‘Aiming for Excellence’

102nd Hinman will feature more than 65 experts and 230 courses

The Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting — a comprehensive source of continuing education in dentistry — is ‘Aiming for Excellence’ in Atlanta from March 27–29. The 102nd Hinman will feature more than 65 dental authorities, more than 230 courses, all-day educational tracks for every dental professional and nearly 400 companies demonstrating the latest in dentistry.

“Hinman offers the highest caliber of continuing education and world-class exhibits to help everyone in attendance achieve excellence in their careers and practices,” said Dr. Brian Carpenter, general chairman of the 2014 Hinman Dental Meeting. “We have assembled an impressive roster of speakers and special courses designed to elevate learning for our more than 22,000 dentists and dental professionals who attend our annual meeting.”

Across three days, Hinman will offer more than 230 courses, including 75 participation and interactive courses, giving dental professionals an opportunity to learn new procedures and fine-tune their skills. Topics range from Botox and dermal fillers to myofascial pain treatment and interactive CEREC instruction. This year, Hinman will offer unique course pairings that combine speakers who address both diagnosis and therapeutics for select topics.

Four new all-day educational tracks will be offered for the entire dental team. The “Hygiene, Health & Happiness” track will be on Thursday, featuring six speakers covering topics that range from perio and antibiotic pre-medication to great cases and OTCs. “Achieving Excellence in Assisting” and “Business Office Bullseye” will be on Friday — providing assistants and office staff with courses that cover time-

• See EXCELLENCE, page A2
Researchers say chairside medical screenings could save up to $102.6 million in annual health care costs

Screening for diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol in the dental office could save the health care system up to $102.6 million each year, according to a study published by the ADA Health Policy Resources Center.

HPRC staff looked at data from various sources to estimate the cost savings associated with conducting medical screenings in the dental office for adults 40 and older who had undiagnosed diabetes, hypercholesterolemia or hypertension. These patients had no reported history of coronary heart disease or diabetes, no disease-specific risk factors, were not on medication for the condition and had not seen a physician in a year.

The HPRC researchers, including

Kamyar Nasseh, PhD, Barbara Greenberg, PhD, Marko Vujicic, PhD, managing vice president of HPRC and Dr. Michael Glick, editor of the Journal of the American Dental Association, published their findings in the Feb. 15 issue of the American Journal of Public Health.

The authors estimated that the screenings could save anywhere from $42.4 million per year, or $155.71 per person screened, to $102.6 million, or $37.72 per person. The range depends on whether the patients actually visit their physician’s office after being referred by their dentist.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 7.8 percent of the U.S. population has undiagnosed hypertension, 27 percent undiagnosed diabetes, and 8.2 percent undiagnosed high cholesterol.

“As we dentists know, leaving conditions undiagnosed and untreated typically leads to more expensive procedures down the road,” said ADA President Charles Norman. “The same goes for medical conditions, and if dentists can help catch some of these earlier, we’re helping not only the patient save money down the road but the health care system as a whole.”

To see a detailed “Screening for Chronic Diseases” poster-style graphic, you can visit www.ADA.org/442.aspx.

(Source: American Dental Association)

**EXCELLENCE, page A1**

ly topics. A new “Health and Wellness” track will be on Saturday, with courses ranging from oral cancer and heart disease to meditation management and life/work balance.

In addition to a complete continuing education program, Hinman will feature nearly 400 companies — located conveniently in one hall and on one level. Exhibitors will showcase new technology, equipment, products and services for the entire dental staff. New this year on the exhibit floor, Hinman is offering “Dentist-Only Hours” on Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. This is an exclusive opportunity for dentists to shop the floor and get their product and equipment questions answered by exhibitors in an efficient setting.

Prizes and giveaways

Other meeting highlights include:

- Thursday’s keynote session with author and pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Benjamin Carson.
- Prizes and giveaways, including the “Hinman Treasure Quest” scavenger hunt, the “Wheel of Chance” roulette game and a raffle for a new Audi convertible, Delta Skymiles and cash.
- Social activities, including a wine tasting event, “AmericasMart” shopping, a demonstration cooking class, “Neiman Marcus Fashion Show,” “Health & Wellness Retreat,” brewery tour and a golf outing.
- A “Dental Student Networking Event & Reception,” Friday afternoon, will feature topics not learned in school.
- Two Hinman signature parties — the dentist reception and the “Flashback to the 80’s” auxiliary reception — both held on Friday night in the Omni Hotel.
- The Hinman Dental Society will award scholarships and gifts to dental education schools and programs, totaling $400,000. This includes 91 scholarships for students at 37 different dental programs throughout the Southeast. The students will be named “Hinman Scholars” and are recognized at a Saturday luncheon during the meeting.
- As part of our mission, Hinman has been supporting student programs in the Southeast for the past 27 years. In the last 14 years alone, the Hinman Dental Society has contributed more than $6.5 million in scholarships and large gifts in support of dental education,” said Carpenter (general chairman of the 2014 meeting).
- Also this year, Hinman will raffle a 2014 Audi IT Convertible, with all proceeds used for dental scholarships. Available during the registration process (Georgia residents) or on site in the registration area, tickets are $100 each or six for $500. Only 700 tickets will be sold. The winner can choose between a three-year, 10,000-mile-a-year lease on the Audi or $20,000 cash equivalent. Second prize is 200,000 Delta Skymiles and the third is $1,000.
- For more about the Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting, visit the website at www.hinman.org or call (404) 231-1663.

Photos/Provided by Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting

New this year on the exhibit floor, above, Hinman is offering ‘Dentist-Only Hours’ on Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. Approximately 400 companies will have products and services available and on display. Left, the three-day meeting offers more than 350 courses, including 75 participation and interactive courses.

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**OPINION, page A2**

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