Tourer was originally bought by a wealthy Englishman in September 1913, before passing to its second owner, Auguste Charles Valadier, in October 1915.

Valadier, a French American living in Paris, would become instrumental in pioneering the development of maxillofacial reconstructive surgery to treat service personnel injured during World War I.

With the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, Valadier was eager to help the war effort in some way. He volunteered his services to the British Red Cross Society in Paris, which accepted him for duty in October of that year.

Valadier established the first unit dedicated to the treatment of facial injuries, with the unit’s work contributing to the later progress of plastic surgery for use in facial reconstruction.

By the end of 1916 Valadier was stationed at Boulogne and the Rolls-Royce — then bodied in limousine style — had been modified to incorporate a dentist’s chair in the rear.

A colleague who worked alongside Valadier at the time said, "In Boulogne there was a great fat man with sandy hair and a florid face, who had equipped his Rolls-Royce with a dental chair, drills and the necessary heavy metals. The name of this man was Charles Valadier."

Valadier would serve throughout the war, earning the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in 1919 and being knighted in 1921, having been granted British citizenship the previous year.

After Valadier’s ownership, the Rolls-Royce was returned to limousine coachwork and later served as a breakdown vehicle, complete with jib crane at the rear.

The late Denis Flather, a wealthy industrialist based in Sheffield, England, bought the car in 1965. He rallied it extensively in England and other countries for more than 25 years. Flather’s son placed the car with Bonhams for auction.

The London-to-Edinburgh model draws its name from Ernest W. Hives’ legendary journey between the two cities in September 1911. Hives completed the 400-mile trip using only the top gear, averaging a remarkable-for-the-time 24.32 miles per gallon.

After Hives’ feat, the Rolls-Royce factory was flooded with requests for replica models; and the genuine Silver Ghost London-to-Edinburgh models remain today among the most coveted of all of the model variants.

The automobile was sold with an extensive history file that included a copy of Valadier’s military record.

(Source: Bonhams)
San Francisco hosts CDA Presents

California Dental Association summer meeting attracts attendees from throughout the world, Aug. 15–17

CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry in San Francisco is quickly approaching and there is limited space available for lectures, but those who have yet to register still have time.

The iconic sights and sounds of San Francisco, including the world’s only manually operated cable car system still running in a metro area, await attendees of CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry, scheduled for Aug. 15–17 at the Moscone South Convention Center. Photo/Provided by California Travel and Tourism Commission/Shutterstock

The advance registration deadline to receive show materials in the mail has passed, but online registration remains open at www.cdapresents.com. Those who register now will be able to pick up their show materials at the eBadge Exchange booth on site at the Moscone South Convention Center.

CDA Presents features top industry speakers, an extensive trade show, numerous C.E. credit opportunities and social events. The Aug. 15–17 event will feature more than 110 lectures and workshops and an exhibit hall with 350 companies — at the Moscone South Convention Center.

Attendees can view a preliminary program and get additional information at www.cdapresents.com.

Technology show featured

To help dentists get a stronger grasp of the profession’s latest technology — and how to best utilize it — the conference includes a three-day technology series of lectures and workshops. The Greatest Dental Technology Show will explore digital disease detection, digital impressions, CAD/CAM, new cone beam 3-D imaging and more. Martin Jablow, DMD, FAGD, a clinician, speaker and author, is one of the series’ three presenters. “The biggest fear dentists have when purchasing technology is they think they are gambling — they aren’t sure what they are buying and are concerned that they will spend a lot of money, and then the product won’t end up working the way they hoped it would,” Jablow said. “We will help take the gamble out of it.”

On the first day of the technology series (Thursday, Aug. 15), Jablow and fellow presenters Paul H. Feuerstein, DMD, and John C. Flucke, DDS, will get attendees involved by allowing them to spin a wheel that lists lecture topics (such as lasers, digital impressions, etc.). Individuals will be selected to spin the wheel and the lecture topic will be selected by the spin of the wheel. The participant will then get to play another game of chance to win a prize that will be donated by a dental company.

After the first day of the series, attendees will have increased their knowledge about the latest technologies, products and Internet applications, high-tech diagnostic aids and digital impression/CAD systems, and 3-D radiography and associated implant and treatment planning. The second segment comprises two workshops (Friday, Aug. 16, and Saturday, Aug. 17), providing a detailed look into the shift from intraoral film to sensors and phosphor plates, current sensors, software, digital panoramic units, cameras (intraoral and extraoral), illumination, magnification and digital color matching.

“Don’t want to be the last dentist to adopt the latest technology because it would mean you are way behind the curve,” Jablow said. “You want to be somewhere in that top 30 percent of dentists who always have the most up-to-date technology. The other thing is — kids are coming out of dental school today and they are used to having this technology in school, and then when they come to your office and you don’t have it, it will be more difficult to sell it to an associate.”

For more details and to register for the technology lectures and workshops, visit www.cdapresents.com/SF2013.aspx.

Mobile app available

A mobile app for CDA Presents is available from the App Store for iPhones or the Google Play Store for Android users. The app offers attendees easy access to show schedules and speaker information, exhibitor and product listings, real-time alerts such as course availability, event photos and information on local hotels. App users can search courses by day, topic or speaker, download handouts and find exhibitors by name or product category and locate them on the exhibit hall map.

The app is compatible with any smartphone operating on the iPhone or Android platforms and is also compatible with tablets on those platforms, including the iPad. All phone numbers are click-to-call and websites are click-to-connect. The interactive exhibitor map has on-the-go wayfinding. And there are meeting room maps — and links to the C.E. website to avoid lines at the C.E. pavilion.

For more details and to download the app, visit www.cdapresents.com/mobile.

(Source: California Dental Association)
Courses filling quickly for annual dental office managers meeting

American Association of Dental Office Managers meets Sept. 19–20; Dental Spouse Business Network, Sept. 21

Registration is open for the ninth annual American Association of Dental Office Managers (AADOM) conference, in Orlando, Fla., from Sept. 19–20.

The host facility is the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center. The program lineup offers up to eight continuing education hours worth credit toward AADOM’s Fellowship Program.

The conference sold out the two prior years for attendees and exhibitors alike, so early registration is encouraged.

Attendees include dental office managers, practice administrators and anyone involved in the business end of a dental practice. Sessions focus on the efficient and successful management of the dental office, covering topics such as risk management, team communications, leadership and insurance coding updates. Extra focus will be given to financial indicators and human resources issues. Best-selling author and motivational educator Linda Larsen, CSP, is the keynote speaker.

AADOM President Heather Colicchio is looking forward to seeing both returning members and new members at the conference. “Our team knows our members expect quality education, but it’s also important for us to provide fun and networking time,” she said. “Orlando is the perfect venue. The buzz has been continuing consistently and positively.”

The day before the conference, AADOM hosts “Software-Palooza,” which provides members with focused training on select software suites.

AADOM will also conduct a new member orientation and an ambassador training on that pre-conference day.

The Dental Spouse Business Network (DSBN) meets on Sept. 21. According to event organizers, DSBN attendance has grown every year, and it has become a “must-attend” event for dental spouses. Debra Englehard-Nash will address the dental spouses on the topic of work-life balance.

AADOM was awarded the “Green Leader Initiative” grant this year by the Henry Schein Cares Foundation to support green education within the dental industry. And in that spirit the association is dedicated to keeping the conference as eco-friendly as possible.

The Gaylord Palms Resort, certified as a green lodging facility by the state of Florida, has a “GET Green” program designed to reduce its impact on the environment. As part of that program, the resort constantly measures energy and water consumption and identifies ongoing ways to eliminate waste in both areas.

Conference attendees and exhibitors can participate by recycling cardboard, paper and plastics; re-using their towels and linens in their guest room; and by donating surplus exhibit-hall items to local charities. Additionally, course handouts are being provided via an online portal to avoid printing, binding and shipping impacts. And daily agenda updates will be provided onsite by text messaging instead of on paper.

More information about the conference and online registration is available at www.dentalmanagersconference.com.

About AADOM

The American Association of Dental Office Managers serves office managers, administrators, patient coordinators, insurance and financial coordinators and treatment coordinators of general and specialized dental practices. The largest association of its kind, it provides networking, resources and education to help its members achieve the highest level of professional development.

To learn more, call (732) 842-9977 or email info@dentalmanagers.com.

(Source: American Association of Dental Office Managers)
300-plus seminars and hands-on workshops anchor 2013 Greater New York Dental Meeting

By Jayme McNiff Spizziale
Greater New York Dental Meeting

Registration is now open for the 2013 Greater New York Dental Meeting (GNYDM). Organizers of the 89th annual meeting anticipate the largest attendance yet. New for the 2013 meeting will be a re-design of the exhibit floor — with the addition of new technology pavilions and a unique dental laboratory exhibition.

The exhibit floor and the diverse continuing education programs are the centerpiece of the expansive annual meeting. Attendees are able to walk the exhibit floor for free (no preregistration fee) and meet with more than 600 companies selling the newest products and advanced technologies.

The education program will include 300 full- and half-day seminars, essays and hands-on workshops. Among the specialty programs are topics including orthodontics, endodontics, cosmetic dentistry, pediatrics and implant dentistry.

The GNYDM is introducing three new hands-on educational pavilions that will focus on lasers, CAD/CAM and cone-beam/CX-rays. Each of these pavilions will house multiple companies providing information on the latest technologies that can be used in the dental office. Attendees will be able to instantly compare all of the products in one location, while also becoming more familiar with the state-of-the-art technology by attending morning and afternoon educational programs presented at each pavilion.

The GNYDM and Aegis Publishing, Inside Dental Technology, have announced a groundbreaking partnership in laboratory technology. Collaboration 2013 will provide a designated laboratory exhibit area on the GNYDM exhibit floor, specialized education, demonstrations, digital dentistry and technology that will engage technicians and dentists side-by-side in an integrated, hands-on experience.

The GNYDM continues to offer a modern, high-tech free "live dentistry" arena daily from Sunday through Wednesday. The "live" program features top clinicians performing dental procedures on actual patients on stage, in front of 600 attendees. It all takes place right on the exhibit floor. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early because seats fill quickly.

The GNYDM is the largest dental congress and exhibition in the United States, registering 53,481 attendees from all 50 states and 130 countries in 2012. Yankee Dental session digs into evolution of dentistry

Organizers of the 2014 Yankee Dental Congress invite dental professionals to join 28,000 fellow professionals from Jan. 29 to Feb. 2 at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center.

With a general theme centered on the concept of overall health starting with oral health, the YDC meeting offers the chance to explore and discover best practices, products and resources to improve your practice, increase your knowledge, and better serve your patients.

Organizers describe Yankee Dental Congress 2014 as being the best opportunity in New England for every member of the dental practice to participate in a wide variety of programs.

YDC 2014 highlights include:
- Evolutionary Dentistry — Hear about the research and activities at the Manot Cave Dig in Israel and discuss the relationship of evolutionary biology to modern dental problems led by Mark Haas, DDS, and Bruce Latimer, PhD.
- The Ritz-Carlton Leadership Center — Back by popular demand, this program promotes performance and practice excellence by developing your leadership skills and creating the best possible service for your patients. Courses include: "The Fire Within — Igniting Passion for Ritz-Carlton Performance Excellence," and "Legendary Service with a Smile," both presented by Jennifer Blackmon.
- Hands-On Cadaver Programs — This opportunity enables participants to attend hands-on courses using cadavers while exploring topics that cover areas such as anesthesia, crown lengthening and anatomy.
- The Pankey Institute: Update 2014 — Discover new techniques and innovative approaches in treatment planning that will have a valuable impact on your practice. The series includes three courses featuring speakers Gregory Di Laurenzio, DDS, Matthew Messina, DDS, and Kenneth Myers, DDS.
- Master the Skills of Marketing Your Practice in One Day — A one-day symposium designed to help expand your practice with the power of marketing. Courses include "High Energy Marketing to Explode Your New Patient Numbers," "Secrets of Social Media Success and Online Marketing," "Get Noticed, Get Booked, and Grow Your Practice" and "Best Practices for Leveraging Social Media to Engage Patients."
- Dental Team Playbook: Strategies for Success (an expansion on the popular team-development day) — Your entire dental team can benefit from this one-day program with courses tailored to dental assistants, hygienists and office personnel. Team members can learn from experts in their respective fields. Presenters include Lois Banta, Amy Kirsch, RDA, Shannon Pace Brinker, CDA, Diane Peterson, RDH, and Anastasia Turchetta, RDSH.
- Social Media Hot Spot — Learn how using social media such as Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter can help improve practice performance by drawing new patients in and keeping current patients connected to your dental practice.

You can visit www.yankeedental.com for more information.

(Source: Yankee Dental Congress)
The most recent Journées dentaires internationales du Québec just wrapped up in May, and the JDIQ staff is already looking ahead to the 2014 meeting, set to run from May 23 to 27.

Meanwhile, the meeting staff reminds you that you can still consult the course notes provided by some of the 2013 speakers in the “Program and Registration” area of the convention section on the order’s website www.odq.qc.ca/Convention.

Also, attendees have until Aug. 30 to submit lecture evaluation forms, available at www.odq.qc.ca/evaluation.

More than 12,000 dental professionals turned out for the 2013 edition of the Journées dentaires internationales du Québec, once again making the convention one of the most popular in Canada. This 43rd Journées dentaires internationales du Québec (JDIQ), which was held from May 24–28, offered lectures, hands-on workshops and other educational opportunities. The exhibit hall opened to a big crowd Monday morning, with a new, complimentary continental breakfast on the agenda. Also new and well-received was free Wi-Fi access in the Palais des congrès. The exhibit hall opened at 8 a.m. on Monday and Tuesday.

UBC alumni participate in speaker series at Pacific Dental Conference

Program coincides with 50th anniversary of the University of British Columbia Faculty of Dentistry

The 2014 Pacific Dental Conference, from March 6–8 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) in Vancouver, British Columbia, features a varied selection of open C.E. sessions, hands-on courses and a live dentistry stage.

The variety of topics covered by more than 150 speakers means the entire dental team can access the latest information on dental technology, techniques and materials. Speakers in the 2014 lineup include John Kois, Greg Psaltis and Glenn van As.

Highlights

With the University of British Columbia Faculty of Dentistry celebrating its 50th anniversary, the PDC will present the “UBC Speakers Series,” featuring UBC alumni addressing a variety of topics.

The Live Dentistry Stage is back on the exhibit hall floor, with demonstrations on Thursday and Friday. Saturday’s “So You Think You Can Speak?” features 50-minute presentations by speakers who responded to the call for presentations and were accepted by the meeting’s scientific committee.

The exhibit hall should be busy with more than 300 companies projected to fill approximately 600 booths. Exhibit hall hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday.

Registration and lodging

Special hotel rates are available to PDC attendees, with early booking recommended to ensure availability. Reservations can be made directly with conference hotels through the links on www.pdconf.com. Registration opens Oct. 15 with early bird rates for all members of the dental team.

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Together,
We’re Helping Health Happen

Through participation in our Calendar of Caring programs, our valued customers have helped raise over $800,000 to help health happen!

Henry Schein Cares, our global corporate social responsibility program, is a source of pride for Team Schein Members around the world. Through many activities, we “help health happen” by expanding care to underserved populations.

One way our customers can assist the important work of Henry Schein Cares is through participating in our Calendar of Caring programs. Throughout the year, we offer special products for purchase, a portion of which will be donated to the Henry Schein Cares Foundation in support of health-related causes. Together, we can do more!

Make an impact!
Help us broaden access to health care around the world.
Please visit www.hscaresfoundation.org to make a donation or learn more about our programs.
Imagine the perfect sunset on a warm, sandy beach ...

Imagine the perfect sunset on a warm sandy beach, holding the perfect libation in one hand and your other arm around your significant other. Now add an idyllic community, world-class continuing education and wonderful everlasting friendships. The sum total is the learning experience provided by Smiles In The Sun Seminar 2014 in Longboat Key, Fla.

The 6th Annual Smiles In The Sun Seminar will take place Thursday through Saturday, April 24–26 at the Longboat Key Club and Resort. Educational programs are held from 8 a.m. to noon and are CERP/PACE approved credit hours.

Once again Smiles In The Sun has negotiated a special hotel rate to include many amenities such as a full daily breakfast for two during your stay as well as discounts on golf and the facility’s spa. Room rates are extended to include Friday, April 18, through April 27. Most guests arrive on Tuesday or Wednesday and stay through Sunday. On Wednesday morning, April 23, Smiles In The Sun will again hold a fishing tournament featuring a number of cash prizes. The excursion includes gear as well as lunch. Those wishing to participate in the tournament should arrive on Tuesday, April 22.

This year’s program promises to be one of the best yet. Event founder Dr. Howard S. Glazer will present his most current review of materials, products, equipment and techniques in his program “What’s Hot and What’s Getting Hotter!” He will be joined on the program by featured speaker Dr. Dan Ward, who will present “Contemporary Restorative Trends: Hot Syncing Your Clinical Dental Knowledge.” Ward’s presentations combine theory with practical real-world experience. He will delve in detail into the use of the latest restorative materials. He also has developed a patented and innovative approach to smile design called the RED Proportion, which the event organizers say will undoubtedly help attendees “design” better smiles.

You can attend the 2014 Smiles In The Sun meeting by registering online at www.smilesinthesun.net or calling (631) 423-5200. Tuition remains the same as last year at $595, and each accompanying person or team member at $295.

Note, too, that for each dentist you refer to the event, the dentist receives $100 off the fee, and you receive $100.

The event organizers say they look forward to sharing the smiles with you April 23–27 and encourage you to remember that Smiles In The Sun provides: “Continuing education above and beyond the ordinary for a sunsational experience!”

(Source: Smiles In The Sun)
Aribex launches NOMAD Pro 2
Portable X-ray system is lightweight, rechargeable — and goes anywhere

For almost a decade, Aribex has been quietly ripping the X-ray system off the wall and into the hands of the dental team. Aribex manufactures a handheld and completely mobile X-ray system, called the NOMAD.

According to the company, one NOMAD does the work of multiple, wall-mounted X-ray systems, which can save the typical dental practice thousands of dollars in equipment costs. Moreover, because the NOMAD enables dental team members to safely and effectively stay with their patients during X-ray procedures, a bitewing series can be completed in half the time required by a wall-mounted system.

Unlike conventional wall-mount and portable X-ray systems, the NOMAD is lightweight, rechargeable (battery-powered), and can go anywhere. Dental professionals around the world have been choosing the NOMAD as their preferred X-ray device, in and out of the office, with almost 13,000 NOMADs now in use.

Building upon the successes of previous innovation and design, Aribex is excited to introduce the NOMAD Pro 2, providing the same mobile convenience and cost savings as previous models while increasing durability and performance.

“The Pro 2 is exactly what our customers want,” said Ken Kaufman, general manager of Aribex. “We asked our customers how we could improve our marquee product. We listened, designed prototypes, asked for feedback, and iterated until we met their requests. The end result of all of that hard work is the Pro 2. It’s simply the world’s best handheld X-ray system yet.”

The newly designed battery handset, with infrared connectors, together with a new charging cradle, improves the system’s durability and boosts battery performance. “One consistent comment we heard from our customers focused on the charging station,” said Kaufman. “Our engineers spent hours working with customers, researching new solutions. Our final design is a big improvement, and our customers will agree.”

Durability is further enhanced by a re-engineered user interface that is more scratch and moisture resistant. “The operatory environment can be hard on equipment, particularly with our products that are easily carried from operatory to operatory,” said Kaufman. “The NOMAD Pro 2 will stand up to repetitive antiseptic and cross-contamination control.”

To learn more, contact your equipment dealer, an Aribex sales representative, or visit the company’s website at www.aribex.com.

“We’re excited to show our customers our new innovations and enhancements,” said Kaufman. “We invite our customers to visit our exhibit at booth No. 2201 at the CDA San Francisco meeting for a special demonstration of our new NOMAD Pro 2.”

(Source: Aribex)
Clinicians are leveraging their investments in chairside digital impression systems to reduce the time and cost of implant therapy. Dental technicians produce custom abutments and crowns directly from digital impressions taken with these systems, eliminating the need for physical models. Dentists and patients alike can benefit from this simple, convenient and affordable restorative process.

From a chairside digital impression, Glidewell Laboratories will digitally design and fabricate a custom abutment or crown in two days or less. Dentists save on the cost of impression materials, shipping to the lab and model work, and they benefit from lower lab prices on restorations. The process for taking the digital implant impression and sending it to the lab is straightforward.

Chairside procedure is as follows:
1) Remove the healing abutment and attach an Inclusive® Scanning Abutment (available through Glidewell Direct) to the implant. For Bellatek® Encode® Impression System (Biomet 3i™; Warsaw, Ind.) digital impressions, it is not necessary to remove the healing abutment.
2) Take buccal, lingual and occlusal scans of the implant site.
3) Scan the opposing dentition.
4) Remove the scanning abutment and scan the bite.
5) Electronically submit the digital implant impression to the lab.

For system-specific information on how to send digital implant impressions to Glidewell Laboratories, intraoral workflow guides are available by visiting the “Digital Impression Systems” page under Dentist, then Services, at www.glidewelldental.com.

(Source: Glidewell Laboratories)
I absolutely believe that the Inclusive® Tapered Implant System is the simplest, most predictable and most affordable implant system that I have ever used. It will continue to be my system of choice. I will never use another implant system again!

— Joe Bussell, DDS; Little Rock, Ark.

I took an impression today for the final ceramic restoration on one of my Inclusive® Tooth Replacement System patients. The site of the Inclusive® Tapered Implants healed wonderfully! This was due mainly to the patient-specific temporary components that provided my patient with a natural-looking temporary and tissue contours, and I couldn’t be happier. The custom impression copings were very easy to use, and they made the entire process a breeze. I would highly recommend the Inclusive Tooth Replacement System to every dentist looking for an efficient and effective way to practice implant dentistry.

— Robert Klein, DDS; Kansas City, Mo.

I would like to express my overwhelming satisfaction with the Inclusive® Tooth Replacement System, which made this one of the easiest implant cases I have ever done. Because I achieved primary stability and used the included custom temporary abutment and BioTemps® crown, I was able to achieve optimum esthetic results and cut down my chair time. Now I can offer my patients a more esthetic and biologically superior result using the Inclusive Tooth Replacement System instead of the stock components normally used. It is, for me, a very cost-effective way to deliver superior treatment with custom components for each case. I used to spend more time and money with other systems, but now I have a great alternative!

— James Nicholson, DDS; Muskogee, Okla.
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(Source: PhotoMed)
August is ‘Restorative and Aesthetics Month’ at Expert Dental CE

Use discount code on C.E. courses for entire month

August is “Restorative and Aesthetics Month” at Expert Dental CE. Throughout the month, all course takers will get 20 percent off any individual course or module. This could be an ideal time to learn from some of Expert Dental CE’s top scholars about essential procedures in restorative and aesthetic dentistry.

“We want our customers to get a taste of the quality of courses we have. We have two outstanding modules that provide a comprehensive overview of restorative and aesthetic dentistry and include such scholars as Drs. Jim Fine, Dennis Tarnow, Charles Goodacre, Graziano Giglio and Ron Margolies, to name a few,” said Expert Dental CE Managing Director Bill Martin.

Following is a list of some of the courses in restorative and aesthetic dentistry available at Expert Dental CE:

• “Buccal Plate Preservation: A Predictable Solution to Anterior Aesthetic Management,” presented by Federico Brugnami, DDS, and Alfonso Caiazzo, DDS.
• “Emergence Profiles in Natural Tooth Contour,” presented by Burney M. Croll, DDS.
• “Crown Lengthening: A Powerful Tool for Healthier Gums and Better Crowns,” presented by Jim Fine, DDS.
• “Achieving Aesthetic Laminated Veneers,” presented by Graziano D. Giglio, DDS, FACP, FACD.
• “A Review of Smile Design Parameters,” presented by Graziano D. Giglio, DDS, FACP, FACD.
• “Achieve Excellent Marginal Fit & Cervical Contour with Crowns,” presented by Charles J. Goodacre, DDS, MSD.
• “Complex Prosthetics in General Practice,” presented by Ron Margolies, DMD.
• “Understanding Current All-Ceramic Systems,” presented by Mariano A. Polack, DDS, MS.
• “Periodontal and Prosthetic Management of Furcated Teeth: Parts I, II, III,” presented by Dennis Tarnow, DDS.
• “Computerized Dentistry for Private Practice: Abutments, Ceramics and Occlusion,” presented by Dean Vafiadis, DDS.
• “Contemporary Complete Dentures,” presented by Bruce G. Valauri, DDS, FACP.

To take one of these courses, visit [www.expertdentalce.com](http://www.expertdentalce.com). Use the discount code RA3510 to get 20 percent off any course or module in Expert Dental CE’s Restorative and Aesthetics library.

(Source: Expert Dental CE)
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Reflections on the ADHA meeting

By Patricia Walsh, RDH
Editor in Chief

I first met Esther Wilkins quite by accident. It was early in the morning and I was about to catch a Chicago convention train. Marginally awake after 12 hours of convention festivities the previous day, I walked onto a hotel elevator. No badge, no makeup, and in search of strong coffee. I glanced at the person I shared the lift with and did a double take. I tilted my head to one side and said, “Aren’t you...?”. There she was, our Florence Nightingale. I was all alone with Dr. Wilkins for a whole glorious eight floors. The love we have for this hygienist is palpable. You see it at every book signing. We wish to hold her hand, feel her genuine warmth. Just being near her makes us feel like we are somehow connected to the original intention and purity of our profession. One of the highlights of the American Dental Hygienists Association annual meeting was a morning speaker who opened with an unofficial “benediction” taken from “The Book of Esther.” About a thousand dental professionals got the joke immediately and burst into applause. When Dr. Wilkins spoke to us this year, not onstage, but via the Jumbotron screen, you could have heard a pin drop. She is the “true north” on our profession’s compass. She is the “true north” on our profession’s compass. There can be no hope without her. She is our passion, our drive, and our inspiration. She is the role model and the profession’s guiding light. It is no surprise that my list for the Boston meeting included Esther Wilkins, as she is the standard by which all hygienists are judged.

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Fones came up with the idea to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the profession. He was an innovator. He asked questions such as: “What is dental hygiene?” “Where are we going?” “What can we do to make a difference?” His goal was to employ dental hygienists who were primarily from schools and medical practices. He was quoted as saying: “It is primarily to this important work of public education that the dental hygienist is called. She must regard herself as the channel through which dentistry’s knowledge of mouth hygiene is to be disseminated, the greatest service she can perform is the persistent education of the public in mouth hygiene and the allied branches of general hygiene.”

It was a lofty goal, which became the start of a noble profession whose purpose is to eradicate oral disease and improve overall health of the whole population. His goal was to employ dental hygienists who were primarily from schools and medical practices. He was quoted as saying: “It is primarily to this important work of public education that the dental hygienist is called. She must regard herself as the channel through which dentistry’s knowledge of mouth hygiene is to be disseminated, the greatest service she can perform is the persistent education of the public in mouth hygiene and the allied branches of general hygiene.”

Although most dental hygienists are employed in the private practice setting, many of us have chosen to take our mission “to the streets” in a variety of ways during the past 100 years. We can still be seen as public health workers, teachers, marketers, and more. Personally, I have had a very rewarding career that has spanned almost 30 years in the oral health industry. Although most of those years were spent in clinical practice, twice during this time I left to work in sales for different dental product companies. In my current sales representative role, the commodity that I offer is no longer the work of my hands, but the collected knowledge of 30 years in the dental profession. It is more about what I know than what I do. I believe this role allows me to continue delivering the message of our original dental hygienist mission on a much larger scale and make room chairside for new graduates. Sharing information on new products and services gives other dental professionals the tools they need to do their work more efficiently, and in turn, help them reach more people.

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Dental hygienists have always strived to educate the public on the value of oral health and its role on one’s overall well-being. Today that message is even more powerful as many believe the mouth is an indicator of a person’s whole-body health. In the first 100 years, we have made gains in the improvement of oral health, and the incidence of dental caries and tooth loss dropped dramatically. In addition, there was a steady rise in the percentage of the population that receives regular dental care. However, since the mid 1990s, we may be witnessing an alarming reversal in that trend. According to a recent National Health and Nutrition Examination survey, the incidence of caries among children is on the rise. Additionally, research from the American Dental Association indicates the percentage of the population obtaining regular care has dropped and the frequency of dental visits has declined.

So, my fellow colleagues, I say we pause to celebrate our profession and all that we have done. Have a party. Enjoy a piece of cake. But don’t rest for too long, because if we want to honor the mission that Dr. Fones set out for us 100 years ago, we still have a lot of work to do. Are you ready? Now, let’s get started on another 100 Years of Dental Hygiene!  

References
1. www.nidcr.nih.gov/DataStatistics/FindDataByTopic/DentalCaries/DentalCariesChildhood

Industry commentary

Celebrating 100 years of dental hygiene

By Lori Bernardo, RDH

In 1906, when Dr. Alfred Fones came up with the idea to train his assistant, Irene Newman, to clean teeth and perform preventive oral services on children, no one could have predicted how our profession could have evolved. Fones’ early vision of the role of the dental hygienist was revolutionary. His goal was to employ dental hygienists who were primarily from schools and medical practices. He was quoted as saying: “It is primarily to this important work of public education that the dental hygienist is called. She must regard herself as the channel through which dentistry’s knowledge of mouth hygiene is to be disseminated, the greatest service she can perform is the persistent education of the public in mouth hygiene and the allied branches of general hygiene.”

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Dental hygienists have always strived to educate the public on the value of oral health and its role on one’s overall well-being. Today that message is even more powerful as many believe the mouth is an indicator of a person’s whole-body health. In the first 100 years, we have made gains in the improvement of oral health, and the incidence of dental caries and tooth loss dropped dramatically. In addition, there was a steady rise in the percentage of the population that receives regular dental care. However, since the mid 1990s, we may be witnessing an alarming reversal in that trend. According to a recent National Health and Nutrition Examination survey, the incidence of caries among children is on the rise. Additionally, research from the American Dental Association indicates the percentage of the population obtaining regular care has dropped and the frequency of dental visits has declined. So, no matter what challenges lie ahead, I know that we are more than capable to rise to the occasion as we always have. So, my fellow colleagues, I say we pause to celebrate our profession and all that we have done. Have a party. Enjoy a piece of cake. But don’t rest for too long, because if we want to honor the mission that Dr. Fones set out for us 100 years ago, we still have a lot of work to do. Are you ready? Now, let’s get started on another 100 Years of Dental Hygiene!
identification is www.ord.org. A clinician can be guided along by answering simple questions about the abnormality. You'll be asked to enter age, gender, borders, loculation and location. The website will give you a list of the most probable or typical lesions that match your entries. I hope I never see evidence of metastatic breast cancer show up on one of my pans, but it's entirely possible. The radiographic improvements that have transpired increase our responsibilities as clinicians. Technology has furthered our role as holistic health care providers.

I have an old-school physician who was never much for vitamins other than Calcium and D when I turned 50. Now and then I've read something on a dental blog about an exciting new oil or a vitamin combo that has left me scratching my head. If so-and-so is this excited about it, then it must be great. One year I sat intrigued by a hygienist pushing "gingival" vitamin powder rubs — after her lecture on lasers. The more high-tech the subject, the more credible the educator? When I wrote to a top nutritionist — a professor emeritus at a prestigious dental school — his response was chilling. Not only was it a profound, "No. It doesn't do anything," but he followed it up with a scolding: "Patty, you're a smart girl, step reading the blogs. Read PubMed." His mantra seemed to be if they are selling their book after the lecture, take what they say with a grain of salt.

His words were resounding in my head when I went on a hunt for an antioxidant gel at the ADHA convention booths. A well-respected periodontist I know had his mantra seemed to be if they are selling their book after the lecture, take what they say with a grain of salt.

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My first hygiene textbook, "The Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist" (AKA, The Book of Esther) may be "old testament," but it is the foundation of a vibrant and growing profession. Recently, Californa approved self regulation for hygienists, who will now dictate their own education and licenser requirements and control the profession's ethical standards. Californians have always been trendsetters. If it is a left-of-center fashion statement, it probably got its start in California. (The jury is still out on wearing Ugg's boots with short entries. I hope I never see evidence of metastatic breast cancer show up on one of my pans, but it's entirely possible. The radiographic improvements that have transpired increase our responsibilities as clinicians. Technology has furthered our role as holistic health care providers.

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shorts, but my perpetually cold feet do appreciate the introduction of soft fur.) Our professional meetings allow us to collaborate and compare. I no longer discount the blogs. Sometimes a grass-roots effort or product takes a little longer to catch on. A rumor might just have you hold off on buying a loupe if you know it may go cordless soon. Clinical trials and documentation can take years. Dental corporations compete with one another; dental publications compete with one another. The information highway can sometimes be a one-way, one-lane street. We use our education to take what we need for the time being, and leave the rest.

I try to tell my patients not to believe everything they read or see on TV. Not only are hygienists bombarded with professional information on a daily basis, it’s that much worse for the patient. The patient never reads peer-reviewed dental journals. I heard one well-educated lecturer disparagingly use the phrase “bogus journals” at a dental meeting. I think there’s a place at the table for everyone. Only a small percentage of us are in research — and writing our doctoral thesis.

The vast majority of hygienists just want to know what works and what doesn’t. Not necessarily what is fast and easy — but what actually works. We learn so much from each other’s clinical experiences in “the trenches.” There is an understanding in the military that if you really want to know what’s going on, ask a master sergeant. Don’t ask an officer. They’re too busy with the bureaucracy. Your doctor isn’t going to be up to date on which sensitivity toothpaste is the least abrasive. (Hint: It’s not the one you think.) He’s too busy trying to get his state income tax software to work properly. We, the hygienists, are the prevention specialists of the office.

The Oscar-winning actor Geena Davis spoke to us at the end of our ADHA session about a woman’s worth — the value of our integrity, the beauty of our intellect. Davis reminded us that we still have a long way to go to change how women as a whole are perceived. To change the Hollywood misrepresentation of women, she started the foundation called Seejane.org. I walked away from the convention hall feeling empowered and as tall as Davis in heels. She is an actor, not an actresses; just as I am a hygienist, not a hygienistess.

As a profession, we were slow off the mark when it comes to diversity. I wonder sometimes if our female-oriented profession is both our greatest strength and our greatest weakness. We have evolved and diversified. I hope our individual information-gathering processes continue to evolve and diversify.

Some of us are astute to changes in technology and research, while others have ears to the ground via local meetings and the Internet. We go forward together in this new information age — free from information prejudice — with an open mind and a common goal.
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