



District of Columbia
DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

October 2021, Vol. 67, No. 10



Dr. Pierre Cartier

Letter from the D.C. Dental Society President Pierre Cartier, DMD, MPH, FAGD, FICD, FACD

Dear Colleagues:

A key theme for this month’s President’s Letter is SmileCon 2021. Over the past year, the ADA has re-evaluated its Annual Session and changed the formatting to reflect new options for participation, including a virtual format that allows you to access on-demand CE courses until December 31st, 2021.

This year’s in-person event will be in Las Vegas from October 11-13th.

Even if you are not able to attend in-person, I would still encourage you to look at the virtual attendance option, particularly as you can access on-demand courses. Additional information is available at <https://smilecon.org>.

The ADA’s House of Delegates will meet from October 13th-16th. This is an important venue for articulating, evaluating, and implementing both externally and internally directed policies. Resolutions addressed at the House of Delegates not only influence how the ADA and its constituents operate, but also can influence the practice of dental medicine in general. Positional statements related to clinical practice are often cited by governmental agencies, third-party payers, allied professional organizations, and others in programmatic, regulatory, and other decisions. Hence, the active participation of our local delegates is integral to ensuring that the ADA is meeting DCDS members’ needs’ in a sustainable fashion and that any recommendations related to clinical dentistry are influenced by members with firsthand experience in day-to-day practice.

I recently attended the ADA 4th District Pre-Annual Meeting Caucus in Delaware on September 25, 2021. The following are some key issues that we discussed:

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October CE Event (Now Virtual Only): “When to Use CBCT and How to Interpret the Data”

Clinical CE Presentation by Dr. Bruno Azevedo

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM

Educational Program Begins at Approximately 6:00 PM

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Free to DCDS Members | \$75 for Non-Members
Please register by 5 PM on Monday, October 11*.

Disclosures: This program is presented with
support from Dental TI.



[Register Here](#)

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

Course Description:

Cone-beam computed tomography or Cone Beam (CBCT) is an indispensable tool for diagnostic imaging in modern dental practice. CBCT imaging's challenge is the users' lack of training and understanding of basic and advanced imaging principles. After all, when reading a scan, there are known knowns; there are imaging patterns that we know that we know. There are known unknowns; that is to say, there are things regarding 3D imaging that we know that we don't know, and there are unknown unknowns or 3D imaging things that we do not know we don't know. Understanding the imaging principles behind high-resolution 3D imaging volumes should enable professionals to plan and execute dental implant procedures appropriately and safely, ensuring a predictable clinical and prosthetic outcome. The jaws' CBCT scans provide dentists with greater diagnostic precision of dental and bone morphologies and related pathologies than the conventional 2D intraoral digital image. The CBCT image is also essential for recently developed dynamic navigation and other advanced technologies, such as virtual planning and 3D printing of surgical guides. As CBCT imaging provides the clinician with greater confidence in detecting anatomical variations and pathologies, it acts as an essential tool to support clinical decisions. It offers valuable information on when to treat, how to treat, and, as needed, when not to treat. This practical and dynamic course will guide dental professionals through all the specific steps to better use CBCT imaging in their daily Practice and explain basic to advanced principles regarding 3D imaging interpretation.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the difference between CBCT imaging acquisition protocols
- Learn how to enhance soft tissue imaging with CBCT scans
- Understand the importance of increasing the dynamic range of CBCT scans
- Understand the use of Task-Specific Rendering for bone and dental tissues

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About the Speaker: Dr. Bruno Azevedo

As a board-certified oral and maxillofacial radiologist, Dr. Bruno Azevedo exemplifies excellence. As the son of a pioneer in the Oral and Maxillofacial radiology specialty in Latin America, Bruno grew up working in his family's dental imaging lab, spending his childhood observing and honing his clinical skills.

As one of the pioneers in the clinical use of 3D imaging in dentistry, he experienced firsthand the positive transformation of CBCT scans in his imaging practice. Forging a brand-new integrated dental curriculum gave him a singular vision on how to apply advanced imaging into the specialties of dentistry. His teaching methodology was then adopted by many other dental schools, including the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, where he was responsible for implementing a robust 3D imaging course to all residency programs. Dr. Azevedo has distilled 17 years of clinical practice and over a decade of developing 3D imaging curriculums into his simple and highly effective teaching methodology to CBCT, "The Cone Beam Imaging Courses."

For additional biographic history, visit <https://conebeamguy.com/instructor>.

Continuing Education Disclaimer: The District of Columbia Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the CE requirements of his or her licensing or regulatory agency and to contact them with any questions regarding licensing. The DC Dental Society designates this presentation for 2.5 CE credits.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at [ADA.org/CERP](https://ada.org/CERP).

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2021-2022 Continuing Education Program

Schedule Update: Oct.-Nov. Meetings to be Presented by Webinar Only

The 2021-2022 Continuing Education Program continues October 19 with Dr. Bruno Azevedo's presentation titled "When to Use CBCT and How to Interpret the Data." Note that due to the COVID-19 surge, meetings will be held virtually only through November. We look forward to the opportunity to see you in person in December.

Monthly meetings are included with DCDS membership. Throughout the 2021-2022 program year, a number of meetings are planned to be held both in person, when permitted by DC regulations, and virtually with online attendance. As space for in-person attendance is limited, members are encouraged to register as early as possible.

Date	Topic	Format	Speaker	Location
Oct. 19, 2021 5:45 p.m.*	When to Use CBCT and How to Interpret the Data	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Bruno Azevedo	Online Only
Nov. 9, 2021 5:45 p.m.*	Regeneration options in periodontics and when a general dentist should make a referral	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Melody Ward	Online Only
Dec. 14, 2021 5:45 p.m.*	Anterior Esthetic Indirect Restorations: Treatment Planning, Materials & Execution	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Amelia Orta	DCDS HQ and Online
Jan. 11, 2022 5:45 p.m.*	Current Dental Materials	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Lee Ann Brady	Online Only
Feb. 8, 2022 5:45 p.m.*	Digital Dentistry in Practice	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Paul Zhivago	DCDS HQ and Online
Wed., Mar. 9, 2022 5:45 p.m.*	How to take control of one's online reputation and how to respond to negative patient feedback	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Len Tau	DCDS HQ and Online
May 10, 2022 5:45 p.m.*	Laser Dentistry	Lecture <i>2.5 CE Credits</i>	Dr. Shalizeh (Shelly) Patel and Dr. Juliana Barros	Online Only

* Monthly business meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. Educational session begins at approximately 6:00 p.m.

- **Increasing diversity of membership** – The ADA currently has approximately 50% of the dentist “market share.” To best represent our profession in the local, state, national, and international arenas, our membership needs to reflect the demographics of dentists. A resolution being proposed cites the need to increase the diversity of ADA membership not only by race, ethnicity, age, and other demographic factors, but also practice environment. An increasing number of dentists work in corporate or large group practices; many of these dentists are not represented in ADA membership. One aspect of this resolution includes creating an “umbrella membership” where large group practices can join the ADA; each practicing dentist within the group practice would be able to receive ADA membership benefits.
- **Creation of a national dental implant registry** – A key challenge that many of us face is encountering patients with dental implants that were placed in the past and subsequently not being able to obtain the implant platform information; this scenario can impede our efforts to restore implants that we or partnering surgeons did not place. This registry would allow dentists to “look up” patients that have received dental implants in the past and determine technical information for these devices.
- **Research related to cannabis use and its impact on oral health** – As you are likely aware, an increasing number of Americans are using cannabis products. As with other substances, cannabis likely impacts oral health. It also impacts the central nervous system and other organ systems; these effects have significant clinical implications for analgesia, general anesthesia, and other components of our procedure-oriented profession. There are increasing calls for the ADA to fund research that further examines this phenomenon’s impact on oral health and the delivery of oral healthcare.
- **Increasing technology funding for the ADA Headquarters** – The pandemic has highlighted the need for an increasingly tailored “user experience” for members. For example, the ADA’s COVID-19 information pages have generated more than 8.5 million views. A key goal by 2025 is to centralize resources and make its website more user-friendly, particularly with respect to frequently used resources, like the Dental Insurance Hub. Increased funding for technology in the Headquarters will aid the ADA in bringing additional value to members through online service points.
- **Emerging clinical topics** – Teledentistry, patient safety event reporting, and screening of children for obstructive sleep apnea are several topics of additional discussion. While some of these topics are not new (such as patient safety), increasing engagement will bring increased attention to them and provide opportunities for our profession to collaborate with allied stakeholders to create new opportunities for practice and further the value that we bring to the public.

Please feel free to contact me, Mr. Gallagher, or any of our ADA delegates if you have any questions about any of these topics or emerging issues.

Our October monthly meeting will be held following SmileCon on Tuesday, October 19 at 5:45 pm. Our speaker will be Dr. Bruno Azevedo, who will present “When to Use CBCT and How to Interpret the Data.” Cone-Beam CT scans are increasingly becoming a standard of care, particularly in endodontics and implantology. I highly recommend his presentation, particularly if you are a general dentist and have had limited exposure to this type of technology. The general dentistry residents and faculty in my clinic increasingly

encounter this technology; I am looking forward to hearing Dr. Azevedo's presentation and learning more about this topic.

We will also hold our business meeting from 5:45 to 6:00 pm. You may recall that we had attempted to hold an important vote regarding alignment of the "DCDS year" with the "ADA membership year" at the past meeting. However, we did not have a quorum for this vote. Aligning the two years will aid the Society in best attributing revenue from dues and will streamline its accounting and administrative activities. **Again, please make sure to attend this upcoming meeting so that you can vote on this measure.** The October 2021 meeting will also be virtual; a Zoom link will be sent to those members who have registered for the meeting.

Again, thank you for your support of our Society, profession, and the public we serve. For those that are attending SmileCon 2021, I look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas! I also look forward to seeing you at the monthly meeting on October 19th!

Pierre M. Cartier, DMD, MPH, FAGD, FICD, FACD
2021-2022 DCDS President

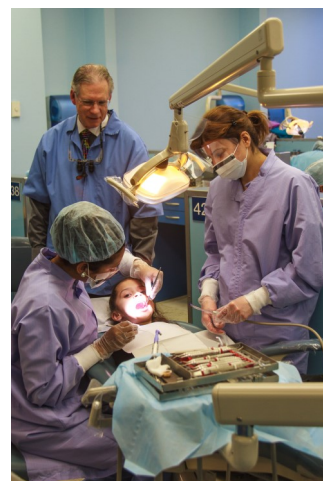
Answer the call through D.C. Dental Cares, the new pro bono program of the D.C. Dental Society Foundation

Did you hear that the DCDS Foundation has a new program to provide pro bono dental care to members of the Washington Community in need called D.C. Dental Cares? This program launched earlier this year under a partnership with the Catholic Charities Health Care Network.

Through this program, D.C. dentists will be able to provide pro bono treatment for patients in their own office with no long term commitment. The type and amount of treatment rendered to these patients is entirely at the discretion of the dentist. Patients will be pre-screened for their eligibility for this program based on their economic status. Our member dentists will receive a referral, which outlines the patient's general oral health needs and their chief complaint.

Sign up to participate via a brief [online form](#) via the button below.

Photo features just some of the DCDS members who have given their time to provide free care to the D.C. community in recent years.



Sign Up for D.C. Dental Cares

DCDS Fall 2021 Symposium for Licensure

Save up to \$100 with our Early Bird Rates. Offer expires October 10th.

The 2021 Fall Symposium for Licensure provides four courses that are required for license renewal in DC: infection control, LGBTQ+ cultural competency, ethics and opioids misuse (prescribing dentists only). Dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants are invited to attend.

Session recordings will be available to all registrants for 30 days following each presentation.

Schedule for DCDS 2021 Fall Symposium for Licensure

Wednesday, October 27 6-8 PM	OSHA Compliance and Infection Control for Dental Professionals Ms. Olivia Wann, Esq. 2 CE Hours Offered
Thursday, October 28 6-8 PM	LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency Shannon Whittington 2 CE Hours Offered
Wednesday, November 3 6-7 PM	Ethics Susan Gunn 1 CE Hour Offered
Thursday, November 4 6-8 PM	Abuse and Misuse of Opioids/Prescription Drugs Dr. Raymond Dionne 2 CE Hours Offered

Symposium Pricing	All 4 Courses		Individual Sessions	
	Early Bird Price*	Regular Price	Early Bird Price*	Regular Price
DCDS Member Dentists	\$300	\$400	\$140	\$190
Non-DCDS Member Dentists	\$650	\$750	\$315	\$365
Dental Hygienists	\$125	\$150	\$55	\$65
Dental Assistants and Other Office Staff	\$100	\$125	\$45	\$55
Non-Dental Healthcare Providers	\$650	\$750	\$315	\$365

* Early bird rates are available through October 10.

Visit the DCDS website for additional details and [cancellation policy](#).

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Fall Symposium

DC Continuing Education Requirements

Course Category	CE Credits Offered	Required for Dentists	Required for Dental Hygienists	Required for Dental Assistants
Infection Control	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours
LGBTQ Cultural Competency	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours
Ethics	1 hour	1 hours	1 hour	1 hour
Abuse and Misuse of Prescription Drugs/Opioids	2 hours	2 hours for prescribers	Not Required	Not Required
CPR and COVID-19 Vaccines*	Not Offered	CPR for health care providers	Basic Level CPR	2 hours in Basic Life Support

[Register for Symposium](#)

Meet the Symposium Presenters



Olivia Wann, J.D.—Presenter on Infection Control—Olivia graduated from the Nashville School of Law with a Doctorate in Jurisprudence and continues to consult with dental practices on managing risk in a complex regulatory environment.

Olivia graduated magna cum laude from St. Joseph's College of Maine with a Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration. She spent her early years as a dental office manager and later served as a dental software support technician for SoftDent. She attended Tennessee Technology Center's dental assisting course and was registered as a dental assistant for many years. She participated in Georgia Tech's Course in Occupational Safety & Health Standards for General Industry.

Olivia served as a course instructor for Cross Country Seminars and instructed over 250 lectures in 50 states. She has authored several compliance manuals and has had numerous articles published in industry journals and was one of the contributing authors for the ADA's publication, *Managing the Regulatory Environment: Best Practices*.



Shannon Whittington—Presenter on LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency—Shannon is a certified speaker and coach who specializes in servant based leadership. Shannon provides insight and practical skills on becoming an influential leader that people want to follow and be inspired by. Shannon is also a subject matter expert in LGB and Transgender competency. Shannon’s mission is to empower organizations to be LGBTQ+ inclusive. As an award-winning & certified LGBTQ+ health expert, Shannon provides insight and practical skills for organizations for LGBTQ+ and Diversity & Inclusion.



Susan Gunn—Presenter on Ethics—Gunn’s mission is to serve clients in providing solutions that enable practice owners to understand the business of their practice and to protect their practice. Susan is the Financial Organizational Expert providing solutions within the dental industry.

Focusing on organizing that financial information, Susan now has over 25 years of business automation and computer financial software experience. A nationally recognized valuable content provider speaker, Susan is a Professional Member of the National Speakers Association. With an existing background in criminology, and a very thorough understanding of dental practices, Susan became a Certified Fraud Examiner. When embezzlement is suspected, she is able to investigate, interview and provide complete reports for prosecution and civil suit purposes.

Susan has written 45 books geared for professional practices, including: *QuickBooks In Your Practice* (1997-2021) and *Advanced QuickBooks In Your Practice* (2004-2021) as well as numerous industry magazine articles. Susan co-authored *The ADA Practical Guide to Expert Business Strategies* (January 2014) and contributed to another ADA book *Guidelines for Practice Success Managing Finances Best Practices*.



Dr. Raymond Dionne—Presenter on Abuse and Misuse of Opioids/Prescription Drugs—Dr. Raymond Dionne is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Dentistry where he also received a MS in pharmacology. He subsequently received a PhD in pharmacology from the Medical College of Virginia. He was an intramural scientist at the National Institutes of Health for 34 years conducting clinical and translational research on pain and analgesia. He also served as Clinical Director of the NIDCR, Chief of the Pain Mechanisms Branch and Scientific Director of the NINR. He is currently Professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. He has published greater than 200 papers and edited 5 textbooks and scientific monographs. He currently serves on the ADA Council on Scientific Affairs.

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Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at ADA.org/CERP.

ADA CERP® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

Licensing Renewals Portal Opens This Month

The new D.C. online licensing portal will begin accepting license renewal applications from dentists in October. DC Health has not yet announced the date that the portal will begin accepting license renewal applications from dentists. Once the portal is open to dentists and dental staff, the portal may be accessed via the link below.

DC Health strongly encourages all users to review the instructions prior to beginning the process. **License renewal applications must be submitted by December 31, 2021.**

DC Health notes that while all demographic information and some documents may be provided as part of the online application, many primary source documents must still be mailed directly to DC Health at the following address:

DC Health
Attn.: Board of Dentistry
899 N. Capitol St. NE, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Technical issues registering, logging-in or completing the application process, may be reported to the help desk ticket by clicking on the “**Contact Support**” button at the bottom of the page.

For any questions regarding application requirements, please review materials provided on the [Board of Dentistry website](#) or contact the Board of Dentistry at [by email](#).

Licensing Portal Link

To access the DC Health Licensing Portal, visit <https://doh.force.com/dchealthrenewals/s/portal-page>.

A promotional banner for a Lenovo laptop sale. On the left, a silver laptop is shown open, displaying a vibrant, abstract geometric pattern of blue and purple lines on its screen. The background of the banner is a gradient of dark blue to purple. To the right of the laptop, the text reads: "Semi Annual Sale!" in large white font, followed by "Up to 68% off" and "While supplies last!" in smaller white font. Below this, there is a white truck icon and the text "Free Shipping". On the far right, the "Lenovo" logo is displayed vertically in white on a dark blue rectangular background.

Semi Annual Sale!
Up to 68% off
While supplies last!

Free Shipping

Lenovo

DCDS bylaws amendment vote on October 19th

During the October 19th business meeting, the DCDS membership will vote on a proposed bylaws amendment to synchronize the DCDS fiscal year with the ADA's membership year. This change will have no impact on the membership period of DCDS members. This change will improve DCDS' efficiency by shifting the DCDS fiscal year to run from January through December. Read the text of the proposed bylaws amendment by clicking on the image at the right.



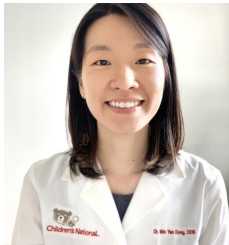
Proposed Bylaws Amendment

Purpose: to Synchronize DCDS Fiscal Year with ADA

9.10 FISCAL YEAR

The Society's fiscal year shall be a twelve-month period beginning [January 1 and ending December 31](#) ~~September 1 of one year and ending August 31 of the following year.~~

Welcome New Member



Dr. Min Yan Dong is a board certified pediatric dentist in Washington DC. She grew up in New York and North Carolina. Dr. Dong is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry. She completed her specialty training in pediatric dentistry at Children's National Hospital and has practiced in both Maryland and DC. She is currently serving patients at the Children's National Hospital and THEARC Children's Health Center in South East Washington DC. She is a member of the ADA, AAPD, and ABPD. Outside of work, Dr. Dong enjoys exploring the city and serving in her church.

Thank you to our Partners





Mission of Mercy

Sponsored by Catholic Charities DC

Free Dental Clinic

Volunteer at the Mission of Mercy Dental Clinics!

Volunteers are needed in the following roles:

- Dentists
- Dental Assistants
- X-Ray Techs
- Dental Hygienists
- General Volunteers
- Interpreters

Locations

Spanish Catholic Center: 1618 Monroe St NW, Washington, D.C.

Susan B. Mona Center: 5859 Allen Town Way, Temple Hills, MD

Catholic Charities Center: 12247 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD

**3rd
Saturday
of every
month!**

**For any questions email:
volunteer@cc-dc.org**

www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/2021-mid-maryland-mission-of-mercy/

DENTAL BANKING

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BECOME A DENTIST, WHEN ARE
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at 800.399.5919 ext. 6816 or visit sandyspringbank.com/dental.



Sandy Spring Bank

HRSA updates Provider Relief Fund Phase 4 information

Application Deadline is October 26

ADA Morning Huddle, September 27, 2021

The deadline to apply for the fourth phase of the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund is Oct. 26, according to ADA News. The application process opens on Wednesday and all applications must be submitted online in the [Provider Relief Fund Application and Attestation Portal](#), according to the article, which noted that Provider Relief Fund Phase 4 payments will be based on providers' changes in operating revenues and expenses from July 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021. The fourth phase also includes new elements "specifically focused on equity, including reimbursing smaller providers for their changes in operating revenues and expenses at a higher rate compared to larger providers, and bonus payments based on the amount of services providers furnish to Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicare patients," according to HRSA.

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2021-archive/september/hrsa-updates-provider-relief-fund-phase-4-information>

Dentists are eligible under this criterion: *"Must be a dental service provider who has either directly billed, or owns (on the application date) an included subsidiary that has directly billed, health insurance companies or patients for oral health care-related services during the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020."*

See [HRSA Website](#) for more details, including:

- [Provider Relief Fund Application and Attestation Portal](#)
- Review the [Application Instructions Webpages](#)

Technical Assistance Webinars

HRSA will be hosting webinar sessions on how to navigate the application portal on:

- Wednesday, October 13, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET – [register to attend](#)
- Thursday, October 21, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET – [register to attend](#)

HHS recently hosted a briefing session to provide information about these upcoming funding opportunities – [view the video](#).

Terms and Conditions

[Phase 4 - Terms and Conditions](#) (PDF - 213 KB)

Application Resources

[Application Instructions](#) ([Download PDF file](#) - 331 KB)

[Sample Application Form](#) (PDF - 178 KB)

["How to Apply" Flow Chart](#) (PDF - 100 KB)

[Annual Revenues from Patient Care Worksheet](#) (XSLX - 26 KB)

[Annual Revenues Adjustment Worksheet](#) (XSLX - 26 KB)

Lawmakers remain divided as ADA advocates for its Medicare dental benefit plan

ADA Morning Huddle, September 29, 2021

The ADA continues to advocate for its plan to add a means-tested dental benefit to Medicare, but Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md., said although it won't be easy, he is optimistic Congress will pass a budget reconciliation bill with a more comprehensive benefit, according to an Inside Health Policy report available only to subscribers. Michael Graham, ADA senior vice president of government and public affairs, said some moderate Democrats do not fully support the broader expansion of Medicare and like the ADA proposal, dubbed Part T, that focuses benefits on older adults with lower incomes. Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Ore., indicated he was interested in the Part T option, and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., has said he does not support expanding Medicare benefits when the program faces potential insolvency. Mr. Graham said the ADA has been in contact with staff for Manchin and Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., who also could oppose the reconciliation bill, and both offices are aware of the ADA's position. "The money is going to determine the policy, and the policy will be driven by the priorities ... If you have limited federal dollars, how are you going to spend them in the most meaningful way?" Mr. Graham said. "So, if everything goes the way we have been thinking it will go there, you know, hopefully they'll look at us as an alternative."

Full Story: <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cardin-optimistic-medicare-part-b-dental-ada-touts-low-cost-alternative> (subscription required)

ADA to host free webinar on dental benefits coordination

ADA Morning Huddle, September 30, 2021

The ADA will host a [free webinar](#) from noon to 1 p.m. Central time Oct. 26 on why it is important for dental practices to correctly coordinate dental benefits, ADA News reported. The webinar will be presented by Eugene Porcelli, D.D.S., a member of the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs, and Delta Dental of California's Vice President and Chief Dental Officer Dan Croley, D.M.D. "Offices that are fluent in coordinating benefits will minimize claim adjudication issues and maximize the benefit to which the patient is entitled," Dr. Porcelli said. The webinar will offer one hour of continuing education credit.

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2021-archive/september/fluency-of-coordination-of-benefits-can-speed-up-claim-adjudication>

SmileCon activities put a focus on wellness

ADA Morning Huddle, September 29, 2021

The ADA's [SmileCon 2021](#) in Las Vegas will offer a number of virtual and in-person sessions focused on member well-being, according to New Dentist News. The ADA over the past year has developed programs to support the physical, mental and financial health of dentists and their teams during the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be a dedicated wellness booth on the SmileCon exhibit floor, and the Health and Wellness section in the [Course Planner](#) has a full listing of activities. Staff from Hope for the Day, a nonprofit focused on mental health, and ADA New Dentist Committee members will help members create a color-by-number mural. The ADA also has additional [wellness resources](#).

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/new-dentist-news/2021-archive/september/wellness-is-a-focus-of-activities-at-smilecon>

ADA outlines COVID-19 safety policies for SmileCon

ADA Morning Huddle, September 15, 2021

The ADA will require all attendees at this year's SmileCon meeting in Las Vegas from Oct. 11 to 13 to provide either proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test 48 hours or less before check-in, ADA News reported. Unvaccinated attendees will have to show a negative COVID-19 test every 72 hours while at the conference and upload the results on the CLEAR mobile phone app by CLEAR Health Pass+. Testing will be provided for a fee. Everyone will be required to wear a mask at all SmileCon functions unless eating or drinking, in compliance with Nevada requirements. More information on health and safety at the conference can be found at www.smilecon.org.

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2021-archive/september/smilecon-to-require-proof-of-vaccination-or-negative-covid-19-tests>

Practices can take steps to resolve incomplete treatments

ADA Morning Huddle, September 29, 2021

Incomplete patient treatments, which can significantly affect dental practice revenues, generally fall into the categories of patients who reject treatment, patients who are interested but do not follow through and patients who want the services but lack sufficient insurance benefits, Roger Levin, D.D.S., wrote in Dental Economics. Dr. Levin said it is important to remind patients about recommended treatments at each hygiene visit and follow-up with those who are interested. "Don't underestimate the production lost in practices every year due to incomplete treatment." Dr. Levin wrote.

Full Story: <https://www.dentaleconomics.com/practice/article/14208136/practice-production-prioritized-completing-incomplete-treatment>

Incoming ADA president's personal, professional experiences help define leadership style

ADA Morning Huddle, September 14, 2021

When Cesar R. Sabates, D.D.S., who was a child in Castro-era Cuba, is installed as the 158th ADA president during the Oct. 16 House of Delegates Meeting in Las Vegas, he will bring his personal and professional experiences, including his family's journey from Cuba to the US and his own career pathway, to his leadership style, ADA News reported. "I want everyone to feel loved and welcomed into the association," Dr. Sabates said. "I want to extend the same sense of caring and compassion that I received from mentors at a time when I felt that I didn't belong." In an interview with ADA News, Dr. Sabates said the ADA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic was unprecedented and that the "ADA came together like never before to provide guidance to our profession to be able to reopen our practices safely." He said COVID-19, third-party payers and direct-to-consumer dentistry are issues facing the dental profession, while membership, the business model and leadership into the future are challenges facing the ADA.

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2021-archive/september/journey-to-the-presidency>

Webinar to cover science-based solutions to opioid epidemic

ADA Morning Huddle, October 1, 2021

The ADA will live stream a [webinar](#) from noon to 1 p.m. Central time on Nov. 10 covering scientific solutions to the opioid crisis and tools dentists can use to address substance abuse in their clinical practices, ADA News reported. Wilson Compton, M.D., deputy director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the US Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health, will be the presenter. "Dentists and hygienists play a very important role in addressing addiction and working toward the end goal of helping patients with substance use disorder stay healthy," Dr. Compton said. Webinar participants can earn one continuing education credit.

Full Story: <https://www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2021-archive/september/scientific-solutions-can-tackle-the-opioid-public-health-crisis>



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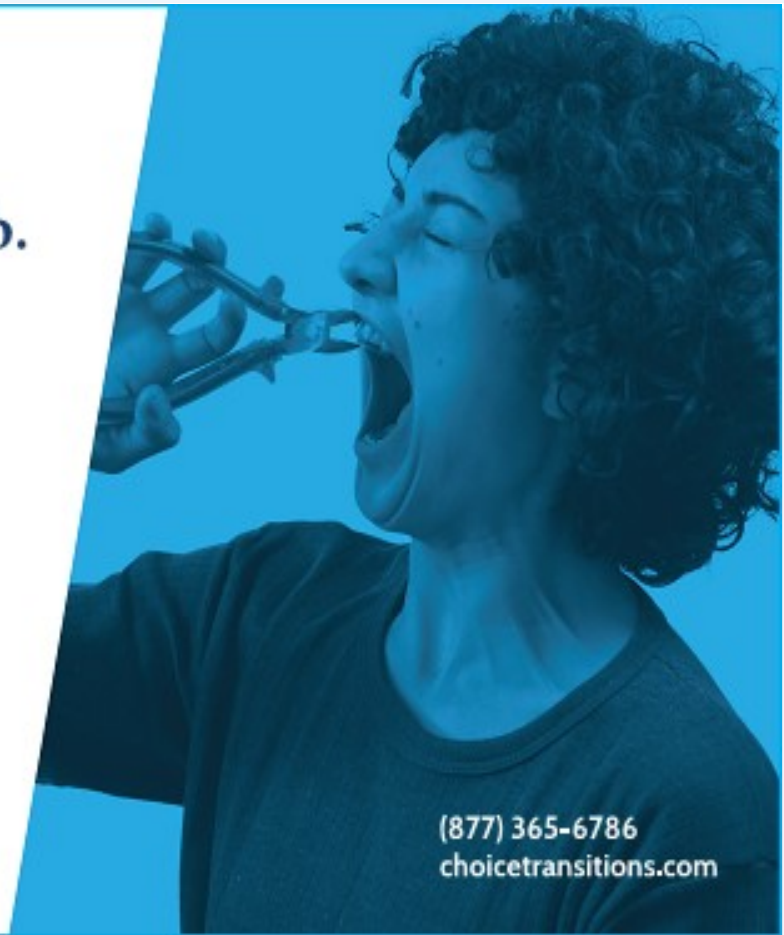
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