



District of Columbia  
DENTAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

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*Dr. Ladan Basiri*

## **Letter from the DC Dental Society President Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD**

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. — John F. Kennedy

Dear Colleagues,

This beautiful Spring, many people may not see the natural beauty of the season, as the world – especially the European continent – deals with the

third surge of this pandemic.

The news of the AstraZeneca vaccine’s side effects has exacerbated the public and governments’ vaccination hesitancy, as well as the vaccine’s extant supply issues. The AstraZeneca recombinant vaccine has shown 79% efficacy with a single dose, it is cheap, is part of COVAX, and requires normal refrigeration temperatures. Many countries are not scheduled to have widespread vaccination until 2023, which is far too distant, threatening our collective safety and security – as they say, “We are not safe until we are all safe.” According to recent statistics, only 13% of the population is vaccinated in the U.S. as virus variants are quickly spreading. The AstraZeneca vaccine is being tested to receive the EUA very soon here, and that would be another vaccine in our arsenal.

In D.C., our Society’s efforts have not ceased. We sent a [letter to the Mayor’s office](#) on January 29, and since we did not get any response, we sent another letter to both [Mayor Bowser](#) and [DC Health’s director, Dr. Nesbitt](#), on March 17, requesting that they grant emergency authorization for dentists to volunteer administering COVID-19 vaccines in public sites. We did receive a [response from Dr. Nesbitt](#) on March 25, stating that at this time they have sufficient number of vaccinators in the district!

Recently, President Biden took action to include dentists and dental students as

***(Continued on Page 2)***

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Cover Photo: 2017 Maryland Mission of Mercy

volunteer vaccinators in an effort to expand the pool of vaccinators as supplies increase around the country. Additional details on the announcement and eligibility to administer the vaccine can be found in this [recent article](#) from the ADA Morning Huddle. According to the article: “Volunteers must take an [online vaccine training](#) course and be observed by an experienced healthcare professional before administering vaccines (Each of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized so far are administered into muscle in the upper arm.) Current certification in basic [cardiopulmonary resuscitation](#). While some states already permitted an expanded list of health professionals to give the vaccine, the new update applies to all states. The goal, according to the White House, is to: “Have enough vaccinators as the supply of doses continues to increase and all adults in the U.S. become eligible for vaccination by May 1. To make this change, President Biden [ordered an amendment](#) to the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act Declaration—originally declared in January 2020 under President Trump—to authorize additional categories of qualified professionals to prescribe, dispense, and administer COVID-19 vaccines anywhere in the country. The amendment also includes retired health professionals. ([Federal Register Notice 86 FR 14462](#)).” The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has launched an Online Vaccinator Portal so that people can check whether they are eligible to administer the vaccine. The portal also contains training links.

As of April 2, 23.0% of D.C. residents are partially or fully vaccinated, and total 343,430 doses have been administered. Ward 8 has the lowest percentage of vaccinated D.C. residents (7%), and [Ward 3 has the highest](#) (17%). Our hope is that the DC administration can utilize dentists’ help to accelerate the vaccination effort during this [public health crisis](#).

For those of you who missed our March business meeting, I reported that there is a new update from the DC Prescription Drug Management Program (PDMP) as follows: a new requirements took effect under the on March 16. All dentists who are licensed to dispense prescription drugs are required to register with PDMP. There is no change to this requirement. [What is new](#) is if you issue a prescription for an Opioid or Benzodiazepine medication for more than 7 consecutive days, you will need to query the PDMP. Similarly, you will be required to query the PDMP again every 90 days thereafter while the course of treatment or therapy continues. You will also need to query the PDMP prior to issuing a refill after 90 days. See page 4 for information on a webinar presented by the PDMP staff for DCDS on April 14 at 5:45 PM.

In the economic news there are several important dates for your information.

As reported in the Journal of Accountancy, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will not require small businesses that received a COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) to start making payments [on the loan until 2022](#).

In a news release issued on March 19, the SBA announced extended deferment periods for all of its disaster loans, including the COVID-19 EIDL loans, with the deferral details differing depending on the calendar year the disaster loan was made. For all SBA disaster loans made in 2020, the first payment due date is 24 months, extended from 12 months, from the date of the note, while for all SBA disaster loans made in 2021, the first payment due date is 18 months, extended from 12 months, from the date of the note.

A forecast released Wednesday March 17, shows Fed officials now expect the economy to grow at a rate of 6.5% this year, up from 4.2% [that was projected in December](#). Furthermore, the IRS appears to have decided to heed the pleas of lawmakers and advocacy groups who have been urging the tax agency to postpone this year’s April 15 filing deadline [until May 17](#).

If you missed the March presentation by Dr. Lee Ann Brady on “Occlusion, Bite Splints and the New Patient Exam” you missed brushing up on the ideal FGM position for surgical consideration of the implant fixture! You can find the course on our website on demand for a limited time. I want to thank Dr. Brady and our education committee for this great presentation. I also would like to congratulate our lucky raffle winner: Dr. Chris Loukaitis. Congratulations, Dr. Loukaitis! I want to take this opportunity to thank our generous sponsors: Choice Dental Practice Transitions, RK Tongue, and Sandy Spring Bank.

Please remember that there will be no monthly meeting in April. Instead, the Licensure Symposium Committee has worked tirelessly to put together a great one-day program for you on April 17. We are tremendously grateful to Dr. Kim Menhinick, Chair of the Symposium Committee, and the planning committee, consisting of Drs. Larry Bowers, Chad Jones, Viviana Avila-Gnau, and Eema Sahrai for their diligent and dedicated hard work. Please register quickly, as December license renewals always come faster than expected. I thank all of you who have already registered and hope for a very successful meeting.

A huge shout-out to all our members who nominated themselves or a deserving colleague for consideration to serve on the Society Board or on a committee for the 2021-2022 term. I want to thank the awards and nominating committee chair, Dr. Steven Guttenberg, and the committee members – Drs. Pierre Cartier, Anna Bettios, Aliya Kassam, Lucciola Lambruschini – for their hard work in completing this important endeavor.

Keep an eye out for an upcoming special meeting to meet these amazing leaders and volunteers, who have been serving your society on your behalf with their dedication and leadership. As written in the above quotation from President Kennedy, with leadership and volunteering comes learning. I can personally say that I have always learned from volunteering, especially during this past year as your president, and it has been a priceless experience. I wholeheartedly thank these volunteer leaders for stepping up to move our Society and organized dentistry forward into a better, sustainable future.

Plans are already underway for our hybrid meetings in May and June, and I am grateful to Mr. Kurt Gallagher, our Executive Director, and his team for their innovative ideas to possibly use the Smith Bucklin offices and their awesome rooftop for our future meetings. We certainly hope to see each other in person very soon.

I want to congratulate and thank the leadership of the DCDS Foundation for introducing the new D.C. Dental Cares Pro Bono program, which promises to serve the D.C. community and give all D.C. dentists a chance to serve their communities.

Thank you to all of you who took the time and care to respond to the annual education needs assessment survey, which is an extremely important tool for the Education Committee to plan 2021-2022 programming following the ADA CERP guidelines.

With all the committees meeting and planning, we foresee quite a busy April. I am very much looking forward to seeing you all on April 17 and hope that you take the time to enjoy the spectacular Cherry Blossoms during the first week of April.

Sincerely yours,

Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD, FACD, FICD  
DC Dental Society President

# DC Prescription Drug Monitor Program (PDMP) to Host Q&A Webinar for DCDS on April 14 at 5:45 PM

Do you have questions about the new requirements under the DC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)?



Are you unclear about when to query the PDMP database regarding an opioid or benzodiazepine prescription?

This special session with the staff of the DC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program is designed to answer your questions and clarify your responsibilities under the new DC law. There is no cost to attend.

To help the presenters prepare, please [send questions in advance](#) of the webinar to DCDS with the subject line "PDMP Questions."

[Webinar Link](#)

## Resource Links

- DC Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) [information page](#)
- Overview of the new PDMP requirements ([Presentation Slides](#))
- DC PDMP system login page ([PMP Aware](#)) - perform queries here
- Link to the [DC PDMP home page](#)
- [DC PDMP Quick Reference Guide](#)
- Quick Reference Guide: [How to Perform a PDMP Query in PMP Aware](#)

## DC Health Surveys Dentists on Sedation Dentistry Survey Closes Friday, April 9th

The Board of Dentistry is conducting a survey for the development of an administrative framework for implementing the Dentist and Dental Facility Certification to Administer Sedation or General Anesthesia in the District of Columbia. Feedback from the dental community will assist the Board in developing an effective and efficient certification process for administering sedation and general anesthesia.

Please take a moment to share input on this important public policy topic.

[Survey Link](#)

# Can't Attend the DCDS Symposium on April 17th? No Problem.

Recordings of all sessions will be available to registrants for 30 days after the Symposium.

DCDS Spring 2021 Symposium for Licensure

Saturday, April 17, 2021

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Session recordings will be available for 30 days after event.

CE Credits Offered: Up to 7 CE Credits

Presentation Format: All presentations will be delivered in lecture format.



Time	Session
8:00 AM	Introductory Remarks by ADA President Klemmedson
8:15 AM	Infection Control by Dr. John Molinari 2 CE Hours Offered
10:30 AM	LGBTQ Cultural Competency by Shannon Whittington 2 CE Hours Offered
1:15 PM	Ethics by Ms. Susan Gunn 1 CE Hour Offered
2:25 PM	Abuse and Misuse of Opioids/Prescription Drugs by Dr. Raymond Dionne 2 CE Hours Offered
4:30 PM	Closing Comments and Adjournment

Visit the [Spring 2021 Symposium page](#) for additional information on presenters, CE units, [policies](#), the ADA CERP standard and more.

**Register for Symposium**

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# May CE Event: “Bonding Dental Ceramics & Materials and Techniques to Improve Class II Composites” (Clinical)

Clinical CE Virtual Presentation by Nathaniel Lawson, DMD PhD  
Monday, May 17, 2021

Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM

Educational Program Begins at Approximately 6:00 PM

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Visit the [DCDS Registration Fees & Cancellation Policy page](#) for more details on registration.



## Course Information:

### Part One: Bonding Dental Ceramics

The ability to bond dental ceramics allows the practitioner to perform more conservative tooth preparations. As there are many different types of dental ceramics available (zirconia, lithium disilicate, porcelain, processed composite, etc), determining the correct protocol for each type of ceramic can be confusing. This lecture aims to simplify the process of bonding ceramics and provide the clinician with a protocol that can be used to bond any type of dental ceramic. Each detail of the bonding procedure is based on research performed at the UAB School of Dentistry.

### Learning objectives:

1. Review the indications for bonding dental ceramics
2. Classify dental ceramics based on their appropriate bonding protocol
3. Describe the available methods to clean ceramics prior to bonding
4. Present a protocol for preparing the surface of ceramic crowns (ie etching or sandblasting)
5. Review the primers used on ceramic restorations
6. Classify the types of cements used for adhesive bonding

[Register Here](#)

### Part Two: Materials and Techniques to Improve Class II Composites

Class II composite restorations remain the bread and butter procedure of many general dentists. Although this procedure may seem trivial, there are many clinical factors which lead to a long-lasting restoration, including diagnosis, isolation, caries removal, cavity preparation, use of liner, matrix and wedge placement, bonding technique, composite placement, and finishing and polishing. This course aims to review the techniques for each of these steps based on current evidence.

### Learning Objectives

1. Discuss treatment guidelines for interproximal caries and caries removal endpoints.
2. Discover materials and techniques to promote a long lasting adhesive bond and create a well-adapted restoration.
3. Analyze matrix utilization and contouring instruments to achieve a tight and well-contoured contact.

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## Remembering Dr. L. Carole Richardson

It is with a heavy heart that we share news of the [passing of Dr. L. Carole Richardson](#), a longtime member of the DC Dental Society and former chair of the DCDS Professional Standards Committee. The following text is adapted from the obituary published in The Washington Post on Mar. 24, 2021.

Dr. Richardson died peacefully at home in Kensington, MD on March 17, 2021, attended by her wife of 41 years, Carolyn Morrissey. Carole was 78 years old and suffered from Multiple System Atrophy (MSA).

Carole was born at home in Cisco, Texas in 1942. She attended Cisco Junior College and then Texas Woman's University, majoring in biology and intending to become a scientist. She worked for several years in research laboratories at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston and at Georgetown University in DC. She decided to pivot into dentistry, and put herself through dental school in part by working at Dixie Liquor Store. She was one of two women in her Georgetown class of 140 dentists, earning a standing ovation at graduation. One of the very first women dentists in the DC metro area, Carole practiced general dentistry for 40 years, earning the love and respect of literally thousands of patients.

She was an active volunteer and supporter of numerous charitable organizations. At Mary's Center, she provided free dentistry. She served for three years on the Board of Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church. She was proud to sponsor a women's softball team, the Masticators. She also served as Chair of the Professional Standards Committee of the DC Dental Society.

In addition to her wife Carolyn, she is survived by her brother Mark Richardson and sister-in-law Harriet Richardson and their family.

A celebration of Carole's life will be held in May at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church. No funeral service is planned. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to Cedar Lane UU Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814. The Cedar Lane community was an important part of Carole's life and is heavily engaged in social justice and environmental work that mattered deeply to her.

## Remembering Dr. Patrick Michael Kildea

It is with a heavy heart that we share news of the passing of Dr. Patrick Michael Kildea. Dr. Kildea was a longtime member of the dental community of the Washington Metropolitan region. An obituary or additional details are not available at the time of publication.

### FROM THE ADA

## ADA President: New Law is Proof that Advocacy Works

After more than 600 meetings with lawmakers and a grassroots campaign involving more than 10,000 dentists, the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act was signed into law in January, marking a victory for the dental profession and the public, ADA President Daniel J. Klemmedson, D.D.S., M.D., writes in Dental Economics. The law unravels an insurance antitrust exemption in the McCarran-Ferguson Act and is expected to improve transparency in the dental insurance marketplace, leading to healthier competition and coverage that works better for patients and dentists, Dr. Klemmedson writes.

**Full Story:** [Dental Economics](#)

## FROM THE ADA

### Report: Dentists Strive for Tooth Preservation when Restorations Fail

ADA News reports that 4 out of 5 dentists say they repair defective tooth restorations, reflecting a move away from replacement when feasible, according to a report by the [ADA Clinical Evaluators Panel](#) published in the Journal of the American Dental Association. The report, based on a survey of 400 ACE Panel member dentists, found noncarious marginal defects as the leading restoration condition requiring repair, at 87%, followed by partial loss or fracture of the restoration at 79% and crown margin repair due to carious lesions at 73%. "The main takeaway is that there is a paradigm shift from aggressive tooth removal to tooth preservation," said co-author Juliana B. da Costa, D.D.S., a member of the ACE Panel Oversight Subcommittee of the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs.

**Full Story:** [ADA News](#) (4/2)

### ADA Calls for Reforms to Address Student Debt

ADA President Daniel J. Klemmedson, D.D.S., M.D., and Executive Director Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, D.M.D., congratulated Miguel Cardona on his confirmation as secretary of education in a [March 30 letter](#). The letter also outlined Association priorities, and they called for swift action to improve federal student loan programs, according to ADA News. ADA priorities include protecting access to federal direct unsubsidized Stafford loans and Grad PLUS loans for graduate and professional degree students, lowering interest rates and fees on federal education loans, and limiting total accrued interest on federal student loans. The ADA also called for improvements to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

**Full Story:** [ADA News](#)

### Secondhand Smoke Exposure Tied to Pediatric Urgent Care

Researchers found that children who were exposed to secondhand smoke were more likely to have had an urgent care visit over a one-year period, and their families were more likely to have incurred higher costs for that care, compared with those who did not have secondhand smoke exposure, HealthDay News reports. Research reported in [PLOS ONE](#) also found that children exposed to secondhand smoke were almost twice as likely to be admitted to the hospital as those without exposure to secondhand smoke.

**Full Story:** [HealthDay News](#)

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# Howard University Conducts Survey on LGBTQ Patients

DCDS Members are invited to participate in a survey being conducted by faculty and students of the Howard University College of Dentistry. The survey explores cultural competence and ethnic attitudes concerning LGBTQ Patients. Detailed [information about the survey](#) is available on the DCDS website.

[Survey Link](#)

## FROM THE ADA

### Dental CT Scan Helped Resolve Patient's Inexplicable Symptoms

The New York Times reports that a 68-year-old patient who had reported fatigue, vertigo and tinnitus for years received treatment for such conditions as Meniere's disease and benign paroxysmal positional vertigo without relief. That changed when she visited her dentist, where a dental CT scan spotted a mass in the sinus behind her left cheek. Further tests resulted in a diagnosis of cholesteatoma, and two surgeries later, the patient reports that the worst of her symptoms are gone, although some issues remain.

**Full Story:** [The New York Times](#)

### Women Make Strides in Dentistry, HPI reports

The percentage of women in dentistry increased from 24.1% to 34.5% between 2010 and 2020, while the percentage of female dental school graduates rose between 2009 and 2019 from 46% to 50.6%, according to the [ADA Health Policy Institute](#). The trends suggest dentistry will achieve gender parity in 2040, according to HPI Vice President and ADA Chief Economist Marko Vujcic, Ph.D. ADA News reports that the ADA is taking steps to promote diversity in the profession through offerings such as the [ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership](#) program and career and financial tools shared through the [ADA Accelerator Series](#). "The future of the dental profession depends on how well and how fast we prepare dentists who are women for leadership roles to carry the ADA forward as women become the majority of the profession," said ADA Executive Director Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, D.M.D.

**Full Story:** [ADA News](#)

### Study Examines Predictors for T2D Risk Among Women

The likelihood of developing type 2 diabetes was three times higher among women who were either overweight or had obesity and had polycystic ovarian syndrome, compared with women with normal weight and PCOS, according to a study presented at the Endocrine Society's annual virtual meeting. Medical Dialogues reports that the findings were based on data from an analysis of 23 studies involving 319,780 women with and without PCOS.

**Full Story:** [Medical Dialogues \(3/26\)](#)

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# Classifieds

## Orthodontist Needed

**Description:**

Established general dental practice seeks Orthodontist who enjoys working with children. Flexible schedule. 2 years experience, active DC dental license, current DEA and malpractice/liability insurance required. Please submit CV/cover letter to email below.

**Contact:** Karen DKR Dental | 202.557.1602 | [Twcdcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:Twcdcinfo@gmail.com)

## Associate Dentist Needed

**Description:** Established general dental practice seeks Associate Dentist who enjoys working with children. 2 years experience, active DC dental license, current DEA and malpractice/liability insurance required

**Contact:** Karen DKR Dental | 202.557.1602 | [Twcdcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:Twcdcinfo@gmail.com)

## Downtown Practice for Sale

**Description:** Established General Practice available for sale in downtown DC. This is a profitable practice with low overhead, strong cash flow and significant growth potential. Practice collection is over \$410K, two operatories within a beautiful 660 sf office. Ideal merger opportunity.

**Contact:** Ed Ramsey/PARAGON | 240.480.3622 | [eramsey@paragon.us.com](mailto:eramsey@paragon.us.com)

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