



Los Angeles
DENTAL SOCIETY

Los Angeles Dental Society's mission is to serve the needs and interests of its members and lead in promoting oral health in the community.

EXPLORER

Summer 2021



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Calendar of Events

MONTH	DATE	MEETING/EVENT
July	13	LADS Executive Committee Meeting
	17	Radiation Safety Course
	19	CPR Class
August	10	LADS Board of Directors' Meeting
	16	CPR Class
	28	Radiation Safety Course
Sept.	9-11	CDA Presents (In-Person & Virtual Event)
	11	Radiation Safety Course
	14	LADS Executive Committee Meeting
	21	"Sinus Evolution" – CE Course



Explorer

published by

Los Angeles Dental Society

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Los Angeles
DENTAL SOCIETY

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EDITOR'S CORNER

Clark A. Martin, DMD

Well, it seems the cover is being lifted. The COVID-19 numbers are way down and California is opening up. Most of all, the days are getting longer, warmer and there just seems to be so much optimism bubbling up in our conversations both professionally at the office and when we're out and about personally.

Our office schedules are firming up and weekends are starting to include 'summer stuff', travel plans and just outside activities with people not wearing masks. Hopefully, our favorite restaurants are opening their doors, indoors as well as those sidewalk tables.

Things that we took for granted such as people watching, sharing stories, and working out in gyms are coming back, giving us peace and a feeling of normalcy again. We need it for our families and for our sanity.

We at LADS are seeing this rebound throughout our membership as practices are ramping up. We are trying to adapt as we have been doing for over a year to the requests of dentist/members who want the return of in-person activities, including

meetings at various venues so we can converse, interact, dine and listen to the many great CE lectures with our friends. We are also planning some smaller group gatherings for others who just want to mingle, maybe over a cocktail and some tapas, too.

You will also be seeing announcements of our helpful services like the Shredding Event and CPR classes at our newly renovated Dental Society office and other locations.

All in all, things are getting back on track for our Society. We are excited to

see and hear from everyone, as well as watch all of us prosper through this summer and beyond. We are continuing to make organized dentistry through our society advantageous for everyone, new members and our veteran dentists, too.

We would love to get your input, suggestions for activities and locations for upcoming meetings. We are here for you and want to be relevant for all.

Enjoy your summer, stay healthy and keep our phone number and email close.

Clark





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Adam Geach, DMD, MDSc

Dear LADS members and colleagues,

On June 15th, California reopened the economy and lifted the statewide mask mandate for fully vaccinated individuals. This is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. Now with a fear of the coronavirus delta variant, LA County health officials on June 28th strongly recommend that people wear masks indoors in public places - regardless of vaccination status. The World Health Organization is now urging vaccinated people to keep wearing masks for fear of the delta variant's rapid spread.

As dentists and practice owners what do we do? "Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, states that all parties, including patients and visitors, should continue to wear face coverings in health care settings, including dental offices, regardless of their vaccination status." (cda.org). The CDA website has prepared templates addressing the following:

- Message to patients - face covering requirements. This message can be displayed in the waiting room.
- Email template to patients. This addresses patient concerns about face coverings/rescheduling patients.
- Face covering requirement flyer. This can be displayed around the dental office.

Other templates for patient communication and social media blog posts are available at cda.org, so check it out!

In other news, LADS has been working to re-establish our member benefit

programs. Just to remind everyone, Los Angeles Dental Society (LADS) is a Tripartite membership. This means that when you join, you also join the California Dental Association (CDA) as well as the American Dental Association (ADA). The benefits of this are great and unavailable through any other dental organization. LADS benefits include:

- Low cost CE courses (including required courses such as infection control)
- Radiation safety courses for the dental staff
- CPR courses for dentists and their staff (these are now offered monthly)
- Shredding events (we are planning to provide this service in different areas of Los Angeles for convenience)
- Study clubs (a great way to collaborate and discuss cases with colleagues for CE credit)
- Free classified ad listings
- Opportunities for community service
- Professional leadership and mentorship opportunities
- Social and networking events (currently being planned)
- Local patient referral service
- Local colleague referrals
- Access to the Southern California Dental Well Being Committee

Membership with CDA and ADA provides benefits such as:

- Access to TDIC malpractice insurance
- TDIC risk management advice
- Regulatory compliance, HIPPA, Dental Practice Act resources

- Practice management and Human Resource advice
- Consent form templates
- Employee manual resources and templates
- COVID-19 toolkits
- Back to practice resources
- CDA Presents and additional low-cost CE courses
- TDSC (savings on dental supplies)
- Access to the CDA Journal and JADA
- Advocating oral health policies and the practice of dentistry at the state and national levels

I started volunteering my time with LADS in 2014. I started as an Area III representative and introduced myself to dentists in my area of Downtown LA. I welcome new members to attend social events and share the benefits of LADS as listed above. Sharing, discussing and treatment planning cases with colleagues has always been important to me and I started a Study Club in Downtown LA with the support of LADS. Eventually, this led to my involvement with the LADS executive committee. Giving back to our dental community is exciting, rewarding and helps so many dentists and patients in the Los Angeles area. I hope this will inspire some of you to join our committees and share your ideas to strengthen our society. If you would like to learn more about our committees, please call our Executive Director, Gregg Orloff, to discuss.

Let's keep working together!

Sincerely,
Adam Geach



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DENTAL WELL BEING

Steven M. Goldy, DDS

“My name is Steve and I’m an alcoholic and drug addict”. This is a powerful statement and one that I have stated a few thousand times over many years in my recovery. It all started with an informal visit by a member of the Southern California Dental Well Being Committee (SCDWBC) over thirty years ago. There have been a few bumps along this road I have trudged, but for the most part this visit from SCDWBC nudged me into recovery and off the path of self-destruction. I am eternally grateful for this path that was paved. I now serve as the Chair of SCDWBC and have a renewed mission of spreading the word about our services to all the dental societies within our jurisdiction.

SCDWBC was developed nearly forty years ago and now services seven dental societies within Southern California. We primarily address concerns regarding dentists affected by drug and alcohol impairment. We work with families and staff and assist dentists who may be a risk to themselves and their patients. If left untreated drug and alcohol dependency can ruin the lives, careers and health of dental professionals as well as compromise the safety of their patients.

Typically, we are contacted by a family or staff member, or self-referred from a dentist who has admitted there is a problem. We provide our own interventions when necessary and typically institute (via referral) a medical evaluation when needed. Our goal is to get the needed treatment started, after which we monitor our participants for up to five years. This monitoring consists of drug

testing, facilitated groups with other health care professionals, documented attendance at recovery meetings (some for doctoral level health care professionals), and quarterly meetings with our committee to monitor the progress of our participants. My committee currently consists of four recovering dentists and one pharmacist in recovery, who are dedicated to assist in transforming the lives of those in need for fun and for free! (Although our expenses are funded by suggested donations from each dental society we serve).

We are all familiar with the opiate crisis of the last decade and now the recent pandemic has created an even greater need to have resources specifically catered to CDA member dentists that may be in need. The CDA Foundation has recently taken over the administration of a statewide Well Being Committee, have provided a very helpful support staff, and are assisting in carrying our message.

We are presently restructuring Well Being to include a referral source database that includes issues of burnout, suicide prevention, depression, and anxiety. Please feel free to reach out for additional information and spread the word amongst your colleagues.

Steven M. Goldy, DDS

Chair: Southern California Dental Well Being Committee
310-487-5040 • smgdds@gmail.com ■

Continuing Education

Sinus Evolution

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 / Webinar 6:30 – 8:30 pm

No, not the evolution of the paranasal sinuses' anatomy through the ages, but selfishly my own personal procedural evolution: A result of many years of clinical research, failures, complications, revelations and rewards.

If one is going to spend a great deal of time accessing, preserving and elevating the Schneiderian membrane, then you must enter the fray with a strong working knowledge of sinus anatomy/physiology and a deep appreciation of the importance existing subantral bone volume, sinus topography, as well as the fortuity of sinus compliance (the intrinsic potential of the sinus membrane to resume its homeostatic status after the surgical trauma caused by sinus floor elevation - SFE).

The goal here: Manage sinus proximity using the least invasive yet predictable approach.

The result: An improved clinical experience for both doctor and patient.

Course Objectives:

- Get the most out of the preoperative CBCT and patient history.
- Lateral vs. Transalveolar: when and why.
- Critical review of the myriad of transalveolar lifting techniques.
- Osseodensification: how to use it most effectively in the posterior maxilla.
- Learn how to customize your sinus lifts.



Dr. Michael Toffler attended New York University College of Dentistry and earned his specialty certificate in Periodontology from the Veterans Administration Medical Center in West Los Angeles. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and served as a Staff Periodontist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in New York City from 1991 to 2007. Dr. Toffler is well published and has written book chapters on sinus and implant surgery. He has also designed and patented instruments for implant/sinus surgery. He is currently in private practice limited to Periodontics and Dental Implantology in New York City.

To register please visit the LADS website at www.ladental.com or call the LADS office at 213-380-7669



Dental Assistant Opportunity – Beverly Hills

Description: Opening position for a Dental Assistant/Front office in Beverly Hills. Familiar with Dentrax software is a plus. Compensation would be based on years of experience. This is an immediate opening. New Grad will be trained.

Contact: Dr. Tara Nakjiri | 310-271-0461 | nphdental@gmail.com

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Carson

Description: Dental Assistant position. Modern 3 operator office. Location: Carson 90746 zip code. Bilingual preferred. Please call for information.

Contact: Wanda | (310) 719-1865.

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Los Angeles

Description: Dental Assistant position in Los Angeles near Koreatown. Part time or full time. Bilingual Spanish/ English speaking. Call us or submit your resume.

Contact: 213-880-4832 | familygeneraldentist@yahoo.com

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Windsor Hills

Description: Do you like helping people? Would you like to work in a great office where you can feel proud of the work you do and recognized for your efforts? Consider an opportunity working with our office. Previous dental experience would be helpful, but a great attitude and strong work ethic are our first priorities. Please email a resume and we look forward to meeting you!

Contact: Dr. Joni Forge | 323-296-6180 | drjoniforge@yahoo.com

Dentist Opportunity - Lancaster

Description: Pediatric Dentist or a GP comfortable with kids needed for a Community Clinic located in Lancaster, CA. The dentist will be the lead dentist with two other part time dentists on staff and 6 great DA's. The clinic is part of the LA County Dept. of Health Services Network. The office is state of the art and part of a recently constructed comprehensive healthcare facility. This is a chance to practice in a low-stress environment free of all patient financial issues - a chance to just concentrate on the patient and the care. There is no oral sedation or GA in the dental clinic. An anesthesiologist and the surgery center within the facility or referral will be available if necessary. This clinic's patients are limited to under 18 years of age, but the clinic does NOT accept management problem cases from outside dentists. Position includes 3 weeks vacation, one week sick leave, health and liability insurance, 12 paid holidays. Please reply to this ad via email or fax CV to the number provided below.

Contact: Dr. Roger Fieldman | 213-374-0210 fax | rpfdds@gmail.com

Dentist Opportunity – San Gabriel Valley

Description: Choice Dental Center, established in 2001, multiple locations in San Gabriel Valley. Looking for full time and part time California licensed dentist. Please call or email.

Contact: Dr. Robert Cail (626)261-9372 | choicedentalct@mail.com

Dentist Opportunity – Simi Valley

Description: Private practice in Simi Valley looking for a part time associate. Must be self-motivated, have great chairside manners and provide the best dental care possible for our patients. Compensation TBD.

Contact: sbvcdentist@gmail.com

Office Space Opportunity – Beverly Hills

Description: Dental office to share in the heart of Beverly Hills triangle for any days or few days available. Three exam rooms with the 360 direct light and access to roof in a penthouse suite. Send your text message to 424-666-1188 or call.

Contact: Dr. Tara Nakjiri | 424-666-1188 | nphdental@gmail.com

Office Space Opportunity – Tarzana

Description: Brand new Encino Dental office for lease. 6 fully plumbed and 4 fully equipped rooms. Great visibility on Ventura Blvd. Start your practice or relocate your existing practice.

Contact: Dr. Benny | 818-631-3368 | DrBennyk@gmail.com

Classified Ads are offered to LADS members at no charge. Ads are placed both in the Explorer (a quarterly news publication of the Los Angeles Dental Society) as well as on the Los Angeles Dental Society website (www.ladental.com)

If you want to place an ad for a new associate, selling your practice, looking for a new partner, selling office furniture, or whatever else you want to see, please contact the LADS office at 213-380-7669.



VOICES OF OUR COMMITTEES



*Douglas Galen, DDS
Ethics Committee, Chair*

The Ethics Task Force of the Los Angeles Dental Society serves an important role in organized dentistry. Our dental degree is bestowed upon us after specific educational and clinical competency requirements are met.

The privilege of providing dental care to our patients for our community also demands that certain standards for professional and ethical conduct be maintained as well.

California Dental Association members agree to abide by the American Dental Association and CDA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct. As a healthcare professional, we assume a publicly entrusted principle of “do no harm”. These ethical guidelines pertain to conduct in a dental office, conduct between dental practitioners and principles on the ethical promotion of dental practices and services. Following these guidelines benefit our community of dentists and strengthens the public trust of dental providers.

The charge of the Ethics Task Force is to investigate alleged ethics violations. The task force can act on their own initiative or at the request of a patient, a dentist, or an employee where ethical violations may be involved. Over the last year we have successfully resolved several complaints that were violations of the dental code of ethics. Should you encounter an ethical issue that you feel warrants consideration by the Task Force, contact the LADS office at 213-380-7669. All complaints are strictly confidential and most issues can be easily resolved at our local component level. The overriding goal of the Task Force is to resolve violations in a manner that best meets the needs of the patients we serve and protects the integrity of the profession we represent. ■



*Roger P. Fieldman, DDS
Treasurer*

A report from the Treasurer seems like a new idea - but a good idea. LADS members should be aware of LADS' finances. So, I am pleased to report that LADS is in sound financial condition!

My involvement with the LADS Board goes back almost 30 years. In that time, I have only seen your board act in a fiscally prudent manner. While some Boards of Directors might spend freely with “other people's money”, that has never been anything I have witnessed with your Board.

LADS income is mostly derived from dues. The dues income typically arrives in the November to April months leaving little income from May through October. That has made it necessary to invest funds for use at a later time. Over the decades, our investment has grown enough that our member's “inflation adjusted” dues have actually decreased.

In addition to dues, LADS relies on other income producing activities - advertising and CE courses. Our CE courses consist of the regular educational programs plus CPR and auxiliary dental assisting. The auxiliary courses are just re-starting after COVID-19 and consist of radiation safety, coronal polishing, and the mandatory 8-hour infection control for DAs without a diploma from a DA program. If your auxiliaries are in need of any of these courses, please consider LADS. The courses are well priced and you will be supporting your component. ■

VOICES OF OUR COMMITTEES



*Scott Kim, DDS
CDA Trustee*

It is hard to believe on March 2, 2020, amidst the concerns over spread of coronavirus in the state, Governor Gavin Newsome declared a State of Emergency in California. Our lives as we knew it turned upside down. CDA for the first time in its 150-year history quickly pivoted to hold an all virtual CDA Presents Spring meeting. CDA Presents Arts + Science of Dentistry meeting is the largest source of non-dues revenue for our members. We were fortunate to have a insurance policy to cover this loss. CDA subsequently held the Fall CDA Presents meeting in San Francisco with a much more robust, in-person like virtual meeting. Most recently, CDA Presents May 13-16, 2021, virtual meeting was successfully completed. 6,955 dentist and dental professionals attended more than 60 live virtual continuing education courses. An exciting line up of world class speakers and leaders in dentistry provided live questions and answer sessions. Innovative exhibitors promoted “convention only specials” for our members. Engaging courses across required CEs and emerging topics in practice management and clinical care were covered. Multiple networking opportunities were available for our members. This was our third virtual meeting by our Board of Manager who did a great job of improving exponentially after every meeting. Our next CDA Presents is scheduled for September 9-11, 2021. At our last Board of Trustees meeting, we approved the fall San Francisco Presents will be held in-person with the option to attend virtually. With so much success with virtual meetings, and pent-up demand for in-person meetings, we may see a future where CDA Presents is hybrid of both. Together we are limitless. ■

Join **LADS** *Legislative Committee*



*Sonia Molina, DMD
Legislative
Committee, Chair*

LADS is looking for members to join our Legislative Committee. The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to identify and monitor local political issues of importance to dentists and small businesses and to educate LADS members accordingly. In addition, the Legislative Committee meets with state and local representatives to advocate for their fellow dentist. The Committee is currently making arrangements to meet with our City Councilmember and County Supervisor as well as hosting an Advocacy Day later this summer to speak with our State Legislature Representatives.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Legislative Committee, or would like more information, please contact Dr. Sonia Molina at soniamolina@aol.com.

LADS NEWS

IT IS NICE THAT OUR MEMBERS CAN FINALLY GET TOGETHER FOR SOME LADS EVENTS. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING MORE OF YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE!



CPR CLASSES

Since March we have been hosting CPR classes in the LADS office for our member dentists and their staff. Once again, our trainer has been Danny Gueuzubeuyukian who does a great job training all the students. Please call the LADS office if you or one of your staff members would like to sign up for a future CPR class.



STUDY CLUB

On May 26th Dr. Alexa Martin, LADS Board Member and Chair of the New Professionals Committee, hosted a Study Club at her dental office with some of our LADS members. Refreshments and learning were enjoyed by all. Thank you Dr. Martin for providing this benefit to our fellow members!

LADS NEWS

SHRED EVENT

Our LADS Shred & E-Waste Disposal Event on June 13th was a great success. Thank you Dr. Scott Kim for once again hosting in your office parking lot. It was wonderful seeing all of our members who attended!



Thoughts From Our Community



CALVIN LAU, DDS

Can we start breathing with a sigh of relief? After over a year of this epic world-wide pandemic, we members of the Los Angeles Dental Society are at a point of recalibrating our identities across our personal and professional lives.

We all make choices, some intentional, inadvertent, planned, serendipitous, and across the spectrum. Our personal choices are so diverse and beyond the scope of this article. We are all sharing a common profession – DENTISTRY.

No other dental society in the world can claim our name, that is the Los Angeles Dental Society. Is that something special? This article will try to address that uniqueness and use that to define who we choose to be and not be, as well as some of a way we individually define ourselves.

Rather than being an ultimate article about who we are, this will deal in broader foundational terms from which we can make some important choices.

Recalibrating

Is it possible to reinvent ourselves? It is truly on the plate in these historic times, and an opportunity to address matters more broadly than we might otherwise have considered pre-

REDISCOVERING WHO WE ARE

pandemic. Is it time to make some choices? It is up to you.

Let us start by identifying where each of us individually have journeyed to today's point in time. Let us choose a future path that might be better for us professionally and use our history of dental practice as a foundation for building our future.

Each of us is unique. Our method of dental practice into early 2020 seemed to be progressing rather steadily until that microscopic coronavirus spread its presence worldwide so rapidly, without any hint of its asymptomatic spread days before its full-blown effects would rise to life-changing reality.

Our human memory is relatively short. We deal in decades and not centuries. Who among us had any person experience with the 1918 Flu? Nature has its own timetable that spans eons. We are the mercy, in a sense, of nature. Can we use that to our advantage, rather than saying what will be, will be?

The future can be in our hands and heads. Let us try to make some deliberate choices and hope that they are somewhat enlightened. Being human, there is no perfect way. Nonetheless, we can stride forward, sideways or backwards. Please keep that in mind as we venture professionally in serving the dental needs of the population we serve.

Word of Wisdom

Life is full of choices. Might I share with you lessons I have gleaned over seven decades of existence as Calvin Lau?

I generally strive to make choices, for the most part, that are beneficial for myself and society. This attitude of “for the greater good” is a theme that has served me well. I wish you the best in your professional dental journey. Feel proud for what you have accomplished and contributed. Continue to serve our society and dentistry. May the tooth be with you.

Calvin Lau served as president of LADS many decades ago in the 1980s. He was a Clinical Professor at the USC School of Dentistry (now the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC) and is still in private practice after more than 50 years. ■

Thoughts From Our Community



HOWARD KIM, DDS

As a dentist who graduated dental school less than seven years ago, I realize that I am still learning and evolving. Staying open-minded and informed about all aspects of dentistry is essential to becoming a better dentist. Organized dentistry, specifically Los Angeles Dental Society (LADS), has connected me to dentists with expertise to learn from and opened an opportunity for me to help new graduates.

Many dentists faced the inevitable effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as dental office closures and practice restrictions. Consequently, many of us have forgotten to open our minds to the possibilities of dentistry beyond the dental chair. As I reflect, there are three ways that LADS has broadened my perspective:

1. Mentorship Program that sparked my involvement in LADS and led to becoming a Rising Star Dentist award recipient.
2. Serving in the New Professionals Committee.
3. House of Delegates for CDA, CDA Speaker Host, and now a LADS Area 4 representative.

First, when I graduated from dental school, I signed up for the mentorship program with LADS. My mentors were

Dr. Scott Kim, a CDA trustee, and Dr. Mark Tarica, who owns a successful dental practice in West Los Angeles.

They encouraged me to get involved with LADS, and hence I got very involved by representing LADS in Sacramento on Advocacy Day and attending LADS CE courses and Board meetings. For my involvement, I was recognized as the Rising Star Dentist in 2016.

Second, I became a member and co-chair for the New Professionals Committee (2016-2019). Here, I directly helped students and recent graduates. We organized an event at USC where we brought in different Dental Service Organizations (DSOs) and dental practice owners looking to hire associates. Companies and practice owners were able to directly interview dental students and new dentists looking to find a job.

Third, I got elected as a delegate for the CDA House of Delegates from 2017-2019. We discussed national issues and state issues affecting dentistry, and we acted to resolve those issues.

Furthermore, I became a speaker host volunteer for the CDA Presents Conference in Anaheim, where I got to help the world-renowned speakers and to help make sure the conference ran smoothly. By volunteering, I got an

understanding of what it takes to run a large dental conference. Currently, I am an Area 4 representative where we help LADS members by voicing their concerns to the LADS Board and we inform them of LADS' resources.

When dental practices shut down during the pandemic, some of us inadvertently closed our minds to organized dentistry. Due to enforced social distancing guidelines, connecting in person at dental meetings was impossible. There needs to be a renewed effort to connect with other dentists and connect with our patients as the pandemic draws to an end. Our patient's needs are very different. We have to treat an aging dental population whose dental concerns are very different from young patients who expect technology to treat their dental problems quickly. I believe organized dentistry is a valuable resource to help us best treat the conditions of all of our patients. I continue to welcome the opportunity to benefit from and contribute to organized dentistry. As a young dental professional, it is crucial to be a steward and representative of our great organization and our profession. In the coming year, I look forward to doing my part in advancing our profession through LADS. ■

Welcome **NEW MEMBERS**

LADS welcomes the newest members to our Dental Society.
Looking forward to meeting each of you personally!

TALIN GOLNAZARIAN, DDS

UCSF School of Dentistry, 2018
NYU College of Dentistry, General, 2020
2978 Wilshire Blvd Ste 201,
Los Angeles, CA 90010

KHALID KHOUDARI, DDS

University of Michigan
School of Dentistry, 2013
239 S La Cienega Blvd Ste 206,
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

LISABETH SU CHIU, DDS

Herman Ostrow USC
School of Dentistry, 2002
1530 S Olive St, Los Angeles, CA 90015

CHARLES HART, DDS

Herman Ostrow USC
School of Dentistry, 1957
Case Western Reserve University
School of Dental Medicine, General, 1961

CHANG-RYUL LEE, DDS

UCSF School of Dentistry, 2020
2805 S. San Pedro St,
Los Angeles, CA 90011

BRIAN WU, DDS

UCLA School of Dentistry, 2018
Lutheran Medical Center, General, 2019

AHN HO, DMD

Midwestern University
College of Dental Medicine, 2020
2111 S. Atlantic Blvd,
Monterey Park, CA 91754

PETER MULLER-MARQUES, DDS

SUNY-Buffalo
School of Dental Medicine, 2015
St Joseph's Hospital, General, 2016
3131 E Florence Ave,
Huntington Park, CA 90255

Welcome Back **MEMBERS**

LADS welcomes back the following dentists to our Society.
We are glad you have returned!

SHERVIN GHOLIAN, DMD

SHAHROZ SAIDIAN, DDS

MARIANNE TANIOS, DDS

Dental School Graduates 2021

We welcome the following graduates to our Dental Society. Congratulations!

Herman Ostrow USC School of Dentistry

DAVID BAI, DDS

NATALIE BAKHSHI, DDS

THIRUPATHI REDDY BANDA, DDS

BREANNA BARTOLOME, DDS

KINGSLEY BENSON, DDS

CAMERON BUTLER, DDS

RUPANZAL CHAUDHARY, DDS

EUMI CHOI, DDS

NAFISA CHOWDHURY, DDS

LELLANNIE FATIMA COATS, DDS

DEEPSHIKHA DAHIYA, DDS

SHAMINDER PAL DAIHAR, DDS

NABAT DAVRANI, DDS

DANILO DIANGKINAY, DDS

AFSANEH FALLAHTAFTI, DDS

CHAD HO, DDS

MAHSA IGHANI, DDS

JOVHAN JILBERT, DDS

AARON KIM, DDS

NICOLE KOOCHI, DDS

DEBORA KORMANN, DDS

WILSON LAI, DDS

GAEUN LEE, DDS

JIawei LI, DDS

NICOLE MAHDAVI, DDS

MAY MANSWER, DDS

BARRETT MARSHALL, DDS

ERIC MASTANDUONO, DDS

MEREDITH MESSERLE, DDS

GEORGE MICHAEL, DDS

TARIG MOHAMED, DDS

ATYSHA MOHINDROO, DDS

WILLIAM NASH, DDS

ANTOINETTE NGO, DDS

SAMAREH NIKOOKAR, DDS

MAILE OSBORNE, DDS

CONOR PERRIN, DDS

SHUBHA PEWA, DDS

ZACHARY POLONUS, DDS

VIJAY RAI, DDS

RUBEN SOLEYMANI, DDS

SHAHNAZ TAMBAWALA, DDS

KINHA THAKKAR, DDS

GABRIEL UKEGHESON, DDS

CHRISTIAN UNDERWOOD, DDS

STEPHEN WEHRLE, DDS

LENA YOO, DDS

MICHAEL ZAHAB, DDS

ANA ZAPATA CACERES, DDS

UCLA School of Dentistry

LUIS ALVARENGA, DDS

BRIAN CHIUSANO, DDS

SUNG HEE LEE, DDS

YOUNGSHIN LEE, DDS

CDA Practice Support Team



One of the many benefits of membership is access to the CDA Practice Support Team. When you need support navigating the business side of dentistry, CDA's experienced analysts can answer your questions about practice management, dental benefit plans, employment practices and regulatory compliance. Meet the team who have created a full library of online resources, speak on timely topics, and provide one-on-one guidance by email and phone. Please contact the CDA Practice Support Team with your questions or concerns. If you need additional assistance, please call the LADS office at (213) 380-7669.



ANN MILAR
DIRECTOR, PRACTICE SUPPORT
ANN.MILAR@CDA.ORG
916.554.7324

Ann provides strategic direction for Practice Support's resources and initiatives while leading the team of expert analysts. She is also responsible for identifying and analyzing emerging issues for policy development and implementation on behalf of CDA's 27,000 member dentists. Ann has worked with CDA for more than 13 years and her health care experience spans 20 years of working with associations, health plans and advocacy organizations.



CINDY HARTWELL
DENTAL BENEFITS ANALYST
CINDY.HARTWELL@CDA.ORG
916.554.5941

Cindy specializes in consulting with practices on dental benefit plans, navigating the benefits system and advocating for providers. She brings more than 20 years of experience, including RDA and office manager roles in private practice before working in a large dental benefit organization's commercial and state government divisions.



KATIE FORNELLI
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Katie specializes in dental practice management and marketing. For more than 18 years, she's worked with dentists and their teams in areas such as scheduling, collections, front office systems, case presentation, patient management, practice transitions, and dental practice marketing.



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Lisa specializes in several aspects of dentistry, including working with dental benefit plans, dental billing, accounts receivable, community marketing, human resources, practice management and regulatory compliance. As a Practice Analyst, she brings more than 20 years of dental industry experience to CDA, including having served as a regional collections specialist for a dental support organization that supported 70-plus California offices.



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Michelle specializes in employment practices, including employee management, policy development and wage and hour compliance. She began her dentistry career as an assistant, quickly becoming an office manager, and now brings 18 years of private practice management experience, plus another 13 years supporting CDA members.



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Teresa specializes in regulatory compliance, including information verification, documentation strategies and referral to legal references. For more than 20 years, she's worked with CDA members in the areas of occupational and environmental safety and health, HIPAA, California Dental Practice Act and other business regulations.

ADA NAMES DR. RAYMOND A. COHLMIA AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kimber Solana

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The ADA announced May 12 that it named Raymond A. Cohlmi, D.D.S., dean of the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry and a former ADA Board of Trustees member, as its executive director, effective Nov. 15.

Dr. Cohlmi, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, will begin onboarding for his new position on Oct. 1. The announcement comes after a robust search process that began when the current executive director announced she would retire in 2021.

“The American Dental Association is excited to welcome Dr. Cohlmi as its new executive director,” states ADA president Daniel J. Klemmedson, D.D.S., M.D. “In addition to a breadth of experience in dental practice and education, his many years of service in organized dentistry made him a standout candidate.”

Dr. Klemmedson added that Dr. Cohlmi is widely respected in the dental community for his thoughtfulness, dedication and service-oriented approach to leadership.

“With these qualities, as well as his proven background, he is well-suited to help the ADA drive dentistry forward and into the future,” Dr. Klemmedson said.

Dr. Cohlmi’s experience includes joining the University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry faculty in 2009, serving in a variety of leadership positions. In 2011, he was named director of comprehensive care, and he served as assistant dean for patient care from 2013 until he was appointed dean in 2015. Prior to joining the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Cohlmi ran a private dental practice for 26 years.

“I am humbled and honored to be selected as the next executive director of the American Dental Association,” said Dr. Cohlmi. “I have always believed that organized dentistry plays an integral role in the advancement of the profession, and to me, there is no better organization to advocate for oral health than the American Dental Association.”

An active leader in the dental community at the local, state and national levels, Dr. Cohlmi served on the ADA Board of Trustees from 2015-19 and as president of the Oklahoma Dental Association in 2001 and his local dental society in 1997. He has led the ADA New Dentist Committee and Council on Membership, serving as chair in 1999 and 2007, respectively. Additional ADA appointments over the years include the Council on Annual Sessions, the Council on Dental Benefits, and the American Dental Political Action Committee. Dr. Cohlmi has also represented his district as a delegate to the ADA’s House of Delegates — the governing body that develops ADA policies.

“Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working with the ADA in multiple roles,” Dr. Cohlmi said. “That, combined with my time spent in private practice and as an educator, will benefit me greatly in this new position. I am excited about the opportunities ahead with the American Dental Association, and I look forward to working together with its many members to advance both the organization and the profession.”

Dr. Cohlmi earned his dental degree in 1988 from the OU College of Dentistry. He currently resides in northwest Oklahoma City with his wife, Sherry, and has three children.

HPI PROJECTS INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF DENTISTS BY 2040

Kimber Solana

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The ADA Health Policy Institute is projecting that there will be a significant increase in the supply of dentists by 2040.

According to the research brief, “Projected Supply of Dentists in the United States, 2020-2040,” published in May, the HPI projects 67 dentists per 100,000 people in the U.S. in 2040 — up from 60.7 in 2020. The data is also higher than earlier projections of 63.7 dentists per 100,000 people in 2037.

The projection doesn’t attempt to make any judgments on the demand for the future dentist workforce, according to the research brief’s authors, senior research analyst Bradley Munson and chief economist Marko Vujcic, Ph.D.

“Nevertheless, we feel our analysis is a major contribution to the evidence base as it leverages unique data and builds modeling scenarios based on empirical analyses of dentist behavior,” the authors wrote. “It also incorporates the effects of shifting dentist demographics in respect to hours worked and volume of patient visits.”

To make the projection, the HPI used five data sources in the analysis. These included the ADA databases that contains the most up-to-date information on dentists, practicing and nonpracticing in the U.S; the U.S. Census Bureau; the ADA’s Survey of Dental Education; the ADA’s Survey of Dental Practice; and the “U.S. Business Cycle Expansions and

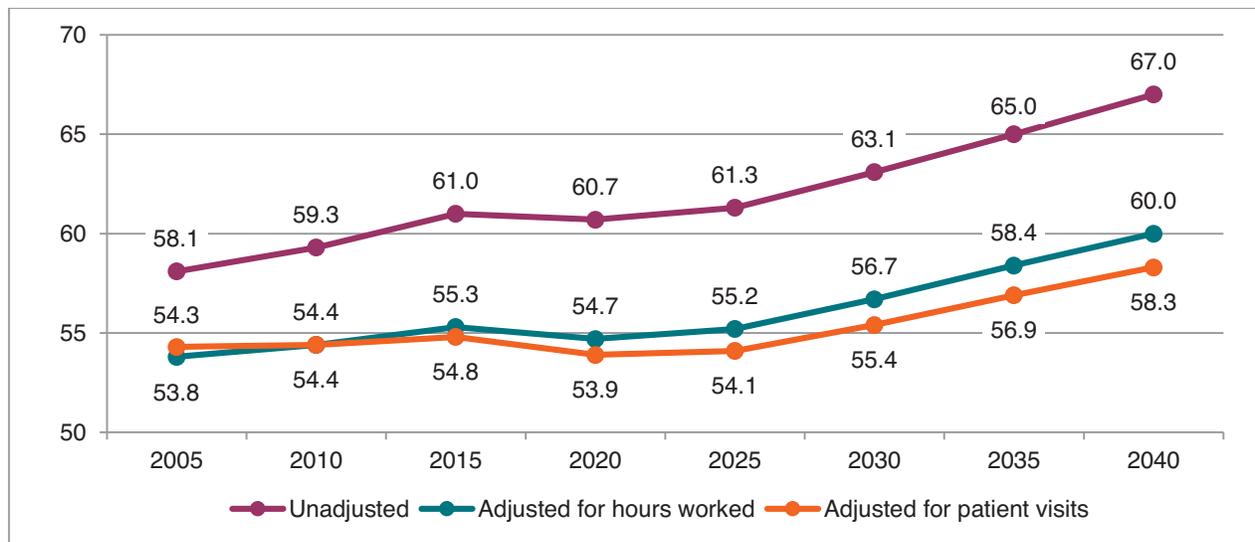
Contractions” table from the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Other findings from the research brief include:

- The dentist workforce will continue to get younger. The share of dentists ages 55 and older increased from 27% in 2001 to a peak of 40% in 2013-16. This share decreased to 37% in 2020, and HPI projects it will decrease to 33% in 2040.
- Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, HPI research suggested that the pandemic could result in an increase in retirement rates among older dentists. This is not the case as of May 2021. Dentist retirement rates have been rising steadily since 2013 and there is no change in this trend due to COVID-19, as of HPI’s most recent analysis of retirement trends.
- The female share of the U.S. dentist workforce is projected to increase from 34.5 percent in 2020 to 49.4 percent in 2040.

According to HPI, understanding the future supply of dentists only partially contributes to the central policy question of whether the dental workforce will be able to meet population needs. The issue of provider adequacy is far more complex and further research is needed.

To read the research brief, visit [ADA.org/HPI](https://ada.org/HPI).



Sources: ADA Health Policy Institute analysis of ADA masterfile; ADA Survey of Dental Practice; ADA Survey of Dental Education; U.S. Census Bureau, Intercensal Estimates, Postcensal Estimates, National Population Totals, and National Population Projections. **Notes:** Data for 2005-2020 are based on the ADA masterfile. Results after 2020 are projected. Assumes (1) retirement rates will correspond to historical patterns for (a) relatively high outflow rates from 2020 to 2025 and (b) typical U.S. business cycles for 2025 to 2040; (2) the annual number of U.S. dental school graduates will increase through 2026 and then remain constant; (3) U.S. population growth will match the U.S. Census Bureau’s “low immigration” scenario released in 2020.



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