



Los Angeles
DENTAL SOCIETY

Los Angeles Dental Society's mission is to serve the needs and interests of its members and lead in promoting oral health in the community.

EXPLORER

Fall 2021

A Last Glimpse at 2021



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Calendar of Events

MONTH	DATE	MEETING/EVENT
November	1	CPR Class 
	9	LADS Executive Committee Meeting
	11	LADS Holiday Mixer
	12	CDA House of Delegates
	14	Shred & E-Waste Disposal Event 
	16	"Saving Teeth Through Endodontic Therapy: What are the Outcomes and What is the Evidence?" – CE Course
December	6	CPR Class 
	11	Radiation Safety Course
	14	LADS Board of Directors' Meeting



Explorer

published by

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 Rachelle Kim, DDS – Co-Editor
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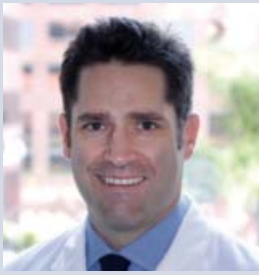
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Los Angeles
 DENTAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Adam Geach, DMD, MDSc

Dear LADS friends and colleagues,

Over the past two years I have experienced significant changes both personally and professionally. I think in life we all strive for stability and predictability, which creates a comfortable routine. It is inevitable that there will be experiences in our lives that divert us from our routine. One obvious example is the pandemic. We were all forced to close our offices, which placed stress on our practices as we continued to pay rent and ran payroll for our employees. Additionally, PPE was limited, patients were afraid of entering our offices and practicing dentistry was considered high-risk. As we struggled, we were waiting for answers to questions that could not be answered.

What amazes me is how resilient we can be and how innovative this country is. Leave the controversies aside - it is hard to lead when entering the unknown. But, if we are curious and willing to learn, this will result in positive outcomes. Three private companies developed vaccines within one year and the government released billions of dollars to aid small businesses like ours. Much of this money could be invested back into our practices for growth. Organizations such as the CDC, local health departments and state dental associations quickly developed protocols and toolkits to help us navigate through

this. None of this was perfect, but looking back I can't help but be impressed. During the shutdown (March - June 2020) I was home-schooling my five year-old daughter wondering how I would keep my practice going. Look where we are now!

Another important lesson that I have learned over the past two years is how to stay valuable. For example, many of my patients are busy professionals that work in Downtown Los Angeles. The pandemic seems to be permanently changing how people work. Many professionals are working only from home or commuting to the office a couple times per week. How can we become more valuable to our patients? This may require altering our practice time to accommodate patients' work

schedules, developing excellent recall and communication skills with our staff, sending gentle text reminders and incorporating Teledentistry. These are just a few basic adaptations that will help us thrive.

It has been an honor to serve as President of the Los Angeles Dental Society this year. I will continue to volunteer my time through study clubs in DTLA and through other committees as needed. I sure wish I could have met more of you over the past year, and I know that this will happen as we plan our social events and begin to open back up!

Sincerely,
Adam J. Geach DMD, MDSc
President



Continuing Education

“Saving Teeth Through Endodontic Therapy — What are the Outcomes and What is the Evidence?”

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 / Webinar 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

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The decision as to whether to incorporate an endodontically treated tooth in a periodontal/restorative treatment plan is often difficult. The availability of other successful treatment alternatives (dental implants) further complicates the issue. Yet, the retention of the natural dentition has many benefits for the patient. Endodontic success rates are high given new technologies and treatment modalities but is undeniably tied to restorative, periodontal, and other factors affecting the overall prognosis of the tooth. This lecture will focus on the evidence that endodontic therapy (initial therapy, retreatment, and surgical procedures) is still a viable and successful alternative in saving teeth which can be strategically used in restorative treatment plan. The prognosis for endodontically treated teeth will be considered.

Learning Objectives:

1. Learn the success rates of the various endodontic modalities.
2. Learn the application and viability of applying these modalities clinically.
3. Learn guidelines as to when and when not to rely on endodontically treated teeth based on their strategic value in the treatment plan and their prognosis.



Dr. Stefan Zweig, DDS, FACD, graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1982 with a B.S. in Biochemistry. He received his dental degree from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry in 1986 and his Certificate in Endodontics from USC in 1992. Dr. Zweig maintained a faculty position at USC from 1992 until 1998 in the Department of Endodontics during which time he served as Associate Clinical Professor and the Assistant Director of Graduate Endodontics. Dr. Zweig is a Past President of the Southern California Academy of Endodontists and of the California Association of Endodontists. He has served on numerous AAE committees, and has been the Chairman of the Membership Services Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, and the Special Committees to Form and Maintain the AAE Online Community (AAE Connection). He has served as a member of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice-President of the American Association of Endodontists, and currently as its President-Elect. Following a thirty-year career as a private endodontic practitioner, Dr. Zweig currently serves on the faculty of the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC as an Associate Professor of Clinical Dentistry in the Division of Endodontics and Orthodontics. He is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists.

To register please visit the LADS website at www.ladental.com or call the LADS office at 213-380-7669



EDITOR'S CORNER

Clark A. Martin, DMD

Well, we have made it through the summer months. Hopefully everyone managed to adapt and enjoy some quality time with your families whether closer to home or venturing out on a trip that might have been put off for months or even a year. Labor Day now is in our rearview mirrors, the kids are back in school (sort of) and it is time for us to focus on taking care of business, our dental businesses.

Even as the months of June, July and August tend to be quieter, I have heard through the grapevine that many of us have been very busy with patient calls for cleanings, deferred restorative or even an emergency visit to fix a cracked filling or tooth. I guess this is a good thing. It has also seemed to me that the 'tension meter' of our patients is and has been in the red zone for months. We have had to adapt and adjust and spend a little more time talking to people through their dental challenges. That is what we have always done, but these days it seems to exist from room to room as we say hello to our patients throughout the day. Maybe spending a little more time looking through our masks but making a point to look eye to eye is all that is needed. I have found this to be true and our patients do appreciate it. They appreciate someone caring, someone they can trust. And it is good for our mental wellbeing too.



Some positive feedback goes a long way to make our day, a good day.

We at the Dental Society are also here for you. If there are any challenges that we might be able to help you with, give us a call. Whether it be a protocol issue, continuing education, licensing questions or your own wellbeing too, pick up your phone at the end of the day and give us a call. Gregg or Sylvia can start the conversation and/or direct

you to the best resource which can often turn an elephant into a rainbow, with you on the bright side.

We hope you are enjoying these quarterly issues, keeping you informed and current with practice trends and even smiling about what's going on in the world of LA dentistry.

Wishing everyone the best.

Clark

Upcoming Event!

LADS Shred & E-waste Disposal Event

Date: Sunday, November 14, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: 8109 2nd St., Downey, CA 90241

(Parking lot located in rear of building,
enter through Myrtle St.)



- ◆ **Free to LADS Members**
- ◆ 10 Box Maximum per member
- ◆ No molded or dry rotted boxes will be accepted
- ◆ Paper/file boxes containing x-rays will be charged \$150 per box
- ◆ All X-Rays and FILM to be disposed need to be in a SEPARATE BOX
- ◆ Items to be shredded will be accepted until trucks reach capacity
- ◆ All E-waste items will be accepted until truck reach capacity



Thoughts From Our Community



NA EUN (SARAH) CHUNG, DMD, CAGS

It has already been more than a year when the COVID-19 pandemic changed our lives forever. In March 2020, dentists were forced to close their practices while quarantine was declared, seeing only emergencies as the hospitals in our country began to treat a surge of patients with COVID-19.

The pandemic affected dental education as well. At most dental schools, students stopped seeing patients in the clinic altogether and all in-person classes were continued on Zoom due to the “Safer at Home” mandate. At USC, the advanced specialty programs returned to clinic to see emergent patients before the dental students were able to return. The patients were required to take COVID tests and had to test negative for them to be seen in the USC clinic. Strict protocol was followed by faculty, residents, staff, and patients to prevent the spread of the virus.

Once the Los Angeles County lifted its restrictions, the dental students returned to clinic to see the pre-doctoral patients. On the second floor where the dental students saw their patients, the HEPA scrubbing filters could be seen at almost every other operatory. The number of patients seen

at a time was decreased to comply with the social distancing guidelines. The students and faculty were fitted with N95 masks and personal protective equipment (PPE). Friends and

were transitioned to be tested on their clinical skills in scaling and root planing, restorations and root canal treatments on plastic teeth instead of live patients.

Due to the decrease in patient interaction time, there was a noticeable increase of dental students applying to residencies in order to strengthen their clinical skills. The interviews for the programs were conducted over Zoom and even the externships were also executed via Zoom, except for the prospective applicants who were already attending USC.

COVID changed how we approach dental education now and for the foreseeable future. Zoom lectures, meetings, and interviews as well as COVID and tyodont testing are ever-present in our education. Although these are not a perfect replacement for live patient testing and in-person classes, I am grateful that these changes allow us to continue our work at the dental school. ■

“COVID changed how we approach dental education now and for the foreseeable future. Zoom lectures, meetings, and interviews as well as COVID and tyodont testing are ever-present in our education.”

acquaintances were almost unrecognizable with the layers and layers of PPE. The dental licensing exams such as WREBS were changed to tyodont tests. The dental students

LADS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr. Sonia Molina is a 27-year member and past president of LADS. She currently serves on the LADS Board of Directors as Chair of the Legislative Committee. In addition, in October of 2020, Governor Gavin Newson appointed Dr. Molina to the Dental Board of California. Dr. Molina will serve on the Dental Board until January 1, 2024.

Recently, we had the opportunity to ask Dr. Molina about her experiences and goals as both chair of the Legislative Committee and as a member of the California Dental Board. We are very proud of her as she gives her valuable time serving in these two positions. Dr. Molina, you are an inspiration to all LADS members!

Explorer: Let's start with your role as Chair of the Legislative Committee. What is your function in that position?

Dr. Molina: As liaison between CDA and our local component, my job is to stay informed about the different bills presented at the state level that would impact our profession.

Explorer: How often do you meet with various legislators? Perhaps you could name some of those you have met in the past.

Dr. Molina: We have a Legislative Day in the spring when our LADS members can talk to our state legislators about pressing issues affecting their practices. We have had breakfast meetings with City Councilmember Kevin De Leon (when he was in the State Senate), State Senator Ben Allen, County

Supervisor Holly Mitchell (also when she was in the State Senate), United States Senator Alex Padilla (when he was in the State Senate), to name a few.

Explorer: What have been some of the most crucial dental issues that you have addressed, either locally or as a Statewide concern?

Dr. Molina: Some of the most significant accomplishments of CDA this year have been securing \$230 million in our State Budget for new Medical Dental Program Benefits and fully funding the Office of Oral Health to support the State Dental Director.

Explorer: Are we at LADS “welcomed” as a “source” in the political arena? What is our reputation?

Dr. Molina: LADS is known for our diversity of our members as well as our inclusion. We are perceived as having always been on the cutting edge of the issues.

Explorer: How does your work affect or has already affected our membership?

Dr. Molina: One issue we fought for last year was stopping Delta Dental from reducing their fees.

Explorer: Do things in the legislative world move at a “snails” pace or fairly quickly?

Dr. Molina: The legislative calendar starts at the beginning of the year. The bills go through different committees in both the Assembly and the Senate during the year. In the Fall, the bills that made it out of all the committees are sent to the governor to sign into law or he vetoes them. When the bill is in a specific committee, we might contact our members so they can reach out to their elected officials to voice either their approval or opposition of the bill. So, during the year there are periods that things move very slow and then there are times we need to move very fast.

Explorer: Please tell us whom you have gotten to know? Representatives, local chairpersons, etc. It must be so gratifying when you can tell you are making a difference with changes and improvements.

Dr. Molina: Throughout the years I have gotten to know some of our elected officials, such as Senator Gill Cedillo (now Los Angeles City Council member), Senator Ben Allen, United States Senator Alex Padilla, State Senator Richard Polanco, State Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo.

Explorer: Now switching to your appointment to the Dental Board of California, what was your interest and experience with the Dental Board prior to being appointed a Board member?

Dr. Molina: I was appointed by Governor Davis to the COMDA (Commission on Dental Assistants) which was then part of the Dental Board of California. This position gave me a lot of experience on how the dental board meetings work and the function of the board.

Explorer: How did the appointment come about?

Dr. Molina: I was contacted by the governor's staff about my interest in serving my community and encouraged me to fill out an application.

Explorer: What are your responsibilities as a Board member?

Dr. Molina: The Dental Board regulates dentists and dental assistants to protect the public.

Explorer: What are your goals as a Board member for the rest of your term?

Dr. Molina: For the rest of my term, I would like to work on access to care. We are approaching a crisis when a lot of the dentists who are baby boomers will retire. There would be a shortage of dentists, especially in low-income communities.

Explorer: What would you like to tell LADS members about the Dental Board that they might not be aware of?

Dr. Molina: I would encourage our members to become familiar with the Dental Practice Act which is the body of laws in the California Business and Professional code that governs all dental professionals. ■



Dr. Abraham Nobel joined LADS in 2010 and became a member of the Board of Directors as LADS Secretary in 2021. We are thrilled to introduce him to all of you. In addition to sharing his bio (listed below), we asked Dr. Nobel some questions about his experiences with LADS and his goals for the future.

Dr. Nobel completed his dental degree from the UCLA School of Dentistry and did his AEGD program at the UCLA-Venice Dental Center. Inspired to further develop his knowledge of healthcare, Dr. Nobel entered Harvard University as a California Endowment Scholar. He received a Master's Degree in Public Health and Fellowship in Health Policy from Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Nobel happily practices dentistry in Los Angeles. When not in the office, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Sara, and their two young sons, Elijah and Ezra.

Explorer: You joined LADS in 2010. What inspired you to join?

Dr. Nobel: I have been a member of CDA since dental school and always appreciated how much they do for the profession. From employee manuals to radiation classes to legal advice, LADS/CDA have always been an invaluable resource. When I settled into my own practice, I joined LADS as my office is in Los Angeles.

Explorer: What do you enjoy most about being a LADS member?

Dr. Nobel: The practice of dentistry in the early time of COVID-19 had its challenges and I found that LADS was a very helpful resource. I believe that individuals that go into healthcare have a need to be helpful and contribute to the wellbeing of the community as a whole.

Explorer: As a LADS board member, what goals do you have for the future?

Dr. Nobel: I became a LADS board member to help my community of dentists. When I joined the board in 2021 and got to know more of the board members, I admired how much the board cared about the profession and their fellow dentists. ■

DINNER WITH 10 DOCS

On August 25th, Dr. Sonia Molina, LADS Board Member and Chair of the Legislative Committee, opened her home and hosted a Dinner with 10 Docs. Everyone enjoyed good food and stimulating conversation. Thank you Dr. Molina, as well as our sponsor for the evening, First Citizens Bank.



STUDY CLUB

On July 21st, Dr. Alexa Martin, LADS Board Member and Chair of the New Professionals Committee, hosted another Study Club with some more of our LADS members. This Study Club was taught by our Explorer Co-Editor Dr. Rachelle Kim. Thank you Drs. Martin and Kim for a wonderful evening of learning and camaraderie.



NEW PROFESSIONALS MIXER

On August 11th, LADS hosted a “Get Connected” Summer Social event at the “EP & LP Rooftop Terrace” in West Hollywood. Drinks and appetizers were served and our new professionals mixed and mingled with fellow LADS members. Thank you to Drs. Alexa Martin, Rachelle Kim, and Rhonda Kalasho for organizing this wonderful event, and a special thank you to our sponsor for the evening, SurfCT.



Classes Offered by LADS

CPR COURSES

Upcoming Class: Monday, December 6th at 6:00 PM.

Classes are held in the LADS Office.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, class sizes are limited.



Daniel Gueuzubeuyukian
CPR Instructor

Cardiac arrest requires immediate and effective response by the dentist and their staff if the victim is to survive. That is why the Dental Board of California requires successful certification in Basic Life Support (BLS) for all dentists and dental employees at least once every two years. The Los Angeles Dental Society offers CPR courses that follow the American Heart Association's guidelines and satisfy the Basic Life Support requirements.

For the past 10 years, Daniel Gueuzubeuyukian (Danny) has been teaching CPR courses for the Los Angeles Dental Society. Danny started his business, Heartstart Enterprises, 30 years ago and has trained over 32,000 people in CPR, including many LADS members. If you or any of you staff need to renew your CPR license, please contact the LADS office at 213-380-7669.

RADIATION SAFETY COURSES

Upcoming Class: Saturday, December 11th from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Cost for members: \$350 per student.

There is a minimum requirement of 4 students per session for a class to be held as scheduled.



Kristi Gallo
Radiation Safety Instructor

The Los Angeles Dental Society Radiation Safety Course is geared for entry level dental assistants or someone entering the dental field from another state. The course is designed for the student to take an online practical test, clinical lab hands-on instruction, and finally in-office supervision of patient x-rays. The course has been approved by the Dental Board of California.

During the clinical portion of the class, our instructor, Kristi Gallo, RDAEF2, will teach students how to take x-rays, input them and/or develop and mount them. Kristi started working in the dental field in 1994 as an RDA and has been teaching the Radiation Safety Class for LADS since 2018.

Following the in-person instruction, the students return to their dentist's office to take the required number of full mouth and bitewing x-rays. If you have staff members that are interested in taking this course, please contact the LADS office at 213-380-7669.

To register for these classes, please call the LADS office at 213-380-7669.



CLASSIFIEDS

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Beverly Hills

Description: Opening position for a Dental Assistant/Front office in Beverly Hills. Familiar with Dentrix software is a plus. Compensation would be based on years of experience. This is an immediate opening. New Grad will be trained.

Contact: Dr. Tara Nakjiri | 310-271-0461 | nphdental@gmail.com

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Carson

Description: Dental Assistant position. Modern 3 operatory office. Location: Carson 90746 zip code. Bilingual preferred. Please call for information.

Contact: Wanda | (310) 719-1865.

Dental Assistant Opportunity – Los Angeles

Description: Dental Assistant position in Los Angeles near Koreatown. Part time or full time. Bilingual Spanish/ English speaking. Call us or submit your resume.

Contact: 213-880-4832 | familygeneraldentist@yahoo.com

Dental Hygienist Opportunity – West Los Angeles (Brentwood)

Description: Private dental practice is seeking a position for a Registered Dental Hygienist 1-2 days a week. Our office has a warm and friendly staff with wonderful committed long-term patients who appreciate our care. The position offers a competitive salary (8 patients a day) with benefits. Please send your resume to mikevkis@yahoo.com or you can reach the doctor directly at 213-309-0225.

Contact: Dr. Mike Vourakis

Dentist Opportunity – Los Angeles

Description: ORTHODONTIST WANTED: Busy ortho practice in Los Angeles seeking a part time associate orthodontist. Please email resume.

Contact: Dr. Bertram Amiri | Admn75@yahoo.com



Office Space Opportunity – Beverly Hills

Description: Dental office space to share. Located in an office building at the corner of Beverly Dr. & Wilshire Blvd. in Beverly Hills with beautiful panoramic views of the city. Call (310) 274-8830 or (310) 880-6343

Contact: Alfred Farrington | afarringtonoffice@gmail.com

Office Space Opportunity – Tarzana

Description: Brand New Encino Dental office for lease. 6 fully plumbed and 4 fully equipped rooms. Great visibility on Ventura Blvd. Start your practice or relocate your existing practice.

Contact: Dr. Benny | 818-631-3368 | DrBennyk@gmail.com

Seeking Employment – Associateship Opportunities

Description: Hello, my name is Dr. Eugene Peng and I am a new member of the Los Angeles Dental Society. A little about me: I recently completed my GPR 1-year dental residency at the VA Sepulveda in North Hills. I am currently looking for associateship opportunities around the area. I have become proficient in a wide variety of skills ranging from CAD/CAM digital dentistry to surgical extractions, implant placement and restorations as well as treatment of medically compromised individuals. My continuing desire to challenge myself professionally combined with my strong communication skills, respectful and professional attitude will allow me to be a great addition to any practice. I wish to collaborate with likeminded dentists with these same values to ultimately deliver the best treatment for my patients. If you have any leads on practices in the area that are hiring, please let me know. Thank you!

Contact: DDr. Eugene Peng | 617-894-9588 | eugpeng@gmail.com

Seeking Employment – Associateship Opportunities

Description: Hello Los Angeles Dental Society, my name is Dr. Pardis Barati. I received my DDS degree from University of Southern California School of Dentistry. I am a passionate and hardworking dentist with excellent organizational and interpersonal skills inspired to provide care and secure a position with a dynamic and progressive dental practice around the area. I have extended knowledge in restorative dentistry, pathology, as well as the management of medically compromised patients. I have special interest in cosmetic dentistry which drives me to challenge myself and gain experience in adhesive, CAD/CAM, and digital dentistry. I would like to collaborate with dentists who have the same desire and interest!

Contact: Dr. Pardis Barati | 213-884-8983 | Pardis.barati@hotmail.com

Classified Ads are offered to LADS members at no charge. Ads are placed both in the Explorer (a quarterly news publication of the Los Angeles Dental Society) as well as on the Los Angeles Dental Society website (www.ladental.com)

If you want to place an ad for a new associate, selling your practice, looking for a new partner, selling office furniture, or whatever else you want to see, please contact the LADS office at 213-380-7669.

Los Angeles Dental Society Foundation

The Los Angeles Dental Society Foundation was established to provide public benefit programs to the Los Angeles community. It is a separate 501(c)(3) charitable organization that supports the promotion of oral health and education. Programs include scholarships for the USC dental students, grants to dental community clinics, and in-kind donations to oral health organizations.

Drs. Scott Kim and Howard Richmond are the current Co-Presidents of the LADS Foundation. If you are interested in receiving more information regarding the Foundation, please contact Gregg Orloff, LADS Executive Director, at 213-380-7669.

Recently, the LADS Foundation made donations to two community dental clinics: Saban Community Clinic and South Central Family Health Center. Both organizations provide much needed dental care to members of the community and were greatly appreciative of the donations that were made by the Foundation.

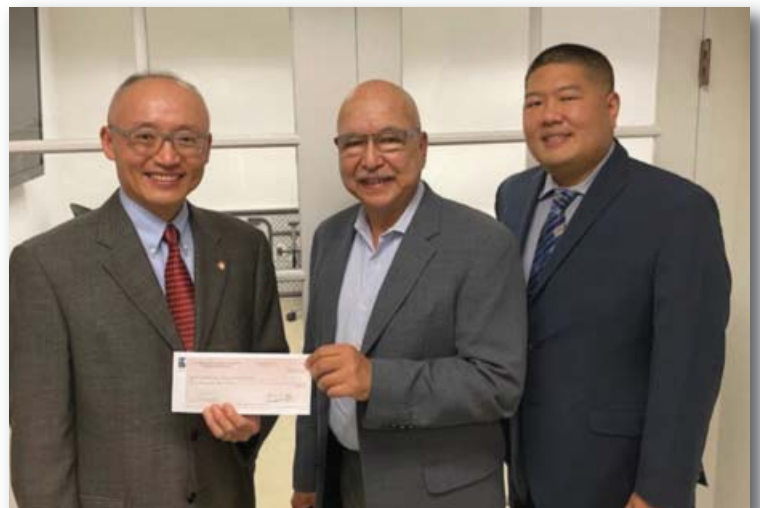
SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

Pictured (left to right): Dr. Van Ahn Dastur, Saban Community Clinic Chief Dental Officer and LADS member; Adam Friedman, Saban Community Clinic Chief Marketing & Advancement Officer; and Dr. Jeff Lee, LADS President Elect.



SOUTH CENTRAL FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

Pictured (left to right): Dr. Scott Kim, LADS Foundation Co-President; South Central Family Health Center CEO Richard Veloz; and Dr. Ryan Huang, South Central Family Health Center Dental Director.



Consider helping the LADS Foundation which promotes and supports a variety of non-profit and grant supported dental treatment facilities throughout the Los Angeles area.



SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

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Polsinelli

Karen Sanchez

Judd Zinberg, CCIM
Almont

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Muriel Nouwezem

September 21, 2021

Dear LADS Board of Directors,

On behalf of Saban Community Clinic, I gratefully accept the donation of \$1,000 from the Los Angeles Dental Society Foundation.

Saban Community Clinic has opened its doors to care for patients since 1967 as The Los Angeles Free Clinic. Since the Clinic's inception, it has grown and expanded services tremendously but has not forgotten its roots in caring for the indigent and most vulnerable. As a tenured employee I have seen the positive impact of access to preventive and restorative dental care for the Clinic's patients, from infants to the elderly and the unhoused. Every dollar helps and your donation will allow us to purchase and replace several old water distillers, essential equipment that replace thousands of gallon water jugs over their lifetime.

Again, I express my gratitude to the Board for considering Saban Community Clinic as a recipient of the Foundation's generosity. It makes me proud to be a LADS' member for over 25 years.

Sincerely,

Van Anh Dastur, DDS
Chief Dental Officer
Saban Community Clinic

8405 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90048-3401 | 323.330.1670 office 323.330.1657 fax

www.sabancommunityclinic.org

Welcome **NEW MEMBERS**

LADS welcomes the newest members to our Dental Society.
Looking forward to meeting each of you personally!

ADIL AL-HASHIMI, DDS

University of Baghdad College of
Dentistry, 1959
Herman Ostrow USC School of Dentistry,
General, 2009

DANIEL BALAZE, DMD

Case Western Reserve University School of
Dental Medicine, 2009
250 N Robertson Blvd., Ste 401,
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

ALIREZA BONAKDAR, DDS

University of Colorado School of Dental
Medicine, 2018

JOSE CARRASCO SANDOVAL, DDS

UCSF School of Dentistry, 2019
NYU College of Dentistry, General, 2020

KEVIN CHIN, DDS

Herman Ostrow USC School of
Dentistry, 2015
1127 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 1100,
Los Angeles, CA 90017

NA EUN CHUNG, DMD

Tuft University School of Dental
Medicine, 2018
Herman Ostrow USC School of Dentistry,
Periodontics, 2021
3123 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles,
CA 90006

BHUMI DESAI, DDS

UCLA School of Dentistry, 2016
St. Barnabas Hospital, Pediatric, 2021

BLIMA GOTTLIEB, DDS

UCLA School of Dentistry, 2020
8853 W. Olympic Blvd., Beverly Hills,
CA 90211

LISAH GU, DMD

Tuft University School of Dental
Medicine, 2019
VA Medical – Los Angeles, General, 2021
8549 Wilshire Blvd., #2274, Beverly Hills,
CA 90211

LUZ GUTIERREZ, DDS

Universidad De La Salle School of
Dentistry, 2020

GEORGE JABER, DDS

Herman Ostrow USC School of
Dentistry, 2013
Ohio St. University College of Dentistry,
General, 2014
925 W. 34th St., Los Angeles, CA 90089

EVAN JOSEPH, DDS

Tennessee Medical College School of
Dentistry, 2019

ALBERT KIM, DDS

NYU College of Dentistry, 2020
New York Metropolitan Hospital,
General, 2021

RYAN KIM, DDS

Herman Ostrow USC School of
Dentistry, 2021
4220 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90020

YUJIN LEE, DDS

University of Minnesota School of
Dentistry, 2020

SANCHITA MEHRA, DMD

Western University of Health Sciences
College of Dental Medicine, 2018
Herman Ostrow USC School of Dentistry,
Periodontics, 2021
10318 Rosecrans Ave., Bellflower,
CA 90706

MARINA MIKAEL, DMD

Boston University School of Dental
Medicine, 2020
VA Medical – Los Angeles, General, 2021

ESTELA MURILLO, DDS

Loma Linda University School of
Dentistry, 2015
16229 S. Western Ave, Ste 2, Gardena,
CA 90247

Welcome **NEW MEMBERS**

LADS welcomes the newest members to our Dental Society.
Looking forward to meeting each of you personally!

KARINA PALILLO, DDS

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Welcome Back **MEMBERS**

LADS welcomes back the following dentists to our Society.
We are glad you have returned!

FARID FARAHNIK, DDS

SARA LARBI, DDS

ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING FOR CONTROLLED AND UNCONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BECOMES MANDATORY IN CALIFORNIA IN JANUARY 2022



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QUICK SUMMARY:

PRESCRIBERS CAN CHOOSE TO PURCHASE A STANDALONE PRESCRIBING SOFTWARE OR A SOFTWARE APPLICATION ASSOCIATED WITH AN ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD. DENTISTS WILL WANT TO CONSIDER SEVERAL FACTORS BEFORE PURCHASING PRESCRIBING SOFTWARE, INCLUDING WHETHER THEY NEED TO USE THE SOFTWARE ON MOBILE PLATFORMS AND WHETHER THEY WANT ENHANCED SOFTWARE THAT PROVIDES ADDITIONAL FEATURES, SUCH AS THE ABILITY TO CHECK FOR DRUG INTERACTIONS OR A PATIENT'S DRUG ALLERGIES.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, dentists and other prescribers in California must issue electronic-data prescriptions for both controlled and noncontrolled substances with very few exceptions. Paper prescriptions will no longer be allowed by state law, as CDA previously reported.

All pharmacies across the state, too, must be capable of accepting those prescriptions and are required to immediately notify prescribers if the electronic transmission fails or is incomplete.

Assembly Bill 2789, which mandates the electronic prescribing, was signed into law in 2018, but CDA advocated for the three-year implementation window to give dentists time to obtain adequate e-prescribing systems and to train staff.

PURCHASING PRESCRIBING SOFTWARE

Electronic prescribing can especially reduce opportunities for diversion of controlled substances by eliminating the use of paper forms, which can be lost, stolen and used illegally. E-prescribing also can help provide timely patient care.

Prescribing software is available with or without the ability to electronically prescribe controlled substances. Software that can prescribe controlled substances costs more because of the additional regulatory compliance costs; the software must be certified that it complies with a 2010 DEA regulation that requires identity proofing of prescribers and two-factor authentication when signing prescriptions, for example.



Prescribers can choose to purchase a standalone prescribing software or a software application associated with an electronic health record. EHR-based applications allow for automation of patient demographic information and attachment of a prescription to the patient's treatment record. The applications can be added to Dentrrix, Eaglesoft, OpenDental, Curve, Carestream or MacPractice. Providers can search for prescribing software applications on the Surescripts website.

MOBILITY, PRACTICE TYPE AND COST AFFECT SELECTION

Dentists will want to consider several other factors before purchasing prescribing software, including whether they need to use the software on Android, IOS or other mobile platforms and whether they want enhanced software that provides additional features, such as the ability to check for drug interactions or a patient's drug allergies.

The type of dental practice can affect software selection, as well. An associate who works at more than one practice may opt to purchase standalone prescribing software since it is not tied to a specific EHR, for example. And if a practice has multiple locations that use the same EHR, a separate user license for each location may be required.

EXCEPTIONS TO ELECTRONIC DATA PRESCRIBING

Prescribers can provide paper prescriptions directly to a patient only in situations that qualify as exceptions to the electronic

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data prescribing mandate. Exceptions that may apply to prescribing dentists include:

The electronic data transmission prescription is not available due to a temporary technological or electronic failure of a computer system, application or device or a service interruption. If prescribing a controlled substance, the prescriber must document in the patient's record the reason for the failed electronic transmission.

- The prescriber is issuing a prescription for dispensing by a pharmacy located outside of California.
- The prescribing health care practitioner and the dispenser are the same entity.
- Prescribers can also call in prescriptions for noncontrolled substances in situations that qualify as exceptions under the state law, but only in emergency situations can prescribers call in prescriptions for schedule II drugs.

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN CDA PRACTICE SUPPORT RESOURCE

For more details about the electronic prescribing requirement, exceptions to the state mandate and types of prescribing software, read the Prescribing and Dispensing Q&A from CDA Practice Support. The resource also includes answers related to scope of practice and the use of CURES, the state's prescription drug monitoring database, for prescribing controlled substances.

CDA reminds dentists registered with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration that the DEA is no longer sending renewal notices by mail as of June 2020. Registrants will instead receive renewal notifications by email.



Well-being within our Los Angeles dental community is important. We are here for you with any questions or concerns. Please call either the LADS office at 213-380-7669 or the Southern California Dental Well Being Committee (SCDWBC) at 310-487-5040.



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