



Newsletter

October 2022, Vol. 68, No. 10



Dr. Ioana "Anna" Bettios

Letter from the DC Dental Society President Ioana "Anna" Bettios, DDS, MS, FACP, FICD, FACD

Dear colleagues,

It was so great to see how excited members were to join the September monthly meeting in person. Thank you to the Education Committee for continuing to provide great speakers and thank you to the DC Dental Society staff for the outstanding preparation and accommodations for our members in the DCDS office with great food while ensuring seam-

less participation both in person and online. Our dynamic speaker kept our attendees interested, and it was refreshing to see our in person attendance starting to resemble pre-COVID numbers. We will continue to provide hybrid courses online and in person to accommodate our members' schedules and preferences.

It is wonderful to see our members lives returning to normal with strong turnout for our September happy hour as well. Special thanks to the efforts of the Membership Committee and New Dentist Subcommittee for arranging the September happy hour near Howard University with many third and fourth year dental students attending. I encourage our members to "like" or follow our social media accounts to stay informed about DCDS initiatives and upcoming while fostering our community. I encourage all members to consider bringing one of their non-member friends or colleagues to a happy hour or monthly meeting this year to experience what DCDS membership offers, and encourage them to join. We can increase the strength of DCDS by reaching out to DC dentists who either have let their membership lapse or have not yet joined our society. Please contact DCDS staff to make arrangements.

DCDS committees were very busy during the month of September! Here are some of the strategic initiatives across the committees:

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Cover photo: September 2022 DCDS Happy Hour at Takoda Restaurant & Beer Garden

Letter from the President–Continued on Page 2

Letter from the President—Continued from Page 1

- We continue to advocate on behalf of member dentists before DC Health and the DC Board of Dentistry to:
 - ☐ improve the licensing process for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants while continuing to voice the concerns of members regarding delays in the issuance of licenses.
 - expand the scope of practice for dentists and dental assistants. The Board of Dentistry is considering how to incorporate our recommendations in to DC code and regulations. We await the outcome of that process and will keep members updates.
- The new Social Media and Marketing Committee met to streamline protocols for posting content on our social media accounts. It's amazing how we can increase and enhance our outreach to let our members know what's happening via the different social media platforms with improved website postings. However there is still a lot of work in setting up the platforms and continuing to market our society. We seek social media savvy members to support the committee to advance our goal to reach and engage our members with updates, conversations, events and postings. Interested members can contact the DCDS staff to participate in this important outreach effort.
- The Symposium Committee is planning a great line up of speakers for our 2023 events. Thank you to all members who participates in the committee's survey on preferences regarding ways to participate in the Symposium, whether online or in person, and if the event should be hosted over one day versus two half-days. The Committee Chair, Dr. Kim Menhinick, recently briefed the board of directors on the survey results and committee member recommendations.
- The Membership Committee and New Dentist Subcommittee discussed a DCDS Strategic Goal to achieve 55% market share of actively licensed dentists in DC by 2023; and achieve 60% market share of these providers by 2025. Membership development initiatives were proposed that include expansion of partnerships and collaboration with external organizations and companies. Thank

you to all members who volunteered to participate in the mock interviews to assist graduating Howard University students in their next career step. In addition, there were great ideas discussed by the Membership Committee and New Dentist Subcommittee continue initiatives with personalized outreach to new members and organize more frequent social events in locations throughout the city.

DCDS recently announced a partnership with TDSC, providing members with another option for sourcing dental supplies. TDSC can be your source for hard to secure dental supplies, at a discounted price, and is backed by the buying power and product integrity practices of Henry Schein. Earlier this week the Board of Directors approved two new partnerships: one with PCIHIPAA and other with College Ave Student Loans.

Letter from the President—Continued on Page 4

DCDS Officers and Directors

Dr. Ioana "Anna" Bettios President

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Dr. Hillary Hochman Vice President

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Kurt Gallagher, CAE **Executive Director**

Maeceon Lewis Education and Community Programs Senior Coordinator

Cheryl Michi Membership and Operations Associate

October CE Event (Virtual Only):

"Hypoplastic Maxilla, Airway, Occlusal and Periodontal Implications"

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Clinical Virtual CE Presentation by Dr. Marianna Evans

Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM Education Program Begins at Approximately 6:00 PM Lecture Format

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Cost: Free to DCDS Members | Non-Members–\$75 Virtual

Visit the <u>DCDS Registration Fees & Cancellation Policy page</u> for more details on registration and read about Dr. Evans here.



Program Description:

The upper jaw carries a unique anatomic position as part of oral and nasal cavities. It plays a critical role in facial development, mastication, breathing and speech. Maxillary deficiency epidemics are associated with different types of malocclusion and nasal stenosis, compromising periodontal health and breathing. In this presentation we will discuss the importance of recognizing the impact of not treating the "little maxilla" and the lifelong effects on oral and systemic health. We will discuss the latest innovations in diagnosis and intervention of the hypoplastic maxilla syndrome for all ages.

Session 1: 1.5 hours—Learning Objectives: The Overview of the Maxillary Hypoplasia and its Implications to Oral and Systemic Health

- Review the impact of maxillary maldevelopment on periodontal and airway health.
- Review maxillary development from the evolutionary perspective.

Session 2: 1 hour—Learning Objectives: 3D Diagnosis of Maxillary Hypoplasia and Innovations in Treatment

- Discuss the latest advances in the diagnosis of maxillary hypoplasia.
- Review the innovations in orthopedic maxillary development for all ages.

Register Here

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.



Letter from the President-Continued from Page 2

PCIHIPAA is the sole compliance provider to more than 200 associations, societies and healthcare companies across the United States. The practice of dentistry has become increasingly complex due to everexpanding HIPAA, OSHA, and PCI regulations, and PCIHIPAA can enable dental practices to stay on top of these legal and regulatory requirements. College Ave will provide members with another option for educational loans, be they new loans to finance their own education or the education of their children, or options to refinancing existing educational loans. We are working with these two service providers to finalize partnership agreements. Watch for announcements when these new programs are available for member participation.

I was honored to participate in the recent ADA 4th District Pre-Annual Meeting Caucus held in Wilmington, Del. Followed by a session online. We reviewed and discussed the many initiatives that will be considered by the ADA House of Delegates when it convenes in Houston from October 14-18. Our delegation is comprised of Drs. Pat Grogan and Angela Noguera who serve as delegates, Dr. Katie Clark and myself who serve as alternate delegates, Dr. Sally Cram who supports the delegation in her role as Secretary of DCDS and our Executive Director, Kurt Gallagher. I would also like to thank Dr. Stephen Tigani for serving as a member of the delegation representing our society for many years.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone virtually for our next monthly meeting on October 11. Dr. Marianna Evans will present on the topic "Hypoplastic Maxilla, Airway, Occlusal and Periodontal Implications." We will resume with hybrid meetings in November when Dr. Suzanne Ebert, Vice President at the ADA's Business Innovation Group, will present on two timely practice management topics. I hope you will join us in person for dinner or online. Registration information and other event details are available on the DCDS Event Calendar and on pages 3, 5 and 6 of this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ioana "Anna" Bettios, DDS, MS, FICD, FACD, FACP 2022-2023 President

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Upcoming Presentations of the 2022-2023 Continuing Education Program

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

Register Here

<u>Visit the DCDS website</u> for course information, speaker bios, fees and cancellation policy.

Tuesday, October 11th Hypoplastic Maxilla, Airway, Occlusal and Periodontal Implications

Virtual Only

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits Course Presenter: Dr. Marianna Evans





Tuesday, November 8th

Session 1: Finding the Right Fit for Your Career Needs Wherever You are in Your Career

Session 2: How dentists work together for smooth and successful transitions

Virtual and In Person

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits Course Presenter: Dr. Suzanne Ebert Meeting Sponsor: Garfield Refining

Thursday, December 8th Implants and Full-Mouth Implant Rehabilitation

Virtual and In Person

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Course Presenter: Dr. Arun Garg



Pryzbyla Center Great Rooms A & B Pryzbyla University Center Washington, DC 20064



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Register Here

<u>Visit the DCDS website</u> for course information, speaker bios, fees and cancellation policy.

Tuesday, January 10th
Practical Tips for the Everyday Practicing
Dentists

Virtual Only

CE Credits Offered: 2.0 CE Credits Course Presenter: Dr. Robert C. Margeas





Wednesday, February 15th
Trials and Tribulations of Digital Dental
Implant Surgery

Virtual and In Person

CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Course Presenter: Dr. Israel Puterman

Tuesday, March 14th Orthodontics Update

Virtual and In Person CE Credits Offered: 2.5 CE Credits

Course Presenter: Dr. Negaar Sagafi



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Welcome New Members



Dr. Maria Hodas is a general dentist in Washington, DC. She was born in Maine but has lived in Washington, DC for nearly 20 years. She received her DDS from Howard University in 2013, followed by a GPR at the Washington, DC VAMC. After completing her residency, she worked as an associate at private practices in both Washington, DC and Alexandria, VA. Dr. Hodas purchased her own practice - L'Enfant Plaza Dental Arts - last year and is pleased to be back practicing in the district.

Dr. Hodas is married and has two sons. She lives on Capitol Hill.

Savreen Gill
Suzanne McShane
Vandana Soni
Jason Tong

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DC - 2022 General Election Updates

Political Climate

With the general election quickly approaching, please see below updates.

The District of Columbia remains solidly in Democratic control led by Mayor Muriel Bowser. She won handily in the June primary and will continue in 2023 after the November elections. The city council remains solidly in Democratic control and will remain so for the foreseeable future. The council is made up of the council chair, 4 at large (city-wide) seats and 8 ward seats made up by 11 Democrats and 2 Independents.

Several council seats were open this year, with more progressive Democrats winning over more moderate Democrats in the June primary. Ward 3 and Ward 5 will be represented by two new councilmembers Mathew Frumin and Zachary Parker. Both are considered progressive and could ultimately shift the council further to the left.

The at-large member of the council race is the one we are paying particular attention to since current Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie changed his party affiliation from Democrat to Independent to compete for one of the two at-large seats that are up for re-election this year. If you recall, McDuffie opted not to seek re-election for his Ward 5 seat to run for attorney general. He was then disqualified from running for attorney general in the primary.

At-Large Councilmember Anita Bonds, who won the June Democratic primary is favored to retain her seat given that DC is an overwhelmingly Democratic city.

By law, one of the two at-large seats must be held by an individual who is not in the majority party. Current Councilmember Elissa Silverman (I) is running for a third term as the non-majority party candidate. Several other Independents are also running, including Fred Hill, Karim Marshall and Graham McLaughlin.

Republican candidate Giuseppe Niosi and David Schwartzman of the D.C. Statehood Green Party are also on the at-large ballot.

Registered voters have the option of voting for two candidates. The top two vote-getters, regardless of party, will be elected to the council.

Ongoing Advocacy

The DC Council returned from summer recess September 15, 2022. While public hearings and legislative meetings did not occur, our work educating council staff continued. DCDS met with the Director of the DC Council Committee on Health Committee to further discussion on the regulation of dental health professionals, Board of Dentistry vacancies and appointments and a potential town hall with members of the dental community. We are awaiting confirmation of a date for a town hall meeting, potentially in October.

During the September Board of Dentistry meeting to the Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee presented its recommendations regarding the proposed updates to the scopes of practice for both dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistant License types. Many of the recommendations offered by DCDS in our June 11 letter have been incorporated into the draft revisions. A major topic of discussion during the meeting was the licensing of dental assistants. For more information, see Board of Dentistry Update on Page 9.

DC Board of Dentistry Update

Protect Your Practice - Ensure Your Dental Assistants Hold a Current License

DCDS has learned of a practice pending disciplinary action by the DC Board of Dentistry because its dental assistants were not licensed.

The licensing of dental assistants was a topic of discussion during the September DC Board of Dentistry meeting. The Board of Dentistry is proposing changes to DC law and regulations to clarify current requirements that all dental assistants must be licensed in DC. The Board of Dentistry also clarified that licensure is required whether the team member supports a dentist, dental hygienist or other professional in the delivery of dental care.

During the September Board of Dentistry meeting, the following totals were reported for licensed dental professionals in DC:

Dentists: 1,200

Dental Hygienists: 484

Dental Hygienists with authority to administer Local Anesthesia: 91

• Dental Hygienists with authority to administer Local Anesthesia & Nitrous Oxide: 60

Dental Hygienists with authority to administer Nitrous Oxide: 1

Dental Assistant Level 1: 98

• Dental Assistant Level 2: 481

Teaching Licenses for Dentists: 1

Teaching Licenses for Dental Hygienist: 1

Resources regarding licensing are available on <u>DCDS Dentistry in the District</u> web page and the <u>DC Board of Dentistry website</u>.

Dental assistants and other health professionals must apply for a DC license via the <u>DC Health Licensing</u> <u>Portal</u>.

DCDS is advocating for a number of expansions to the scopes of practice for licensed dental professionals in DC, including the ability of dental assistants to perform coronal polishing and apply pit/fissure sealants. Read the full Letter from DCDS to the DC Board of Dentistry for more details.

The next Board of Dentistry Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 19 at 9:00 AM in person at the Board of Dentistry office: 899 North Capitol Street, NE. A decision is pending by DC Health about the ability to participate in the October Board of Dentistry meeting virtually.

New Guidance on Indoor Mask Requirements for Dental Practices

The ADA has provided resources and indoor mask guidance for dental practices and waiting areas.

Click on button below for details.

Indoor Mask Guidance For Your Practice





Answer the call

DCDS Pro Bono Program Lets You Provide Care in Your Practice

DC Dental Cares is a pro bono program of the DCDS Foundation created to enable humanitarian outreach by DCDC members in our local community. DCDS has partnered with the Catholic Charites Healthcare Network (CCHCN) to provide dental care for the most vulnerable and in need members of our community. This program is win-win: for our community, for the individuals who receive dental procedures that would not otherwise be possible due to costs, and for the DCDS volunteer who gains that warm feeling that comes from doing good.

Patients are fully vetted for need by CCHCN, and the treating dentist sets the level of care provided. You can treat one person a year or several a month, all while in the comfort of your own office. Sign up using our 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 DC community in recent years.





Sign Up for DC Dental Cares

Getting that Wonderful Feeling

"When CCHCN sends me a patient, I treat them like a new paying patient in my practice. I take a full mouth series of radiographs and do thorough exam to ascertain what the individual needs. Sometimes I just treat the emergency and sometimes I deliver comprehensive care. No matter how much I do or don't do on an individual I can tell you I have never felt unappreciated. The patient and in many cases the accompanying family members can't stop thanking me. Their genuine smiles alone are good enough pay for me. Many bring little tokens from their country some send beautiful notes while others just give a nod and a smile.

I can honestly say that I feel I get more out of giving to these folks than I actually give to them, because what I do daily is help people and it is routine for me. When someone in need who can't afford dentistry feels better, looks better, smiles for the first time in a long time, gives me a hug and a huge thank you...my day is fulfilled and I know I am making a difference in the day to day lives of someone other than myself.

I think this excerpt from a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson sums up how helping those in need makes me feel:

To laugh often and much...to find the beauty in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that one life has breathed easier because you lived here. This is to have succeeded.

I hope many other DCDS members will feel that they have succeeded by signing up for this worthwhile program. I know you too will feel like that you have made a difference. It is a wonderful feeling!"

Dr. Margaret Culotta-Norton

Are You Partnered with The D.C. Dental Society Endorsed Employee Benefits Team?

Does your practice offer group medical benefits on DC Health Link? Are you partnered with the right broker? Did you know D.C. Dental Society has an endorsed broker on DC Health Link for our members?

In speaking with many of our members that offer group medical plans, many do not find their health insurance brokers are helpful or responsive. They are asking:

Is my practice offering the right benefits to attract and retain employees?

Does my broker take the time to know me and explore the best options for my needs and budget?

DC Dentists with plans through the DC Health Link, uniquely benefit from working with R.K. Tongue as their health plan broker in the following ways:

- R.K. Tongue's partnership with the DC Dental Society generates non-dues revenues that support DCDS' advocacy efforts on your behalf
- R.K. Tongue's business relationships with DC Dentists and their practices often include multiple types of insurance you always know who to contact and our entire team is invested in making sure you get the guidance you need

It is as simple as a phone call or email. We will walk you through the simple, online process of selecting a member of our team as your broker. Nothing will change with your medical benefits immediately (other than stellar service) and at your next renewal, R.K. Tongue will be on your team. Letting R.K. Tongue get to know you now will have us ready to go to bat for you when it counts!

If you are not offering group medical, vision, disability, or life insurance to your employees, now is the time to explore your options. You and your employees will benefit. Don't wait!

At <u>R.K. Tongue</u>, we pride ourselves in serving our clients. Please call Cynthia Eckhardt at 410.752.7216 or <u>email</u> today – we are here to help you win!



SmileCon 2022

SmileCon 2022 will be held Oct. 13–15 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, TX

Registration is Open!



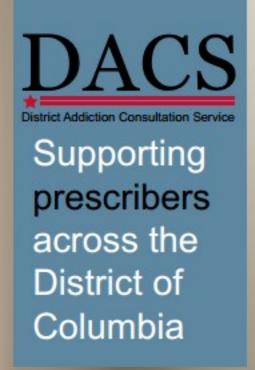
Register for SmileCon 2022

Source: www.ada.org; www.smilecon.org

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FREE Employment Ad for DCDS Members. DCDS members who are seeking employment or who have open staff positions can place a classified ad at no charge. Click on the link below to get started.

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Ohio dentist helps patients by taking their blood pressure during visits

ADA Weekend Huddle, September 24, 2022



Rachelle Boudreau, D.D.S., who practices in Cincinnati, routinely takes patients' blood pressure readings during appointments. For two patients who had high blood pressure readings, it led to medical diagnoses that required treatment, WLWT-TV in Cincinnati reported. "We realize the mouth is the connection to the rest of the body," Dr. Boudreau said. "So, here at the dental office, we figure what else can we do to help sup-

port people because patients are in here twice a year." Mike Trimbach said he didn't think much about his high blood pressure reading but saw his primary care physician and was treated with medication. "How do you feel about it now? Well, I think it might have saved my life," Mr. Trimbach said.

Full Story: https://www.wlwt.com/article/local-dentist-rachelle-boudreau-helps-save-patients-lives-with-blood-testing/41285195

Dental professionals have ongoing role in vaccinations

ADA Weekend Huddle, October 1, 2022



The Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges report highlights advancements and challenges in the dental profession, and one important step forward has been the key role oral health care providers have in promoting overall patient health, including their authorization to administer COVID-19 vaccines and promoting human papillomavirus vaccination for eligible patients, Darien J. Weatherspoon, D.D.S., and Bruce A. Dye, D.D.S., wrote in an editorial in The Journal of the American Dental Association. "These authorizations have provided an opportunity for oral health care professionals to become further integrated into the overall health care system by increasing their

direct role in general health promotion," they wrote. Drs. Weatherspoon and Dye recommended ways to ensure the role of dental professionals, within the health care system, in vaccine administration.

Full Story: https://jada.ada.org/article/S0002-8177(22)00385-3/fulltext

From the ADA

CDC: Monkeypox risk about 14 times higher without vaccination

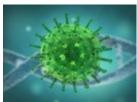
ADA Morning Huddle, October 3, 2022

Data from the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> indicate that men who are eligible to receive the monkeypox vaccine but have not done so are approximately 14 times more likely to become infected with the virus than those who have been vaccinated, MedPage Today reported. During one week in late August, monkeypox incidence was 15 per 100,000 in individuals who had received at least one vaccine dose, compared with 230 per 100,000 for those who remained unvaccinated.

Full Story: https://www.medpagetoday.com/infectiousdisease/generalinfectiousdisease/100959

Study: Breakthrough COVID-19 boosts immunity

ADA Morning Huddle, October 3, 2022



COVID-19 infection after being vaccinated against COVID-19, sometimes termed a "breakthrough infection," usually is mild in severity and appears to confer enhanced immunity as effectively as a booster dose, according to research published in Med, HealthDay News reported. Immunity from natural infection after vaccination does not appear to be subject to the decrease in antibody titer seen with booster vaccines, said

study leader Marcel Curlin, M.D.

Full Story: https://consumer.healthday.com/9-28-breakthrough-infections-after-covid-vaccine-can-help-prevent-future-illness-2658328032.html

From the ADA

CDC eases mask guidance for health care settings

ADA Finance & Operations Huddle, October 1, 2022

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is no longer recommending universal mask use at hospitals, nursing homes and other health care settings, unless those facilities are located in areas with high COVID-19 case rates, CBS News and The Hill reported. "Updates were made to reflect the high levels of vaccine-and infection-induced immunity and the availability of effective treatments and prevention tools," according to updated infection control guidance.

Full Story: https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-cdc-says-some-nursing-homes-and-hospitals-no-longer-need-to-require-masks/

https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3661963-cdc-no-longer-recommends-universal-masking-in-health-facilities/

Study finds cement may help measure radiation exposure

ADA Morning Huddle, September 29, 2022

A study published in <u>Inorganic Chemistry</u> found carbonated hydroxyapatite cement may be used to measure radiation absorption, ADA News reported. The study was conducted by researchers at the American Dental Association Science Research Institute and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. This cement has a microstructure and composition similar to biological hydroxyapatite, which is found in calcified tissues such as tooth enamel and bones. "Carbonated hydroxyapatite cement could be a promising candidate for a dosimetry system, which is used to measure the amount of radiation absorbed by an individual when exposed to ionizing radiation," said Eaman Karim, Ph.D., corresponding author and senior ADASRI scientist.

Full Story: https://www.ada.org/publications/ada-news/2022/september/adasri-examines-use-of-cement-in-detecting-radiation-exposure?md5=6d82a1682331f6d929006a00ab33bc4a

Nominate an outstanding dentist for the 2023 10 Under 10 Awards!

ADA Morning Huddle, October 5, 2022



Do you know a new dentist doing incredible things? Nominate them for the 10 Under 10 Awards! This award recognizes 10 dentists who graduated dental school less than 10 years ago and are already making a difference in the profession, demonstrating excellence in science, research & education, practice, philanthropy, leadership and advocacy. Winners receive a \$1,000 cash prize. Nominations are due by Dec. 31. The ADA New

Dentist Committee will choose and announce the winners next spring.

Learn more and submit a nomination at ADA.org/10under10.

MouthHealthy Halloween Headquarters is open!

ADA Weekend Huddle, October 1, 2022



The spookiest, most sugary time of the year is here! Help your patients keep their smiles strong in this season of sugar with <u>our collection of free Halloween tips and treats!</u> From activity and coloring sheets to pumpkin carving stencils and lists of tooth-friendly treats, we've got everything you need to help your patients have a happy and healthy Halloween.

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