Chicago’s ‘Midwinter Meeting’ promises three days of dental excellence

Lectures, hands-on courses and exhibit hall

The numbers confirm it: The Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting attracts dental professionals from far beyond the borders of Chicagoland. Registrations for the meeting, one of North America’s largest, typically surpass 30,000. And this year, the meeting’s 150th anniversary, promises to be as big as ever.

The big numbers continue in the exhibit hall, on track to host more than 600 companies in Hall F on level three of the McCormick Place West Building during all three days of the meeting. Exhibit hall hours are from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26 and 27, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28.

Exhibit-only passes are available to ADA dentists, international dentists and non-ADA dentists who wish to visit only the exhibit hall. The only way to get an exhibit-only pass is to purchase one at McCormick Place during the meeting for an exhibit-only pass is to purchase one at the exhibit hall. The only way to get an exhibit-only pass is to purchase one at McCormick Place during the meeting for entry to most of the scientific programming offered at the Midwinter Meeting is included in the registration fee. That fee is waived for all Chicago Dental Society regular and associate members with 2015 memberships. For $125, you can become an associate member of the society and qualify for the free registration.

Advance registration guarantees you a seat in any paid course. All programs, including the free “F” courses, require a ticket for admission, with the exception of the “Live TV” courses. To attend those “Live TV” courses, you simply need to show your Midwinter Meeting badge.

Access to the meeting’s free courses is on a first-come, first-served basis. The free courses are all ticketed, so if you want to reserve your seat, you should register for the course in advance and arrive with your ticket prior to the start time. If you don’t reserve a ticket in advance through registration, you can ask at the classroom door if any tickets are still available.

Other educational offerings include lectures, which are either full- or half-day sessions, and panels, which are group-presentations on a subject or theme of common interest to all panelists. Questions from the audience are encouraged.

Online registration, available through , includes all three days of the meeting. Exhibit hall hours are from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 26 and 27, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28.

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Chronic periodontitis correlated to heart attack prognosis and severity

Researchers have demonstrated for the first time that chronic periodontitis is closely related to the severity of acute myocardial infarction.

In research published in the Journal of Dental Research, titled “Acute myocardial infarction, at the Virgen de las Nieves University Hospital cardiology unit. Patients all underwent a series of cardiological, biochemical and periodontal health checks and tests. According to Mesa Aguado, “Chronic periodontitis appears as a death risk factor and plays an important role in the prognosis of acute myocardial infarction.”

The researchers said it will be necessary to conduct follow-up checks with periodontal patients who have suffered myocardial infarction to monitor their clinical evolution (new coronary events, cardiac failure or even death). "If that happens to be the case, chronic periodontitis should be considered as a predictor in the development of myocardial infarction, and be therefore included in the risk stratification scores," Mesa Aguado said.

(Sources: University of Granada and Science Daily)