15,000-patient study links periodontitis to heart disease risk

European Society of Cardiology latest to show possible association

Periodontal disorders such as tooth loss and gingivitis have been identified as potential risk markers for cardiovascular disease in a study released in April. More than 15,000 patients with chronic coronary heart disease provided information on their dental health, with results showing that indicators of periodontal disease were common in this patient group and associated with cardiovascular risk factors.

Conversely, a lower prevalence of tooth loss was associated with lower levels of CV risk factors, including lower glucose levels, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels, systolic blood pressure and waist circumference. Diabetes and smoking were also less prevalent among patients with more teeth, while likelihood of higher education, alcohol use and work stress was greater.

The report, published in the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology, summarized information on self-reported dental health from a clinical trial involving 15,828 participants from 39 countries all with chronic coronary heart disease and at least one additional risk factor for CHD. All participants had a physical examination and blood testing, and they completed a lifestyle questionnaire that included information on dental health. Participants reported their remaining number of teeth (none, 1-14, 15-20, 21-25, or 26-32/all) and frequency of gum bleeding (never/rarely, sometimes, often or always).

Results showed a high overall prevalence of tooth loss: 16 percent reported having no teeth, 41 percent reported having fewer than 15 remaining teeth, and 26 percent reported gum bleeding when brushing. However, there was some variation in results depending on region, country and ethnic group, with the highest rates of tooth loss reported in the United States.

Almost 70 percent of participants were current or former smokers. Statistical analysis showed that increasing prevalence of tooth loss was significantly associated with higher fasting glucose levels, LDL cholesterol levels, systolic blood pressure and waist circumference. Diabetes and smoking were also less prevalent among patients with more teeth, while likelihood of higher education, alcohol use and work stress was greater.

The spring 2014 CDA Presents, at the Anaheim Convention Center (above), is expecting more than 28,000 attendees, May 15-17. The California Dental Association meeting provides opportunities to learn about dentistry’s latest clinical and business advancements. A 150,000-square-foot exhibit hall with 600 companies is used every year to launch new products on the West Coast. Photo/Provided by Anaheim Convention Center
blood pressure and waist circumference. A higher prevalence of gum bleeding was significantly associated with higher LDL cholesterol levels and systolic blood pressure. According to the authors, the study is the largest of its kind to assess dental disease in coronary patients, and it demonstrates a heavier burden of CVD risk factors and higher levels of biomarkers among those with more tooth loss and gum bleeding, even after adjusting for confounders (such as age, smoking, diabetes and education level).

The findings suggest common risk factors for dental disease and coronary heart disease, and raise the question of whether self-described dental health can now be considered a useful marker of CVD risk.

The observed regional variations in the prevalence of periodontal disease “might partly be explained by regional differences in CV risk factor prevalence, for instance smoking.” However, the authors concede that such differences in prevalence ‘indicate a complex relationship in which demographic, genetic and socioeconomic disparities are likely contributing factors.” Smoking and less education also were associated with periodontal disease.

Lead author Dr. Ola Vedin from the University of Uppsala, Sweden, said, “The evident and consistent relationship between self-reported dental status and CV risk in this population could point toward periodontal disease being a risk factor for incident CVD.” However, he added, the observation that poor dental health among chronic coronary patients is linked to a heavier cardiovascular risk burden does not prove a causal link between the two conditions.

Vedin said, “It is still a matter of debate whether periodontal disease is an independent risk factor for coronary heart disease. Some studies point to a moderate association while others are contradictory. Our findings show an association between self-reported periodontal disease and several cardiovascular risk factors and as such lend support to a possible association between the conditions.”

He and his colleagues were “astonished” by the prevalence of severe tooth loss seen in the study but “puzzled” by the marked differences in prevalence between counties within the same geographical region.

(Source: European Society of Cardiology)

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(Source: European Society of Cardiology)
Core I: Advanced Functional Dentistry – The Power of Physiologic Based Dentistry

The Future of Dentistry Awaits You

The LVI Core I program encompasses the principles in physiologic restorative concepts creating excellence in care for your patients and prosperity for you. This program will start you on a path to greater understanding and enjoyment of our profession while creating loyal, enthusiastic and grateful patients!

This exciting three-day, hands-on program shows you how to evaluate cases and educate your patients for advanced restorative dentistry and more comprehensive case acceptance. For many of your patients you will learn how to eliminate a lifetime of pain that no other medical professional has been able to address, and for some learn how you can actually save their lives!

In essence, become a mouth doctor with ability to do things you never were taught in dental school. You have patients in your practice RIGHT NOW that can benefit from these concepts and you have the opportunity to change their lives starting the day you return to your office.

Dr. Bill Dickerson, Dr. Heidi Dickerson and Dr. Mark Duncan will present this information in a practical, easy to understand manner where you will feel comfortable presenting these exciting and practice building new options to your patients on Monday. Don’t miss this golden opportunity to find out about this incredible world of dentistry that awaits you!

Core I guarantee: We are so sure you will be satisfied with this course that we offer a money back guarantee!

“LVI has given me a new driving force in my career. It has recharged my enthusiasm for dentistry and made me realize that my career choice was not a mistake.”
—Dr. Charles Shin, Southville, ON

“I wish I would have attended LVI earlier in my career. I still have time to make a difference but this info is too valuable to not be used throughout an entire dental career.”
—Dr. Tim Stirmman Algonquin, IL

“Not only did I learn what I didn’t know about dentistry, I learned how to help my own long history of pain in the head and neck. Thanks for the missing link.”
—Dr. Paul Bell, Denver, CO

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Upcoming 2014 DATES
June 18-20 - LVI (Las Vegas)
October 1-3 - LVI (Las Vegas)
December 10-12 - LVI (Las Vegas)

ADA CERP® Continuing Education Recognition Program

Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, LVI Global, 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. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to ADA CERP at www.ada.org/goto/cerp.

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6/1/11-5/31/13
California Dental Association and ‘The Art and Science of Dentistry’

‘CDA Presents’ expects 28,000 dental professionals, May 15-17

With an economy consistently ranked larger than Russia’s, it’s no surprise that in California dentistry is big business.

Effectively illustrating that point are the two annual meetings of the California Dental Association, both of which compare in many ways to the biggest dental meetings in North America.

The spring 2014 CDA Presents is expected to attract more than 28,000 dental professionals to the Anaheim Convention Center, May 15-17. The meeting provides numerous opportunities to learn about dentistry’s latest clinical, technological and business advancements.

Sprawling exhibit hall

The 150,000-square-foot exhibit hall, expecting to host approximately 600 companies, is used by many dental-product companies to launch hundreds of new tools, materials and services on the West Coast.

Exhibit hall hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. Attendees who are not members of the California Dental Association and simply want to tour the exhibit hall can register on site for a one-day pass. The cost is $775 and is valid for Saturday exhibit hall hours only. It is not valid for continuing education courses. To register, you can visit the membership counter during on-site registration hours on Saturday, May 17.

Family friendly

With the attractions of Disneyland in the immediate neighborhood, meeting organizers keep the event family friendly, including family hours in the exhibit hall all three days from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Children are not allowed in educational sessions, but full- and half-day children’s programs are available for a fee for ages 6 months to 6 years and ages 7 to 12 years, in two separate groups. Licensed and bonded child care professionals (with KiddieCorp) will provide age-appropriate activities at the Hilton Anaheim Hotel.

As always, CDA also will offer discounted tickets to Disney attractions. For advance purchase of specially priced resort tickets, you can visit the custom ticket store.

C.E. everywhere

The heart of CDA Presents, of course, are the courses and lectures, most worth C.E. credit. Opportunities include hands-on workshops with cadavers, learning the latest restorative techniques and gaining an international perspective on dentistry with experts from Mexico and Germany.

Among the meeting’s many noteworthy speakers this year are Pascal Magne, DMD, PhD, professor of esthetic dentistry in the division of restorative science at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at USC, and Gerard Chiche, DDS, who is the Thomas P. Hinman Endowed Chair of Restorative Dentistry and the director of the Center for Esthetic and Implant Dentistry at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry in Augusta.

(Source: California Dental Association)
JDIQ expects more than 225 companies in exhibit hall

The Journées dentaires internationales du Québec will take place from May 23–27 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal. Working with the Association of Prosthodontists of Quebec, this year the JDIQ also will host the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada. This is attracting a larger number of top speakers in implant and restorative dentistry and attendance by more prosthodontists. The meeting is one of North America's highest-attended dental meetings, and more than 12,000 attendees are expected this year. Described by organizers as Canada's most highly attended bilingual convention, the meeting will feature a scientific program with more than 100 lectures and workshops presented in English and French. More than 225 exhibitors will occupy approximately 300 booths in the exhibit hall, making it one of the largest in Canada. The exhibition will be open Monday and Tuesday, May 26 and 27, and it will feature a continental breakfast on both days for the early risers as well as a wine and cheese reception to close out both afternoons.

For more information about the meeting, you can call (800) 361-4887, visit online at www.odq.qc.ca — or you can send an email to congres@odq.qc.ca.

(Source: Ordre des dentistes du Québec)

Florida meeting focuses on treatment planning, more

The Florida National Dental Convention, hosted by the Florida Dental Association, will take place from June 12–14 at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Orlando, Fla. This year’s scientific program — “Creating a Masterpiece!” — offers more than 93 lectures and 30 workshops, as well as three mini-residencies/mastery series. Because developing a sound comprehensive treatment plan is the cornerstone of a successful dental practice, this year’s FNDC continuing education program focuses on that and other aspects of clinical excellence and office concepts to help the entire dental team.

The meeting offers educational opportunities for the entire dental team — hygienists, lab technicians, dental assistants and administrative personnel. The keynote speakers this year are Dr. Irwin Becker, Kirk Berhendt and Kelli Vraa. The variety of topics include “Ceramic Treatment Options,” “Three-Appointment Dentures,” “Your Online Checkup” and “A Women’s Guide to Health.”

In addition, the meeting offers a selection of team courses and a business mastery series designed to improve overall practice management, regardless of current challenges or success. The meeting's “live dentistry” courses will provide first-hand knowledge of innovative, proven clinical techniques. And workshops will provide tools you can immediately put to use the day you’re back at work following the meeting. Included in the speaker lineup is Dr. Samuel Low sharing his expertise with “The New Periodontal Disease: Inflammatory and Risky.” Dr. Nader Sharifi will present “Anything but the Denture” as a lecture and workshop. And Dr. Gerard Kugel presents a the lecture/workshop combination, "The Do's and Don'ts of Porcelain laminate Veneers.”

The meeting makes a point of keeping the cost of the C.E. programs as affordable as possible, and all are designed to directly improve both clinical knowledge — and a practice’s bottom line. More than 250 exhibitors will be in the exhibit hall, which will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. Attendees who complete six or more appointments during the three days will be entered to win one of five $200 American Express gift cards.

The FNDC also will host a number of evening social events. Thursday will feature a performance of “Karaoke Live” with you and your team as the entertainment. “Fan Frenzy” will be on Friday, giving you the chance to show your team spirit at an ultimate tailgate with activities for the entire family.

The social activities are capped off on Saturday with an evening at Epcot.

For more information about the convention, you can call (850) 681-3629, email fndc@floridadental.org, or visit online at www.floridadentalconvention.org.

(Source: Florida Dental Association)
Find this year’s Winter Clinic in new Toronto location

The 77th Annual Winter Clinic is on the move, with its 2014 meeting day scheduled for Friday, Nov. 14, at the Toronto Sheraton Centre.

The new venue presents a great opportunity to add an evening or even the rest of the weekend in downtown Toronto to the end of the single-day conference. The Sheraton Centre is connected to the financial and entertainment districts by way of the PATH, a 46-mile underground network of shops and services.

A wide selection of shopping destinations, the Mirvish Toronto theatres, world-class dining and major Toronto museums are steps away.

Among the attractions: Art Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, Hockey Hall of Fame, Harbourfront, Casa Loma, Ontario Science Centre, Niagara Falls, Casino Niagara, Casino Rama, Ontario Place, Air Canada Centre, Rogers Centre (formerly SkyDome), Eaton Centre, Holt Renfrew and Yorkville Shopping District.

The Winter Clinic is the largest one-day dental convention in North America, attracting dental professionals who come to learn from world-class speakers and explore and save on products and services.

This year’s clinical program covers a broad spectrum of topics and includes: an examination of the way digital technology is transforming the workflow in the dental office; demonstrations of cutting-edge tools and equipment; specialized techniques for prosthetic tooth repositioning; the use of lasers in periodontal therapy; a discussion of current views on the use of X-rays as a diagnostic tool; advice on the latest legal requirements for health and safety in the dental office; and how to meet the demands of your modern dental practice through healthy habits and humour.

You can bring the whole team to share the knowledge. The single-day event features 24 separate programs in contemporary dentistry, offering something for all.

Learn more and register for the meeting by visiting www.tordent.com.

(Source: Toronto Academy of Dentistry)

Greater New York Dental Meeting expands 2014 offerings

By Jayme McNiff Spicciatie
Program Manager, GNYDM

Among the many reasons to attend the 2014 Greater New York Dental Meeting:
- It’s the only dental meeting with a four-day exhibit hall.
- There are more than 300 educational programs.
- You can earn C.E. by exploring the exhibit floor.
- The exhibit hall features eight live-dentistry demonstrations.
- There are bilingual programs with real-time translation in Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, French and Italian.
- A laser pavilion focuses on all aspects of laser dentistry.

In addition to the above, the meeting this year has added a number of new events:
- The World Implant Expo, four days of innovations in implantology will be held simultaneously with the main Greater New York Dental Meeting, from Nov. 28 through Dec. 3.
- An expanded CAllaboration Dental Laboratory Meeting, connecting dentists with lab technicians, expects to attract more than 1,100 technicians and technician students and 50 exhibitor booths.
- An expanded exhibit floor with more than 1,700 exhibit booths filled by more than 700 companies will run from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3.

Three airports — Newark Liberty (EWR), Kennedy (JFK) and La Guardia (LGA) — and hotel discounts make it easy to attend the meeting and enjoy all that New York City has to offer during the holiday season.

To preregister for the meeting or to get more details, you can visit the website www.gnydm.com.
For almost a decade, Aribex has been quietly ripping the X-ray system off the wall and putting it into the hands of the dental team. Aribex manufactures a handheld, completely mobile X-ray system called the NOMAD. According to the company, one NOMAD does the work of multiple, wall-mounted X-ray systems, which can save the typical dental practice thousands of dollars in equipment costs. Moreover, because the NOMAD halves dental team members to safely and effectively stay with their patients during X-ray procedures, a bitewing series can be completed in half the time required by a wall-mounted system.

Unlike conventional wall-mount and portable X-ray systems, the NOMAD is lightweight, rechargeable (battery-powered) and can go anywhere. Dental professionals around the world have been choosing the NOMAD as their preferred X-ray device, and out of the office, with almost 13,000 NOMADs now in use. Building upon the successes of previous innovation and design, Aribex recently introduced the NOMAD Pro 2, providing the same mobile convenience and cost savings as previous models while increasing durability and performance. “The Pro 2 is exactly what our customers want,” said Ken Kaufman, general manager of Aribex. “We asked our customers how we could improve our marquee product. We listened, designed prototypes, asked for feedback and iterated until we met their requests. The end result of all of that hard work is the Pro 2. It’s simply the world’s best handheld X-ray system yet.”

The newly designed battery handset, with infrared connectors, together with a new charging cradle, improves the system’s durability and boosts battery performance. “One consistent comment we heard from our customers focused on the charging station,” said Kaufman. “Our engineers spent hours working with customers, researching new solutions. Our final design is a big improvement, and our customers will agree.”

Durability also is enhanced by a re-engineered user interface that is more scratch and moisture resistant. “The operational environment can be hard on equipment, particularly with our products that are easily carried from operatory to operatory,” said Kaufman. “The NOMAD Pro 2 will stand up to repetitive antiseptic and cross-contamination control.”

Use your old NOMAD Dental to save on (or win) a new NOMAD Pro 2.

If you have an old, 8.5-pound working NOMAD Dental, and the improved, sleeker, 5.5-pound NOMAD Pro 2 sounds appealing, visit www.aribex.com/trade-in to learn how you can get a $1,400 rebate when you trade in for a NOMAD Pro 2. Trade in the oldest working NOMAD out there, and you’ll be in the running to win a free NOMAD Pro 2.

To learn more, contact your equipment dealer, an Aribex sales representative or visit www.aribex.com. “We’re excited to show our customers our new innovations and enhancements,” said Kaufman. “We invite our customers to visit our exhibit at booth No. 1547 at the CDA Presents spring meeting for a special demonstration of our new NOMAD Pro 2.”

(Source: Aribex)
Today's digital impression technology enables dentists to create a virtual, computer-generated replica of the hard and soft tissues in the mouth quickly and accurately using their choice of optical scanning device. As an ardent supporter of digital impressions, I make every attempt to digitize our restorative workflow. There are numerous benefits to a digital impression:

- **Efficiency**: It takes less time to take a digital impression than a traditional impression.
- **Quicker turnaround time**: Clinicians often forget or fail to realize the true value of this. Getting restorations back faster is better for the patient, the practice and the overall case outcome.
- **Cost savings**: Have you ever calculated the cost of taking a traditional impression for a final restoration? If you add up what your office spends on impression materials, chair time and case shipping fees, you will be amazed at how much is spent on traditional methods.

**Case presentation**

The female featured in this article has been a patient in our practice for nearly eight years. She has a porcelain-fused-to-metal bridge from tooth #5 to #12 replacing missing #7 to #10. She is not terribly unhappy with the look and feel of the bridge, but the bridge has been no stranger to the big issue facing PFM restorations: the chipping of porcelain from the metal substructure. During the past eight years, we have patched various corners and lingual surfaces.

Recently, the patient agreed to replace her long-span PFM bridge with an implant-supported bridge on #7 to #10 and individual crowns on the abutment teeth. However, she was adamant about not going a day without teeth. We advised her that this would not be an issue.

Because of the complexity of her implant surgery, immediate loading was not possible. This meant we needed a long-term esthetic provisional that would last the duration of the treatment, could be removed for surgery and was adjustable for post-surgical contouring. A BioTemps® provisional bridge (Glidewell Laboratories; Newport Beach, Calif.) was the quick and easy answer.

Traditionally, BioTemps are made prior to preparation and relined chairside. In this case, I wanted to have the BioTemps made to fit the final preparations of the abutment teeth, which would later be converted to individual restorations. As an advocate of digital impressions, I chose to follow a digital workflow.

The provisional BioTemps bridge offers the following important advantages in this case:

1) **Trial smile**: The patient gets a “trial” of...
Porter Instrument releases new nitrous oxide systems

Porter Instrument has released two new nitrous oxide systems.

**Porter Digital MDM**
Porter Digital MDM is the company’s newest cabinet-mount nitrous oxide flowmeter system. According to the company, it has the smallest footprint in the industry, with remote control panel dimensions that are less than 8 inches long by 3 inches high — important because contemporary cabinet designs in offices today place a premium on space. According to Porter, the Porter Digital MDM makes it easy to design-in or add nitrous oxide into any dental office.

The extremely small footprint and remote faceplate enable the convenience and flexibility of multiple installation options. The faceplate can easily fit into convenient locations in cabinets, under counters, on counter tops, and in walls (its dimensions are 7.875 inches long by 2.75 inches high by 1.25 inches deep).

The Porter D-MDM digital control system delivers the precise percentage and volume mix of nitrous oxide and oxygen with the touch of a finger.

**Porter Sentry Sedate**
Sentry Sedate is the company’s newest portable nitrous oxide sedation system. According to the company, the Sentry Sedate packages Porter quality and its precision flowmeters into a sleek, contemporary system to provide an upscale, reliable mobile nitrous oxide sedation option for dental offices.

The top working surface allows for improved utilization of floor space in the operatory. Dual locking doors provide security and hide the often-unsightly gas cylinders supplied by the gas company. The cast-aluminum and steel construction makes the system extremely durable — but also incorporates the precision and safety that Porter is known for.

Flowmeter options include the Porter MXR-1 analog or Porter MXR-D analog/digital hybrid systems. Features include: top working surface, dual locking doors for security and simplicity of cylinder placement, dual handles for easy movement and positioning, four cylinder swivel yoke block (two O2 and two N2O), large locking wheels for stability and ease of movement, bag quick disconnect, storage bag and options for automatic vacuum switch or in-line vacuum.

Visit Porter at CDA Booth No. 1240

Learn more by contacting your authorized Porter dealer or Porter sales representative, or visit www.porterinstrument.com/dental, or contact Porter customer service at (215) 723-4000.

*About the author*

**DR. TARUN AGARWAL** has a full-time private practice emphasizing esthetic, restorative and implant dentistry in Raleigh, N.C. You can contact him via e-mail at dra@raleighdentalarts.com or visit www.raleighdentalarts.com.
Flow Dental expands digital imaging line

By Flow Dental Staff

Flow Dental, long a leading manufacturer of dental film and film accessories, has transformed its product portfolio to also include unique products essential to every dental practice that has gone digital.

“We determined that our relevancy in a digital world would hinge on our ability to provide dentists with accessories that improve sensor or PSP [phosphor storage plate] usage and augment procedure workflow. No pun intended,” said Bill Winters, president of Flow Dental. “Dentists have really responded to our digital products. They recognize the added value we put into each product. They don’t buy our products based on price; they buy based on the benefits to their practice and their patients.”

In today’s PSP market, for example, one in eight phosphor plate users relies on Flow’s Safe’n’Sure line of PSP envelopes. Safe’n’Sure’s three product styles offer time-saving solutions to enhance throughput and productivity, while helping to extend the life and usage of the phosphor plates. A great example of this is Flow’s Safe’n’Sure OPT style (Fig. 1). These PSP covers are designed for plates that include magnets, which account for about 25 percent of the market. Unlike any other product, Flow pre-loads the cardboard insert halfway into the PSP envelope. Not only does this remove a time-consuming step, but it also assures that the plate can never be loaded incorrectly (because the magnet on the plate must line up with the cut-out on the cardboard insert). To enhance removal of the plate, the OPT has a unique butterfly seam that enables the user to easily remove the plate with touching it — thus prolonging and preserving longevity of the plates.

Flow’s Deluxe Safe’n’Sure line was recently featured in a review by Clinical Research Associates. More than 75 percent of dentists who reviewed Flow’s Deluxe Safe’n’Sure would recommend it to their peers.

In the sensor area, Flow distinguishes itself with its new Snuggies, an adjustable sensor sleeve. Snuggies enables the user to cinch-tight the sleeve around the sensor, regardless of sensor size or thickness. This means the operator no longer must twist the sleeve around the sensor cable to keep it in place. These type of details help office productivity and reduce expensive sensor repairs or replacements.

Other sensor accessories include the Sensible’s adjustable sensor positioner (Figs 2a,b), which enables the user to move from an anterior to a posterior — even to a bitewing — position all with the same bite block. The bite block can be adjusted to the midline of any sensor, whether horizontally or vertically placed.

Flow Dental is far from finished reinventing itself. Its newest product is the Exposure line of articulating strips (Fig. 3). “As a leader in diagnostic products, we felt extending our line into this area made sense. Plus we built the machinery to make it right here in the USA,” Winters said. Exposure articulating strips eliminate the need for forceps. They come with their own handles. “They’re easy to use and long enough to reach the back molars,” Winters said. “Dentists will appreciate the added convenience of not having to search for forceps or get the ink all over their gloves.”

Flow recently celebrated 40 years in business. Its sister company, Wolf X-Ray, is celebrating more than 80 years in medical imaging. “As a family-owned business — much like the majority of dental offices we service — we are proud to be a valued provider of unique and elegant products, and the best is yet to come,” Winters said.

For more information on Flow’s products, visit www.flowdental.com or contact your local dealer.
By Mark Duncan, DDS, FAGD, LVI, DICOI, FICCMO, Clinical Director, LVI

As a patient, I expect the best care I can find. As a doctor, I want to deliver the best care possible. That takes us to the power of continuing education, and as doctors we are faced with many choices in continuing education.

As a way to introduce you to the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, or LVI, I want to outline what LVI is about and what void it fills in your practice. The alumni who have completed programs at LVI were given an independent survey, and unlike the typical surveys, 99.7 percent said they love practicing dentistry, and of those surveyed, 92 percent said they enjoy their profession more since they started their training at LVI. That alone is reason enough to go to LVI and find out more.

While the programs at LVI cover the breadth of dentistry, the most powerful and life-changing program is generally reported as Core I, “Advanced Functional Dentistry: The Power of Physiologic-Based Occlusion.”

Take control of your practice

This program is a three-day course that is designed for doctors and their teams to learn together about the power of getting their patients’ physiology on their side. In this program, doctors can learn how to start the process of taking control of their practice and start to enjoy the full benefits of owning their practice and providing high-quality dentistry.

Whether he or she works in a solo practice or in a group setting, every doctor can start the process of creating comprehensive care experiences for his or her patients.

We will discuss why some cases that doctors are asked by their patients to do are actually dangerous cases to restore cosmetically. We will discover the developmental science behind how unattractive smiles evolve and what cases may need the help of auxiliary health care professionals to get the patient feeling better.

The impact of musculoskeletal signs and symptoms will be explored and how the supporting soft tissue is the most important diagnostic tool you have — not simply the gingiva, but the entire soft-tissue support of the structures not just in the mouth but also in the rest of the body.

Comprehensive care

A successful restorative practice doesn’t need to be built on insurance reimbursement schedules.

An independent business should stand not on the whims and distractions of a fee schedule but rather on the ideal benefits of comprehensive care balanced by the patients’ needs and desires. Dentistry is a challenging and thankless business, but it doesn’t have to be. Through complete and comprehensive diagnosis, there is an amazing world of thank-yous and hugs and tears that our patients bring to us, but only when we can change their lives. The Core I program at LVI is the first step on that journey.

That’s why when you call, we will answer the phone, “LVI, where lives are changing daily!”

LVI Core I three-day course teaches comprehensive patient care process

Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies offers Core I, a three-day course for doctors and their teams. Photo/Provided by Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies

Dental Tribune U.S. Edition | May 2014
At only 7-7/8” long, 2-3/4” high, and 1-1/4” deep, the Porter Digital MDM has the smallest footprint of any cabinet-mount flowmeter system and offers multiple installation options.

The Porter Sentry Sedate is a portable nitrous system that offers a modern and sleek look. Features include dual locking doors, locking wheels, and a working top surface.

The Porter Reliant 10” Sterilizer combines durability and speed for a one-of-a-kind system. The nickel plated copper chamber allows for faster warm up times as well as faster drying cycles.

Visit Porter at CDA Booth #1240 for show specials and discounts from May 15-17.
Older adults’ oral-health crises targeted

Oral Health America Wisdom Tooth Project aims to reverse dental-care/knowledge gap

By Jennifer Gilbert, Oral Health America

Older adults — the most rapidly growing segment of the population in the United States — are facing a crisis when it comes to oral health. According to a 2013 Harri s Intermetrics commissioned by Oral Health America, 23 percent of older adults have not seen a dental provider in five years, 70 percent do not have dental insurance, eight out of 10 uninsured seniors could not pay for a major dental procedure and 33 million live where dentists and clinics are scarce.

Oral Health America, a national nonprofit that aims to change lives by connecting communities with resources to increase access to care, education and advocacy for all Americans, is working to turn these statistics around through the Wisdom Tooth Project™ (WTP), a program that focuses entirely on older adults.

The WTP recently launched www.toothwisdom.org, a first-of-its-kind web portal providing oral-health information and local and national resources for older adults, caregivers and oral health professionals. It lists a variety of resources including a biennial publication that evaluates states on five leading indicators of adult oral health: adult Medicaid dental benefits, inclusion of older adult strategies in state oral health plans, edentulism, dental health professional shortage areas and community water fluoridation.

The report garnered local and national media attention when more than half of states failed to achieve a rating of 50 or greater. Regional symposia also unite diverse groups of health professionals and community leaders with the aim of inspiring strategic change to improve the oral health of older adults.

The WTP’s latest endeavor is “Tooth Wisdom: Get Smart About Your Mouth,” a health education program designed to enable older adults who are aging at home to improve their oral health through daily self-care and increase their knowledge about oral health.

To ensure the program is scientifically accurate and accessible, an older adult advisory committee has been assembled, composed of professionals who attended last year’s “Collaborative Health Care for Older Adults: A Symposium for Creating Inter-professional Community Models” and have a continued interest in geriatric oral health. The committee meets regularly to discuss the education program and offer recommendations.

To learn more about Oral Health America and the WTP, you can visit www.oralhealthamerica.org and www.toothwisdom.org.

Crest Oral-B names four as ‘Pros in the Profession’

In the third year of its Pros in the Profession awards program, Crest + Oral-B has recognized four registered dental hygienists who demonstrate excellent patient care, a passion for the profession and a dedication to learning.

The awards acknowledge the pivotal role these hygienists play in their patients’ lives — and their unwavering personal commitment to promoting good oral health in their communities.

“We have seen extraordinary entries over the past several years, which is why we must continue to honor those hygienists whose passion shine through in their everyday work,” said John Scarchilli, global scientific communications director, Procter & Gamble Oral Care. “These individuals dedicate countless hours to furthering the oral health cause, so we are pleased to be able to applaud them publicly.”

The winners in this third year of the award are Michelle Vacha, Heather Steich, Mallory Edmondson and Amy Kinnamon. While earning the honor in her own unique way, each winner shares the same dedication to promoting and participating in good oral care for patients. More about the winners:

Michelle Vacha, RDH, BS, received her degrees from Northern Arizona University and has been practicing in Colorado Springs, Colo., for the past 24 years. "I am so honored to be receiving this award," said Vacha about being named a winner for year three. "I am hoping the attention from it will bring awareness to the public and other hygienists who care for older adults. Through my work, I help seniors deal with specific health factors they face due to lack of dental support. We want to ensure that all of the good work that has been done to maintain oral health throughout life is also preserved once insurance is no longer available through retirement or fixed income."

Heather Steich, RDH, received her degree at the University of the Pacific, Arthur D. Agonon School of Dentistry, and has been practicing in San Francisco for the past five years. "I will be taking my second oral health service/mission trip to Honduras this year," said Steich about winning $1,000. "Last year I used my own funds for the trip, but this year I plan on using the award toward the expenses of the trip. In effect, the award will be going back to the community I love to serve."

Mallory Edmondson, RDH, BS, received her BSDH from Indiana University South Bend and is currently at the University of Bridgeport Fones School of Dental Hygiene for her MSDH. She has been practicing in Merrillville, Ind., for the past two years. “My favorite aspect of dental hygiene is the limitless opportunities available within the profession,” said Edmondson about being an RDH. "We are educators, managers, practitioners and much more. Hygienists are able to adapt to any given situation and apply their knowledge and skill sets far beyond the dental chair."

Amy Kinnamon, RDH, received her degree from Shawnee State University and has been practicing in Athens, Ohio, for the past 17 years. “Last year I was invited to the U.S. National Oral Health Alliance because of my research concerning ways to improve compliance in dental care amongst Appalachian children. This year, I have the honor of giving a continuing education course concerning my research at Ohio’s ‘dental hygieneist total development’ weekend. This has been a career goal of mine since returning to my hometown in Appalachia almost 20 years ago.”

About Pros in the Profession

Crest + Oral-B has rewarded the four RDH winners with:
• An all-expenses paid trip to visit the Procter & Gamble German Innovation Center in Kronberg, Germany
• A $1,000 monetary prize
• A recognition plaque
• Recognition in dental periodicals and announcements on Crest + Oral-B for Dental Professionals Facebook page and www.dentalcare.com
NiteBite provides preventive incentive

By Keystone Industries Staff

Many goals of minimally invasive, preventive oriented dental practices can be realized using the unique treatment advantages of NiteBite. The device helps ensure your patients’ dental health investment by reducing the need for future treatments.

With the NiteBite in place, the jaws’ opening reflexes achieve a ‘non-contacting’ inter-relationship. Wear facets and wear patterns, worn down and loose teeth, broken teeth and broken restorations are prevented when the NiteBite maintains the jaws at a fully rested, non parafunctional, relaxed and centric-oriented relationship.

According to the manufacturer, the NiteBite’s ease of use and five-minute fitting and insertion by dentist or hygienist provides immediate relief for patients and also creates profitable return for the practice. That’s why the manufacturer calls the NiteBite “a practice builder.”

Using the NiteBite early in a treatment plan can immediately reduce TMD symptoms. Many patients will appreciate instant comfort and relaxation as the NiteBite eliminates the damages of stress, tension and the parafunctional occlusal and muscle problems of grinding and clenching. The NiteBite will reduce pain in and around the head and neck — eliminating muscle spasms and nighttime clenching, grinding and bruxism.

The success of periodontal treatment can improve as the NiteBite eliminates eccentric mandibular contact and the forces of bruxism. Post-operative stabilization is enhanced because the teeth do not touch at night when the jaw opening reflex is triggered by the NiteBite.

“Hot” or endodontically involved teeth can easily be discluded with the aid of the NiteBite. Grinding and clenching at night can easily be discluded with the aid of the NiteBite. Gridding and clenching at night are reduced or eliminated. Post-operative swelling and muscle problems of grinding and bruxism. Post-operative swelling and muscle problems of grinding and bruxism.

The success of periodontal treatment can improve as the NiteBite eliminates eccentric mandibular contact and the forces of bruxism. Post-operative stabilization is enhanced because the teeth do not touch at night when the jaw opening reflex is triggered by the NiteBite.
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For patients like Emily, using a regular manual toothbrush can leave up to 50% of plaque behind.* This behavior can cause excessive plaque build-up and can lead to gingivitis.

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To learn more, visit dentalcare.com, call 1-800-543-2577, or contact your Crest + Oral-B representative.

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1. Gildewell Laboratories internal data
2. Clinicians Report, TRAC Research, June 2012

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