“Pediatric Dentistry” presented by Hai Pham, DMD.

Review written by: William Trevor, DDS.

Thank you to all who attended the January meeting. For those of you who were unable to attend, you missed a great overview of pediatric dentistry with Dr. Hai Pham, a private practicing Pediatric Dentist in Portland and adjunct professor at Oregon Health and Science University’s School of Dentistry.

Dr. Pham offered a broad and comprehensive overview of the treatment and management of pediatric patients, and to attempt to summarize his lecture on paper would be a lofty task. However, I will present a few of the highlights below.

Initial appointment. Starts in the waiting room. It is important to take stock of how the child presents prior to sitting her in the dental chair. Attempt to read the child and the parent, because you are actually treating both.

Happy visit. Sometimes less is more, and you want to start with a good experience to foster future compliance. Always inform parents that there may be visits where the child will not comply, even if they have done well in the past.

Medical history. Most kids are pretty healthy, but there may be health problems lurking. Keep in mind the overall health of the patient: How are they playing on the playground? Are they pink and perky?

Toothbrush. For those young kids (under 3 years) a toothbrush can go a long way in helping you to see in a mouth. Try brushing their teeth. If they cry, that is also a good way to see in their mouths.

Radiographs. ALARA. Follow AAPD guidelines. With PA and Occlusal views we are looking for normal vs. abnormal; bitewings for caries.

Tell, show, do. Let kids know what you are doing by explaining and showing before actually proceeding with each aspect of the procedure. Fear mostly resides in the unknown.

Anxiety. Nitrous. Movie glasses (they disorient and distract to your advantage).

Severe Anxiety. Moderate sedation with Nitrous and Versed. IV anesthesia in office (less expensive) or in Hospital (more expensive). Make sure you have your permits and know what you are doing. Airway, airway, airway!

Caries Risk Assessment. Diet and nutrition counseling.

(Continue on page 8)
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Marion Polk Dental Society Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes:

EXECUTIVE BOARD NOTES—Jan. 5, 2016

Recruitment and retention: 1-New member joined.
The numbers: Total=221 Active=167 Retired=53
Newsletter and advertising: Monthly newsletter advertising sponsorships available. Host and article review assigned for January 2016 and February 2016.
Speaker Schedule updates: Dr Young, ODA President will attend February 9th membership meeting and update us on Aptify, ODA, and legislature. Speaker selection process started. Ideas for subjects and speakers discussed for 2016-2017 session.
Adm. Updates: Account balances verified.
New Business: Current and future board positions discussed. New room options disclosed for future membership meetings at Roth’s. Possible projector problem with remote discussed. HOD changed to Portland October 7 and 8, 2016.
Old Business: Activity fund at ODA disbursed. Re-branding and website launch is June 21, 2016. Accountant Cox worked on IRS solution. Discrepancy was in paperwork only. Cox states our taxes are correct. No penalties to be assessed and no payments due. Chemeketa scholarship winner will attend January CE with Chemeketa Executive Director. MPDS office closed May 23-27, 2016. “No meal” option to be discontinued in September 2016. Future MOM discussed regarding decreasing volunteers. Board meeting in June (closed to public) is Wednesday, June 1st at Illahe at 6pm.
Thank you to speaker Hai Pham, DMD. for presenting “Pediatric Dentistry” on January 12, 2016.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Maria Raya Morena, recipient of the MPDS 2015-2016 scholarship

Photos from January 2016 membership meeting
NO OTHER LAB IS AS COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS

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IF OUR CUSTOMERS ARE SUCCESSFUL THEN SO ARE WE! THAT’S OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE

At O’Brien, we’ve built an unmatched team of professionals who strive to deliver the highest level of service, education, innovation, and reliability. If our customers are successful, then so are we. That’s the guiding principle in how we operate our company. We support your practice with everything from case consultation to continuing education. No other dental lab is as committed to your success! O’Brien Dental Lab is your partner for Successful Dentistry®
Tuesday–February 9, 2015

“Cardiology & Dentistry”
Presented by Priya Kansal, MD.

LOCATION: Roth’s IGA in West Salem, Founder’s Room

Staff encouraged at attend!

5:30 Social  6:00 Dinner check-in  6:30 Announcements/ODA update  6:45-8pm Presentation

Upon completion of the course the attendee will have a better understanding of the latest recommendation from American College of Cardiology regarding commonly encountered cardiac conditions. They will also be able to assimilate current guidelines into daily practice patterns.

Hygienist, staff, and spouses welcome.

1.5 CE

Bonus-
MPDS Member and ODB of Trustee President, Joni Young, DMD, FAGD, will be presenting updates from the Oregon legislature and presenting the benefits of being a tripartite member.

COST: $25 cash or check only please. (Dietary options available on request. Please email Sabrina.)

MENU: Lasagna, tossed green salad, parmesan garlic bread, and cookies.

DEADLINE: Thursday, February 4th, Noon. All meals reserved and not honored will be billed. You may cancel on or before February 4th without charge.

PARKING: Do not park in front or side of venue. Violators may be asked to move. Free parking available behind store only. Venue is handicap accessible with room access from back doors.

RSVP: E-mail Sabrina mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net or call (503)581-9353. All participants encouraged to pre-register for proper seating availability.

SPONSORS: Columbia Bank, O’Brien Dental Lab, WEO Media, and Advance Dental Technology.

Marion Polk Dental Society has been designated an approved PACE Program Provider by the Academy of General Dentistry. The formal continuing education programs of this program provider are accepted by AGD for Fellowship, Mastership and membership maintenance credit. Approval does not imply acceptance by a state or provincial board of dentistry or AGD endorsement. The current term of approval extends from 8/1/15 to 7/31/19.
**ADA MORNING HUDDLE**

**AMA Suggests Modifications To CDC Guidelines On Opioids.**

*HealthNewsDigest* (1/14) reports that the American Medical Association recently released comments on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) proposed opioid prescription policy, applauding the CDC’s effort while suggesting modifications that would help establish conditions more conducive to implementation in a patient-centered fashion. The article also notes, The AMA assembled the Task Force to Reduce Opioid Abuse – comprised of the American Osteopathic Association, American Dental Association and more than 20 physician organizations – to identify the best practices to combat the epidemic and move swiftly to implement those practices across the country.

**CDT 10 Updates….**

**New CDT Codes Now in Effect**

As of Jan. 1, dental care providers have an updated set of dental procedure codes to work with. The new code set includes 19 new, 12 revised and 8 deleted codes. Two ADA publications feature the code changes: *CDT 2016: Dental Procedure Codes* guides dental staff to code and document services accurately for insurance claim submissions and dental records. *The CDT Companion: Help Guide and Training Manual* helps staff further hone their skills with quizzes, detailed coding scenarios, and a coding Q and A.

**New Dental Scan Discussed.**

The WAAY-TV Huntsville, AL (1/9, Dacy) website discussed a new dental scan called the S-RAY, which connects to a laptop or tablet. Scott Parker, DDS, executive VP of S-RAY, said the dental scan can image cracks and cavities in the teeth, as well as provide 3D modeling and soft tissue data.

**ADA Members Can Take Advantage Of ADA Travel Benefits This Winter.**

*ADA News* (1/6) reports that ADA members planning winter travel can take advantage of ADA Member Travel Benefits and save significantly on hotels. The travel benefits can be extended to family, friends and staff. The ADA provides more information on travel benefits on their website.
Dietrician: Juicing May Be Harmful Oral Health. The Magnolia (TX) Potpourri (1/13, Thompson) states that although juicing has become a staple in many households as an easy way to consume more fruits and vegetables and detox the body, it may actually do your body more harm than good. For example, Lisa Mallonee, BSDH, MPH, RD, LD, a registered dietitian and associate professor in the Caruth School of Dental Hygiene at Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry, said that from an oral health perspective, juicing can be harmful to the teeth. Mallonee added, “Daily juicing can actually be erosive on your teeth due to the acidity of fruits and vegetables, which increases when liquefied.” In addition, “the cleansing action of whole foods is important for the disruption of plaque biofilm on the teeth,” she said.
Smiling is always easier than explaining why you are sad!

Dr. Dave Anderson

Get to know ....

Dr. David Anderson is a University of the Pacific School of Dentistry graduate, and did his graduate studies at the University of Oregon and UCLA. He was in private practice for over 30 years, and was the past president of the Lane County Dental Society. After selling his practice and taking time off, he relocated to Salem and recently acquired the practice of Don Fromherz, DMD, in Keizer after his retirement. Dr. Anderson is a member of the Capital Study Club for Excellence.

Dave enjoys spending time with his wife, two grown children, and four dogs, sings in the Salem Sons of Norway chorus, loves to travel and is a PADI-licensed scuba diver.

Pediatric Dentistry  (Continued from page 1)

Do not forget about alternative sugar sources: Gummy Vitamins. Fluoride varnish. Sealants with good isolation; if you cannot isolate, you are not sealing the tooth.

Pulpal caries. Pulpotomy with ferric sulfate. Ensure normal hemostasis before ferric sulfate (false positive).

Abscess or cellulitis. Treat the infection. Primary teeth: Pulpectomy or extract. Permanent teeth: apexogenesis/apexification. Always monitor pulpally treated teeth for resorption.

Space maintainers. Band and loop are best. Distal shoes cause a wedging effect and can be difficulty to remove later. Consult your friendly neighborhood Orthodontist.


If any of these items is stressing you out, you might want to consider making a referral to a Pediatric Dentist. Thank you again to Dr. Pham and to all of our sponsors for another successful meeting.
ADA LINK FOR RISK MANAGEMENT

Spore Testing Requirements Reminder
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that the autoclaves be tested weekly for spore controls. The American Dental Association (ADA) follows the CDC’s guidelines. Oregon has weekly spore testing requirements. Effective January 2, 2015 noncompliance will be subject to disciplinary actions and fines by the Oregon Board of Dentistry.

Please check with your office staff to ensure you are testing weekly and keeping a logbook of these tests for the current calendar year and the two previous years to prevent a violation and fine from the Board. If the spore count fails to meet monitoring requirements, dental office should follow up with the CDC recommended procedures.

If you have any questions, please email ODA at cbodamer@oregondental.org.

Welcome New Marion & Polk Dental Society Member...

- David A. Anderson, DDS. joined 12/28/15. Dr Anderson bought the practice of Dr. Don Fromherz in Keizer during 2015. He graduated in 1981 from the University of The Pacific and was previously a member of the Lane County Dental Society. Welcome!
Increasing number of Adults Seeking Orthodontics. Healthline (12/23) discusses the growing number of adults seeking orthodontic treatments, stating that the number of adults undergoing orthodontia has risen by 40 percent in the past decade, according to the American Association of Orthodontists. The article states that nearly 25 percent of people who began orthodontic treatment in 2014 were adults, attributing the increasing number of adults seeking orthodontic treatment to a combination of relatively lower prices and newer, less clunky products.

Adults Are Seeking Braces in Record Numbers. Ivanhoe Broadcast News (1/4) reports that the typical face of braces is changing…and getting older. Adults are seeking braces in record numbers, which is bringing new challenges to both patient and orthodontist. Tate H. Jackson, DDS, MS, Assistant Professor Orthodontics at UNC Chapel Hill School of Dentistry, says adults face challenges that kids do not, and that decades of dental work, like fillings, root canals and crowns can make it tough to achieve pearly perfection. Dr. Jackson explained, “Sometimes because the jaws aren’t growing we’re just a little more limited in how far we can actually move the teeth.”

AAO Expand Program To Help More Underserved Kids Receive Orthodontic Treatment. The ADA News (1/12, Manchir) reported that the AAO Donated Orthodontic Services program is aiming to operate in every state this year as part of an effort to provide orthodontic treatment to more underserved children in the US. Dental Lifeline Network will coordinate the program nationally and screen applicants. According to the article, to help meet anticipated demand for services, the AAO is encouraging its members in every state to join the program.
Peer Review ensures fairness to all parties through individual case consideration and a thorough examination of records, treatment procedures and results. This free dispute resolution system often results in solutions which are satisfactory for both parties.

ODA member dentists are required to participate in a peer review process for equitable resolution of patient complaints about dental treatment.

When patients are not satisfied with dental treatment, they should first talk to their dentist to resolve the problem. If talking to the dentist does not resolve the issue, a patient can contact the ODA Peer Review Director at peer@oregondental.org or by calling 503-218-2010 or toll free 1-800-452-5628 to learn specifics details about the process and to obtain a Peer Review Request form.

The association may refer the case to a local committee of dentists. The committee will respond initially by assigning the case to a dentist who serves as a mediator. If mediation does not result in resolution, the case then goes to a full peer review committee hearing where the patient and the dentist are allowed to present evidence or information. The committee examines the evidence/information and makes a decision.

Are you interested in volunteering to be on the MPDS Peer Review Committee? The ODA will provide special training free of charge. Please get more information by calling Sabrina at 503-581-9353 or Lori at the ODA at (503)218-2010 or (800) 452-5628.
TAX INFORMATION:
Your non-deductible portion of membership dues reported as 8% or $122.00 by American Dental Association for 2015.

MP’s goal is to make this newsletter informational and educationally relevant to the membership. If there is a topic you would like to see covered, or an article you are dying to write, please send your suggestions to mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net

MPDS MISSION STATEMENT
“Committed to fostering collegiality, education and community service.”

Morning Huddle...
ADA Says No Compelling Evidence Associating Fluoride, Bone Cancer. Research Triangle Park, N.C. — The Association Jan. 15 told the National Toxicology Program there is no compelling evidence that fluoride is associated with osteosarcoma. For the last 70 years, people have raised well-meaning questions about the safety and effectiveness of fluoride, including whether fluoride is somehow associated with cancer, wrote ADA President Carol Gomez Summerhays and ADA Executive Director Kathleen O’Loughlin in a letter to National Toxicology Program director Ruth Lunn, Dr.P.H. However, we are not convinced a sufficient number of new high-quality studies are currently available to produce a high-quality systematic review at this time.

The Oregon Board of Dentistry has 7 rule changes effective January 1, 2016. Please note all dentists who hold a Moderate Sedation, Deep Sedation, or a General Anesthesia Permit in addition to having an Advanced Cardiac Life Support certificate and/or a Pediatric Advance Life Support certificate must also have a current BLS for Healthcare Providers certificate or its equivalent.

Marion and Polk Dental Society Executive Board
Members needed!!!

Marion and Polk Dental Society Executive Board would like to invite you to join us. We typically meet the 1st Tuesday of each month September through May and the 1st Wednesday in June. (We do not meet in July or August.)

We also invite outside members to join our meetings for interest. We currently have 2 open positions on the board.

Please email Sabrina at mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net if you are interested. Join us!
Vancouver Woman Seeks help After Decades—Old Crash leads to Tooth Loss, Gum Infections. KOIN-TV Portland, OR (1/7, Hansson) reported on its website and during a broadcast that a collision with a drunk driver decades ago has had an extreme effect on a Vancouver woman’s health. The crash tore Debra Buckley’s bottom lip and left all her teeth with cracks, causing them to begin breaking off. Buckley, who has also suffered from two heart attacks, has experienced painful tooth loss and gum infections that led her cardiology provider to write a letter on her behalf, expressing concern that an infection could enter her bloodstream and threaten her life. According to the article, the cost to fix her teeth could cost up to $48,000, and her son recently started a GoFundMe page to help raise money for her.

How common are the signs of TMD in children and adolescents? How common is TMD in children & adolescents? Researchers assess the prevalence of clinical signs of temporomandibular joint disorders in children and teenagers and find that 1 in 6 have signs of TMJ disorders. They stress the importance of looking for these signs and considering them in differential diagnoses of facial pain–related complaints.
Does MP have your current e-mail address?
Stay in the loop. If you have a change of address, please update with the MP office so you will continue to receive your fax and e-mail blasts for upcoming CE courses, newsletters and more.

SAVE THE DATES 2016

February 9, 2015-Roth’s in West Salem
“Cardiology & Dentistry”
Priya Kansal, MD

March 8, 2015-Roth’s in West Salem
“Hot Employment Law Topics for Dental Practice in 2016”
Saalfeld Griggs PC

May 10th, 2015-Roth’s in West Salem
“Implants”
Scott Dyer, DMD, MS, Ph.D.
CLASSIFIED ADS

**Resume Service** MPDS will keep your resume on file. Our member dentists are always looking for Associates Dentists, Hygienists, Assistants, Insurance Coordinators, Treatment Coordinators, Schedulers, and/or Office Managers.

**Hygienist(s) Available** - MPDS has a new resume on file for one hygienist available for full, part, or substitute who just moved here from Lane County. We also have another new hygienist resume on file, wanting to pick up extra days with availability on Mondays and/or Thursdays (temporarily or permanently). Both come with 3 years experience and are highly recommended. Please contact mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net or leave message at 503-581-9353.

**Associate Opportunity!**
Excellent opportunity in a state of art (Cerec, fully digital), fast growing general dental practice! We are looking for an associate 2 days a weeks with the possibility of more hours in the future. Special consideration given to Spanish-speaking applicants.

Practice: Schuyler Family Dentistry 1325 N. Pacific Hwy., Woodburn, OR 97071. 503-982-5315 www.woodburndentist.com Contact: drschuyler@schuylerfamilydental.com

**Salem’s Best-kept Location Secret**
Dental office building for sale on Silverton Road near Lancaster Drive, within a quarter-mile of the second busiest intersection in Salem, Silverton Road and Lancaster Drive, close to Chemeketa Community College. Ready for purchase & occupancy. Contact: Agent, Terri Frohnmayer 503-364-7400.

**Are you looking for a place to serve in the community?** Salem Free Clinics, 1300 Broadway St NE Suite 104, is recruiting Dentists, Hygienists and Assistants to volunteer at their Dental Clinics to perform extractions. Email John McConville, john@salemfreeclinics.org to receive an application.

**For Sale:** Brassler handpieces, Omega autoclave, Acteon curing light, Wig-L-bug, Kerr Sonci Fill, Baldor lathe, Econo-vac, covered Zirc trays and racks, hand instruments, endo supplies, impression supplies, and more. For complete list contact Chuck Zemanek at 503-363-9353 or mozeman5@comcast.net. *Price negotiable.*
WIN YOUR CHOICE OF A 2016 TOYOTA CAR

GIVE A GRIN. GET A GRIN. MAYBE WIN!

Purchase a raffle ticket and you will be giving a grin to Oregon children by supporting DFO and their programs like the Tooth Taxi. **Only 1,000 tickets will be sold.**

YOU JUST MIGHT WIN YOUR CHOICE OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TOYOTAS:

- 2016 Camry SE with navigation and moonroof - MSRP $26,365
- 2016 RAV4 LE AWD SUV - MSRP $26,650
- 2016 Prius 3 - MSRP $26,600

**Plus, all tickets purchased by Friday, Feb. 12, 2016 get into a drawing for $500 cash.**

Cash winner will be drawn Fri., 2/12/16 at 12:45 pm | DFO | 8699 SW Sun Place, Wilsonville, OR 97070.

**Car Raffle drawing takes place at 12:45 pm on Sat., 4/9/16 at the Oregon Dental Conference at the Oregon Convention Center.**

You need not be present to win.
**Tickets must be purchased while in the State of Oregon**
**Must be 18 years of age to participate**
**Winner must pay all applicable taxes and fees**
**Winner may choose any one car from the three cars**
**Vehicles are not redeemable for cash**
**Winner of the cash drawing is still eligible to win the car**
**DFO staff and their spouse/partner are not eligible to win**

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House of Delegates  October 7 & 8, 2016  Portland, Oregon

**Changes to the 2016 ODA HOD - Save this Date**

Changes are being made to our House of Delegates! ODA's 2016 HOD will be October 7th and 8th at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Lloyd Center, in Portland. Please email Sabrina at mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net or call 503-581-9353 to volunteer for 2016.
Dentists Well-Being 24-hour Hotline 1- 503-550-0190
Confidential, caring assistance for help in dealing with substance abuse and addiction, disability, litigation stress, and mental health challenges. Services are available to all Oregon dentists and OHSU dental students in need of help, regardless of their affiliation with the ODA. You may also contact the ODA's central office at  (800) 452-5628.

Newsletter Articles…
Deadlines for all contributions, articles and sponsored ads is the 15th of the prior month. MP members and staff are encouraged to submit articles, events, trips, awards, announcements, or photos. Please send your suggestions or articles to: mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net

Thank you for volunteering!
Please use this link to view the 2015 video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_ESYHL8FBo

The ODA hosted our 6th Oregon Mission of Mercy free dental clinic November 23-24, 2015. Over 1400 volunteers were able to provide over $853,000 worth of free dental care to 1,090 patients in just two days!

Fun Fact: Levi Spear Parmly, a dentist from New Orleans, is known for inventing the first form of dental floss.
The sponsorship program enables MPDS to have nationally renowned speakers and programs. Sponsors are invited to all the MPCE meetings and are recognized for their generous continued support. This allows MP to offer dentists in our society important education opportunities at reduced costs. When you see sponsors at each meeting please, thank them by checking out their products and displays.

Sponsors of the January 12, 2015 CE:

Advance Dental Technology – Monique Kramer

WEO – Stew Bartlett

O’Brien Dental Lab – Jason Kroessin

Marion and Polk Dental Society
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Salem, OR 97302
Phone 503-581-9353
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mpdentalce@qwestoffice.net
MPDENTALCE.COM
Community of Support Provides Lasting Smiles for Youth at Boys & Girls Club

February 2016

February is marked as Children’s Dental Health Month and reminds us all of the importance of starting early with positive, healthy lifestyle choices for good oral health.

At the Boys & Girls Club of Salem, Marion and Polk Counties, over 62% of the children served on an annual basis are living at or below the federal poverty level. Huge disparities exist among children living in families with limited incomes. Educating and improving the dental and general health in a child’s life can improve their self-esteem, school success, nutrition and overall health.

Through the support of 20 local volunteering dentists, professional staff and education volunteers, the Health & Dental Services Center Program provides low-income youth living in Marion and Polk Counties access to free health education and dental services including treatment available to uninsured youth.

Local private practice dentist Dr. Gary Boehne, DMD, PC has been a valuable leader in the Health & Dental Services Center. In the 10 years of the clinic, Dr. Boehne has provided $75,146 value of services and volunteered over 296 hours to provide dental care for uninsured youth.

Dr. Boehne’s support and leadership has helped the Club accomplish great things for the greater Salem community including:

- 4,940 patients served
- 39,822 dental procedures performed
- $2,359,812 value of services provided

Thanks to Dr. Boehne, over 390 volunteers annually and numerous community partners, children are set on a path for great futures.

About the Boys & Girls Club

The Boys & Girls Club currently attracts over 11,000 youth in grades 1-12 and serves over 617 youth daily. By making health services accessible to the youth the Club serves not only meets their needs for social interaction, caring adult relationships, education and nutrition; but we can drastically deepend the impact by offering the preventative health services many of our members cannot afford or access.

GREAT FUTURES START WITH HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

- Nutritious, Free Meals
- Daily Tutoring & Homework Support
- Lifelong Fitness Programs
- Free Dental Clinic
- Health & Wellness Programs
- Supportive Relationships & Mentors

To Volunteer or Donate, Visit: bgc-salem.org

Jodi Loper, Health & Dental Services Director  (503) 581-7383 ext. 34

Dr. Gary Boehne, DMD, PC has contributed over $75,146 value of services to the Boys & Girls Club Health & Dental Services Center over the past 10 years.
6 Habits of Financially Secure Practices

Good debt is having a mortgage because it’s cheaper than rent. It’s purchasing technology that provides incremental production and enables better patient care. This is good debt to have because they can accelerate growth and profitability. Like any admirable goal, getting your business’s finances in order and becoming financially secure requires the development of good financial habits.

Ken Runkle, Founder and President of the Paragon Program, has highlighted six habits of financially secure practices. Go to ADA Center for Professional Success to learn more.

Assistance Available to Dentists Affected by Disasters

In the wake of severe storms and flooding in Illinois, Missouri, Texas and other parts of the country, please remember that the ADA Foundation’s Emergency Disaster Grant Program may provide grants up to $2,000 to any dentist who is a victim of a declared disaster to help address emergency needs such as food, clothing, shelter and bottled water. The ADA is in contact with dental societies in affected areas to gauge how the storms may have impacted dentists.

ADA Cites Amalgam Filling Safety.

McClatchyDC (1/5, Gordon) reported, For decades, the American Dental Association has resolutely defended the safety of mercury fillings in the teeth of more than 100 million Americans and says new research out of the University of Washington concluded that low-level releases of mercury from fillings present long-term risks of brain damage for people with certain genetic variants. The article continued to explore the research and cited then-ADA President Maxine Feinberg, who said, “No properly designed, peer-reviewed scientific study links dental amalgam to any neurological or systemic disease, and that’s the scientifically sound bottom line.”

The ADA encourages you to refer patients to the ADA’s website for the public MouthHealthy.org as well as the FDA’s consumer advisory.

Oregon Dental Benefits Company Enters Partnership With National Company.

The Lund Report (OR) (1/10, Lund-Muzikant) reports that Oregon-based Advantage Dental has entered into a partnership agreement with DentaQuest. The transaction, which could result in DentaQuest having a majority stake in Advantage Dental, is awaiting approval by Oregon’s Insurance Commissioner. According to the article, Advantage Dental provides dental care to 330,000 Medicaid members in Oregon and 65,000 PacificSource members in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.
ADA

American Dental Association®

ADA

National Children’s Dental Health Month Key Messages:

- Children need strong, healthy teeth to chew their food, speak and have a good-looking smile. What’s more, a good diet is essential for a child’s growth and development. Almost all foods, including milk or vegetables, have some type of sugar, which can contribute to tooth decay.

- A balanced, nutritious diet is essential to healthy living, but it also plays an important role in preventing tooth decay and gum disease. To help control the amount of sugar your child consumes, always try to read food labels and choose foods and beverages that are low in added sugars. Also, select beverages, such as water, that hydrate and contribute to good nutrition.

- Leading organizations agree that we should limit sugar intake for optimal health. The World Health Organization recommends that children should have no more than three tsp. of sugar a day.

- The mouth is the body’s initial point of contact with nutrients. The food children eat impacts not only their general health but also that of their teeth and gums. In fact, poor nutrition often shows up first in oral health.

- According to MyPlate, a website from the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a balanced diet should include fruits and vegetables, grains, dairy and lean proteins.

- We know that to maintain good oral health consumers should avoid a steady diet containing natural and added sugars. The ADA encourages federal research agencies to further investigate the relationship between diet, nutrition and oral health.

- The ADA supports public information campaigns to reduce the amount of added sugars in American diets. Legislative and regulatory actions may be necessary to increase consumer awareness about the benefits of limiting sugar consumption.