Parents pay more than £1K for Britain’s first tooth bank

Parents are paying more than £1,000 to freeze stem cells from their children’s milk teeth as an insurance policy against diseases they might develop when they grow up.

BioEden is Britain’s first tooth bank and parents pay £950 for the privilege, plus an annual £30 service charge.

When their child’s tooth falls out, they pack it up into a special container, which is then couriered to the company’s lab in Cheshire.

The company has been helped by the General Dental Council (GDC) which, because the patient was a dentist, did not impose conditions on your registration.

The Committee stopped the suspension and decided he could resume unrestricted practice.

However the GDC heard that Dr Reid was under a lot of pressure during this time and was seeing more than 40 patients a day.

Dr Reid had acknowledged that he had been under too much pressure by selling the practice in 2006.

The information gathered at the hearing, the chairman said, was sufficient for its decision.

“In the light of evidence put before us today the Committee feels that to order a further period of suspension would be disproportionate, punitive and would not be in the public interest.”

“The Committee also is satisfied that the progress you have made, and your commitment to continue with your professional development, are sufficient for it not to impose conditions on your registration.”

The Committee stopped the suspension and decided he could resume unrestricted practice.

Call for dental nurses to take part in salary survey

The British Association of Dental Nurses (BADN) is calling for all dental nurses to take part in its confidential salary survey.

The information gathered from the survey (no personal details such as name and email address) will be used in discussions with the General Dental Council (GDC) regarding the need to lower the Annual Retention Fee (ARF).

A spokeswoman for the BADN said: “In order to prove that the £96 ARF is too high for dental nurses, we need to gather information on salary levels and other working conditions.”

The £96 fee has been set at the same rate as hygienists and therapists.

The BADN believes that as dental nurses earn less than hygienists and therapists, the ARF should reflect this.

The BADN is also upset that the GDC did not consult with the association about what the registration fees were set.

To take part in the survey, go to www.badn.org.uk.
Editorial comment
Conference calling

This week has seen the great migration of school children and commuters back to their usual routine. The trains are busier, the roads are busier and the cool kids are seeing exactly how far removed from the regimented school uniform they can get away with whilst still wearing a tie and blazer.

This time of year signals for me a shift in the mindset as the trade and profession alike look to the busy period between now and the C-word (that’s Christmas for those who thought I was referring to something else!). The next three months see a flurry of conferences and exhibitions across a variety of dental disciplines and organisations, including:

- European Society of Endontology Biennial Congress – 24-26 September, Edinburgh
- British Society of Dental Hygienists & Therapists Annual Conference – 16-17 October, Bournemouth
- British Association of Dental Nurses Annual Meeting – 23-24 October, Cheltenham
- British Dental Trade Association Dental Showcase Exhibition – 12-14 November, Birmingham
- British Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry – 19-21 November, Edinburgh

I am looking forwards to attending as many as I can over the coming months to keep readers up to date with the current thinking in these areas of dentistry.

Got something to say? E-mail me at lisa@dentaltribuneuk.com

Smile-on at this year’s FDI Annual World Dental Congress

Dental professionals visiting this year’s FDI Annual World Dental Congress in Singapore were able to explore the latest innovations in dental technologies and education at the Smile-on stand.

The FDI Annual World Dental Congress plays an important role in the advancement of dentistry. At the Congress, Smile-on in association with Dental Protection Ltd (DPL) launched the next three modules of Communication in Dentistry, an outstanding flexible approach to dental training.

The Modules 4 to 6 of Communication in Dentistry consist of:

- Module 4: Complaint handling and dealing with difficult patients
- Module 5: Consent and communicating choices
- Module 6: Recording communications

A spokeswoman for Smile-on said: ‘With a focus on key areas in which effective and reliable lines of communication are absolutely vital, these modules will help the practice 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.’

Kevin Lewis, dental director for DPL and John Tierman, DPL’s assistant dental director, introduced the cutting edge technology and visitors enjoyed the many screenings of the exciting new footage from Communication in Dentistry 2 and a glass of champagne with the team.

Professor Raman Bedi, former chief dental officer for England, was also on hand to discuss his exciting new online community Dentalghar, (www.dentalghar.com) offering professionals an invaluable opportunity to join a global network and explore the latest news, case studies, interviews, special offers and charitable events.

For more information on any of Smile-on’s educational resources please call 020 7400 8989 or email info@smile-on.com

SMART
Control the power

The new, compact ‘Cattani Smart’ suction system combines unique, multi-level power and automatic speed control with the most effective cyclone amalgam separator available.

Advanced technology and a remote keypad enable you to instantly control vacuum and airflow levels, at the touch of a button, from almost anywhere in your surgery. Optimising control can have the machine’s power usage, significantly reducing running costs and noise output but, without affecting performance.

Coming pre-wired, pre-programmed and completely assembled, with additional benefits that reduce maintenance time, ‘Cattani Smart’ is easy to use and extremely reliable. For a smarter suction solution, call now for details of your local stockist.

Designed for single surgery use

Call us: 01527 877997
e: smart@cattaniesam.co.uk
w: www.cattaniesam.co.uk/smart