



# Dentistry IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Allied Staff News

## 2019 Annual Session Clinician Spotlight

Dr. Bethany Valachi is author of the book, *“Practice Dentistry Pain-Free”*, clinical instructor of ergonomics at OHSU School of Dentistry in Portland, OR and is recognized internationally as an expert in dental ergonomics. For over 20 years, Dr. Valachi has helped thousands of dental professionals prevent pain and extend their careers with her relevant, evidence-based dental ergonomic education.

**Friday, May 17, 2019**

**“Neck, Back and Beyond”; 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

This research-based seminar bridges the gap between dental ergonomics and work-related pain so you can work more comfortably and productively. Delivered with high energy and humor, attendees will discover how equipment selection and adjustment, patient positioning, lighting, movement and operator layout are affecting their health.

**“Fitness 101 for Dental Professionals”, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

The delivery of dental care is demanding on the body. Dental professionals are prone to unique muscle imbalances and require special exercise, postural techniques and fitness guidelines to avoid pain syndromes, injury or early retirement. This research-based seminar that Dr. Valachi delivers with energy and humor will provide attendees with knowledge that

they can apply immediately to improve their (and their patient’s) overall health.



## Start Planning Now for National Children’s Dental Health Month—February 2019

The American Dental Association has many resources available on their website to help you in planning for National Children’s Dental Health Month. These resources include pamphlets, posters, teaching packets and audiovisuals. The ADA also has many videos/DVDs for sale so they are available to you at a moments notice. Log on to <http://www.ada.org/en/public-programs/national-childrens-dental-health-month> for information and a free planning guide. In addition to the ADA, the SDDA has educational videos/DVDs for loan to our members. A listing of these are on our website at [www.sddental.org](http://www.sddental.org) and in the SDDA Services Directory. You can also reserve “Teeth on the Go” kits and/or puppets by calling Delta Dental at 605-494-2527.



## After Hours Emergencies

Discussion at a recent district dental society meeting disclosed that some dental offices in South Dakota may not be meeting the ethical standard set by the American Dental Association when it comes to providing emergency care to patients after normal office hours. Reports given to the SDDA and verified by one district dental society revealed that there are offices whose afterhours message simply refers patients to the local emergency room and leave no way for a patient to contact the dentist about the emergency.

All members are expected to follow the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct which states “Dentists shall be obliged to make reasonable arrangements for the emergency care of their patients of record”. A message directing patients to the emergency room is not a reasonable arrangement for the emergency care of patients.

The Board of Trustees recommends that members review their office’s policy for the emergency care of patients to ensure you are complying with our Code of Professional Conduct.

## SDDA Members Volunteer for Sioux Empire Smiles

On Saturday, October 6, 156 underserved children from the Sioux Falls area were able to receive free dental work thanks to a charitable event entitled *Sioux Empire Smiles*. The event is now in its fourth year and was organized by the Southeastern District Dental Society and chaired by Dr. Damon Thielen, a pediatric dentist from Sioux Falls.

Fifteen dentists, along with 57 allied staff members, donated their time and services to provide dental screenings, restorative treatments, cleanings and education. The children received care valued at approximately \$53,700. There were a total of 944 dental procedures performed throughout the day.

The clinic was a rewarding experience for the volunteers who came together with a common goal of providing dental care to underserved children who are unable to obtain care.

For most events of this nature the single largest expense is renting the space. In the case of Sioux Empire Smiles, Children's Dental Center donated the use of their clinic. Other significant expenses include dental supplies, tent rental and liability insurance. The Sioux Empire United Way and Professional Insurors came through to fund those major expenses once again and the South Dakota Dental Foundation and Delta Dental continued to provide staff support for the event .

The Southeastern District Dental Society worked in partnership with the Sioux Falls school district to identify children and families with dental needs that have difficulty getting to a dentist. The goal of the event was to serve up to 150 children with a focus on providing dental care to patients suffering from dental infections or pain. While 156 children were treated during the event, 19 children had to be referred on for further care including the use of general anesthesia at a hospital.



### Reserve Your Room NOW for the 2019 Annual Session

The Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn will be the hotel site for the 2019 Annual Session, May 16-18. A block of rooms under SD Dental Association

is being held for those attending the convention. A group rate of \$104, plus tax, single or double occupancy for a standard room is available. Call the Holiday Inn directly at 605-348-4000 to make reservations. The cut-off date for our room block is April 15, 2019.



The South Dakota Dental Foundation is launching a new program in 2019 called One Smile. The purpose of the program is to provide funds to children ages eight and under who need to have their dental treatment done in a hospital setting, and whose family can't afford the full cost of the treatment, the hospitalization and anesthesia.

If a family has applied for financial hardship at the hospital and been denied, they may be able to get help from the One Smile program. If you have a patient who you think would qualify, please have them contact our office at 605-224-9133 to request an application (also available in Spanish) after January 1, 2019.

## CHANGES TO ALLIED STAFF MEMBERSHIP!!!

Please note the following change for the 2019 Annual Session Registration:

Reduced registration rates (Member rate: \$55/Non-Member Rate: \$165) will be offered for the 2019 Annual Session for all Allied Staff members who have joined/renewed their SDDA Membership by March 1, 2019. Memberships MUST be postmarked on or before March 1, 2019 to receive the member registration rate. Renewals will be mailed out by the end of December! Membership can be renewed online at [www.sddental.org](http://www.sddental.org)!! For an Allied Staff membership application, go to <https://www.sddental.org/member-center/join-renew/allied-staff>.

**AS Registration will be in the 2019 Spring Newsletter!!!**



## Do It Yourself Dentistry

Direct-to-consumer dentistry, also known as “do it yourself” dentistry is expanding rapidly in the United States and South Dakota is no exception. Most DIY dentistry involves orthodontics but veneers, bridges, dentures and snoring appliances are also out there. The American Dental Association has adopted a policy discouraging direct-to-consumer dentistry due to the potential for irreversible harm to patients. The ADA has also launched a public awareness campaign about the dangers of DIY dentistry.

Chances are SDDA members will receive questions from patients, family and friends about DIY dentistry. Beyond letting them know that the ADA “strongly discourages” the practice, members can also refer patients and others to the ADA’s consumer web site Mouthhealthy.org and have them search under DIY dentistry.

If you know of patients, or others, who have experienced harm as a result of DIY dentistry they may file a complaint with the South Dakota Board of Dentistry. Also, because dental prosthetics are considered medical devices by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), consumers as well as dentists can report issues to the FDA. Both agencies have web sites through which complaints can be filed.

## Medicaid Dental Care Coordination Update

The Medicaid Dental Care Coordinators at Delta Dental of South Dakota (DDSD) are starting a new at-risk referral process with dental offices in Sioux Falls (2), Rapid City (2) and Murdo (1). The pilot project allows offices to request follow-up for Medicaid patients who could benefit from additional support through care coordination. The reasons for referral – seven categories in all – are intended to ensure the patient continues with the treatment plan and keeps scheduled appointments. The level of support ranges from rescheduling an appointment and providing education to coordinating transportation or pre-op physicals, and facilitating communicating with the dental office. Since launch on November 1st, more than 40 patient referrals have been received. It is anticipated that the at-risk referral process will be rolled-out to Medicaid providers statewide in early 2019. Questions about the project can be directed to Ann Schwartz, Director of Government Programs and Professional Services at DDSD.



*By Jenna Golden CDA, RDH, MSDH*

It is amazing we are already at the end of our semester and hard to believe everything the students have learned in just four months! They have been hard at work preparing for their first clinical rotation starting this January. As always we are grateful and appreciative for our dental community partners that assist with giving our students the professional hands-on experience they need to succeed.

Our fall has also been busy with hosting professional speakers, mock interviews, Career Expo, and the formation of a dental assisting club. The club mission centers on community service and professional development. The club members are fundraising to provide oral hygiene supplies to Hope Center and The Mission in Rapid City. They are also scheduled to conduct a teaching lesson to Kindergarteners at Girls, Inc. this month. In January, ten students will travel to the Rocky Mt. Dental Convention and attend courses along with others from their new profession.

Sarah McCormick and I have been building and implementing our new curriculum to ensure we are CODA compliant and have now just started plans for a dental materials lab expansion. Additional equipment and space will provide optimal hands-on experience for the students.

We welcome dentists and their staff who are motivated to join our community of support! Many studies show the benefits of preceptorship in healthcare. “Preceptorship is a significant relationship that supports new graduates into practice. Understanding what works well in this relationship from the perspective of preceptors themselves is a key to sustaining the workforce. Valuing preceptorship contributes to workforce stability and the retention of older and experienced allied health” (Korzon, 2015). Please call or email if you have any questions about our program or becoming a clinical site.

Happy Holidays!

*Dentistry in South Dakota*  
804 N Euclid; Ste 103  
Pierre SD 57501

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### CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

#### SDDA ANNUAL SESSION

Contact: Brenda Goeden 605-224-9133  
[www.sddental.org](http://www.sddental.org)  
May 16-18, 2019, Rapid City, SD  
Registration forms included in the Spring 2019 Newsletter

#### WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Contact: 605-718-2410

#### **Third Friday of the Month, mornings**

➤ American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals

#### **Third Friday of the Month, afternoons**

➤ American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR Recertification

#### LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Contact: Nicole Pahl, 605-882-5284, ext. 362  
Nicole.pahl@lakeareatech.edu  
<https://www.lakeareatech.edu/academics/dental-assisting>

#### **16-hour Basic Concepts of Dental Radiography**

Feb. 28-March 1, 2019

#### **Spring Workshop**

April 2019

#### **EFDA Course**

Starts Feb. 2019 (Hands-on June 3-7, 2019)

#### **Home Study Radiology Courses available:**

- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

#### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene, 605-658-5960

#### **Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course**

November 2-3, 2018  
June 13-14, 2019

#### **Local Anesthesia Certification Course**

November 1-3, 2018

#### **Radiology Certification Course for Dental Assistants**

October 19-20, 2018  
June 6-7, 2019

#### **Dakota Days Continuing Education Course**

October 5, 2018

#### **Hands-On Sealant Update**

February 22, 2019

## *Dentistry in South Dakota*

**Editor:** Paul Knecht, Executive Director

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South Dakota Dental Association  
804 N Euclid, Ste. 103  
PO Box 1194  
Pierre SD 57501

Telephone: 605-224-9133  
Fax: 605-224-9168  
E-Mail: paul.knecht@sddental.org  
Website: www.sddental.org

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