A film, which helps prepare dental hygiene and dental therapy students, for the procedure of teeth extraction in young children, has been shortlisted for an award.

The film, which was produced by the University of Portsmouth eLearning team in partnership with Hampshire Primary Care Trust, has been shortlisted for an award at the Learning on Screen Awards.

It was made because students are often anxious before their placements in paediatric day surgery. The film shows in detail, the whole procedure of children being anaesthetised, and having teeth extracted and features interviews with a dentist, an anaesthetist and nurses who talk about minimising the impact of surgery.

Richard Hackett, head of media production at the University of Portsmouth, said: ‘I am pleased that my team have been part of a project which aims ultimately to improve dental health in Portsmouth. Many students have no prior knowledge or experience of the dental care environment, and this video provides a way of visually introducing the work of a dental care unit, the paediatric patient, the range of skills they will gain there and the staff who will support their learning.’

At Queen Alexandra Hospital’s Posvillo Dental Care Unit, which features in the film, out of 992 patients having teeth extracted in 2008, a total of 846 of these were children. The aim of the film, ‘Dental Aestheticities in Portsmouth: A Preventable Experience’, is to prepare students for their placements, but the underlying message explains how surgery can be prevented if children and parents are better educated about dental care. The University of Portsmouth has already taken big steps to improve dental health in the city.

It is home to The School of Professionals Complementary to Dentistry (SPCD) – the first of its kind in the country, which has developed courses to address skills shortage in the professions complementary to dentistry.

The Learning on Screen Awards, organised by the British Universities Film and Video Council (BUPVC), celebrate and reward excellence in the use of moving image, sound and related media in learning, teaching and research.

The award winners will be announced at a ceremony in London this month.

Step by step treatment planning

The entire process of treatment planning for aesthetic dentistry is to be showcased at this year’s Clinical Innovations Conference. The conference, which is in its sixth year, takes place on 15-16 May at the Royal College of Physicians, in Regent’s Park, London.

The much sought after speaker, Dr Ian Buckle, will be lecturing on ‘Aesthetic Dentistry From Start To Finish’. The lecture will cover the entire process of treatment planning to ensure that patients have a great experience, with excellent results. Dr Buckle will lead delegates through a step-by-step guide to treatment planning, through a comprehensive and straightforward ‘treatment planning matrix’.

Dr Buckle will demonstrate in his lecture how accurate and complete diagnosis, treatment planning and case presentation requires a high level of clinical expertise and customer care. The lecture will show how this ‘treatment planning matrix’ effectively incorporates the whole field of modern aesthetic dentistry, including a study of occlusion to promote optimum patient well-being. Treatment options will integrate restorative and orthodontic treatments, so that dentist and patient can find the most suitable and effective solution.

Dr Buckle runs a private practice with Dr Liam McGrath at Buckle & McGrath Dental Practice in Thornton Hough, Wirral, which provides patients with comprehensive aesthetic and implant treatment. The team provides a concierge service to patients, and uses the latest technology to give patients ‘a smile to die for’ that they are always delighted with the results of their treatment. Dr Buckle is a member of several prestigious professional bodies, including the British Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, the British Dental Association and the Association of Dental Implantology.

Internationally renowned, Dr Buckle is also a member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and was the first international faculty member of the Dawson Academy – founded to promote high quality and predictable dentistry with a special focus on occlusion and the condition of the temporo-mandibular joint.

As senior clinical instructor for the New York University Rosenthal Institute (where he completed his MSc in Aesthetic Dentistry), Dr Buckle instructs dental professionals in London, New York and Palm Beach.

A spokeswoman for the CIC said: ‘This is an unmissable chance to discover the key to excellence in aesthetic dental treatment.

For more information please call Smile-on on 020 7400 8989, email info@smile-on.com or visit www.clinicalinnovations.co.uk.

International Imprint

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Three new modules join the pack

Learning resources provider, Smile-on, has joined forces with Dental Protection Limited and is launching three new modules for its Communication in Dentistry programme.

Modules 4 to 6 of Communication in Dentistry will be launched later in the year.

Module 4 will look at complaint handling and dealing with difficult patients.

Module 5 will explore consent and communicating choices and module 6 will look at recording communication.

These modules, which support a flexible approach to learning, can be taken separately or together, to suit individual requirements. Focusing on the key areas in which effective and reliable lines of communication are absolutely vital, these three modules will help the practice continue to develop working systems, that will ensure patients receive the best possible standard of service, and that all relevant information is recorded to protect the practice medico-legally.

A spokeswoman for Smile-on said: ‘Communications in Dentistry is an example of how cutting edge technology and informative content come together to meet the educational needs of dental professionals. Modules 4, 5 and 6 continue to promote effective and reliable working systems to help practices enjoy greater success and safeguard themselves from legal action.’

For more information please call 020 7400 8989 or email info@smile-on.com.
Even after so many years of running the site, there are always differing topics that people find to raise, discuss and have diametrically opposite views. One example was when one colleague, well past retirement age, posted some clinical photos showing how he had helped an elderly patient, and how satisfying it was to do so. He was pleased he hadn’t ceased work. Another thread was started by a dentist of a similar age, who had been to a CPD lecture about the oncoming changes in cross-infection control guidelines, and was pleased he did not have to deal with all the issues thrown up by the presentation just heard. We probably all know colleagues who have retired early, and similarly there are some dentists who keep on working through their seventies and even into their eighties.

Other topics which might interest the Tribune reader: How much do you pay your therapist? How do you get your dental chair vinyl repaired, as well as personal development plans.

Two particularly entertaining topics attracted many reiterated visits, and hundreds of replies. The first post concerned a frustrated dentist who was ready to ‘punch a patient’. He mentioned the two phrases that patients use that drive us all mad: ‘I hate needles’ and ‘with those prices, I must be paying for your next holiday’. This led to replies on how to deal with them with some hated, clichéd phrases.

The second topic started with a post about great names. A recent BBC article talked about a dentist in the USA called Les Plack. In response, dentists recalled Mr Payne, and one wag told us about his friend Andrew Peacock whose name was often shortened to other versions!

Another favourite dentist name was ‘Phil Hollows’, and in addition, one poster named his friend Christopher Peter Bacon, known for short as Chris P Bacon.

Dr Anthony V Jacobs

started the GDPUK emailing list in 1997, and the group membership is now just under 2,000. The list is read in all corners of the UK dental profession as well as by laboratories, and the trade and dental industry. Qualifying in London in 1979, Dr Jacobs is now in partnership with Dr Stephen Lazarus, practicing at 406 Dental in Manchester. He enjoys his profession, and takes pride in providing both simple and complex gentle dentistry, as well as caring for families in a relaxed atmosphere. Dr Jacobs has a long-term commitment to continuing professional development, both for himself and for the profession in general through his mailing list. He has been a member of the British Dental Association (BDA) since 1975, and is presently chairman of the Bury and Rochdale Oral Health Advisory Group, as well as vice chair of the Bury and Rochdale Local Dental Committee (LDC). Dr Jacobs also sits on the committee and helps to organise the annual conference of Local Dental Committees.

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Fresh Ideas

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The Alpha Omega Annenberg Lecture

Friday 15th May 2009 (the Annenberg Lecture) & Saturday 16th May 2009

The Royal College of Physicians, Regent’s Park, London

Friday Annenberg Speakers: Nitzan Bichacho, Devorah Schwartz-Arad

Saturday Speakers: Nasser Barghi, Liviu Steier, Andrew Dawood, Wyman Chan, Achim W Schmidt, Luca Giachetti, Chris Orr, Edward Lynch, Sia Mirfendereski & Ian Buckle

For more information visit www.clinicalinnovations.co.uk or call 020 7400 8989 quoting DTCIC to claim your discount