SDDA Endorses Avera Health Plans

The South Dakota Dental Association, through Professional Insurors, has struck an agreement to endorse Avera Health Plans to its members, the first step in a goal of creating an SDDA association health plan.

“Avera Health Plans has the attractive combination of competitive pricing and a state-wide network of providers – two aspects that are very important to us,” said Paul Knecht, Executive Director of the SDDA. “At this point, the endorsement provides an opportunity to save some money on health insurance for many, not all, of our members.”

The SDDA’s long range goal is that it will be able to have its own association health plan and this is clearing the biggest hurdle towards that goal, according to Knecht. “Due to some requirements within the law and the current utilization rate of our members, an association health plan is not feasible for us at this time. We believe a partnership with Avera Health Plans through Professional Insurors will move us in that direction.

“If enough of our members subscribe to the Avera plan, this endorsement will turn into the creation of a fully-insured SDDA association health plan,” Knecht continued. “At that point, all of our members will be able to realize a savings through the collective purchasing power of the association.”

Avera Health Plans Vice President of Sales, Jordan Anderson, was pleased with the announcement and endorsement. “I believe we all have the best interest and health of our members at the core of what we do,” he said. “This is another way that health care companies can work together to bring down the cost of health care for consumers utilizing our products and services.”

Members who would like more information on the endorsement or would like a quote for their family or office should contact Ken Asheim of Professional Insurors at 1-800-529-1451; 605-343-1111; or, email kenasheim@insurorpros.com.

2020 Annual Session Clinician Spotlight

Barb Steinberg, DDS received her D.D.S. from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and completed a residency at the Medical College of Pennsylvania. She is Clinical Professor of Surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine, as well as Adjunct Associate Professor of Oral Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Steinberg is a nationally and internationally invited lecturer in the area of women’s health.

Saturday, May 16, 2020

“Oral Health and Dental Management for the Pregnant Patient” ~ 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

This course will present the physiology of pregnancy as well as oral manifestations that may be encountered at this time in a woman’s life. Many myths regarding dental treatment for the pregnant patient will be discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the consensus statement produced by an expert workgroup meeting convened by the Health Resources and Services Administration in collaboration with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Dental Association coordinated by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center. Discussion will also lend itself to the lactating patient focusing on the safety of medications that may be prescribed for oral infection during that time period.

“Eating Disorders: Medical, Dental and Oral Health Considerations” ~ 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Eating disorders represent a complex spectrum of chronic illnesses, with medical and psychologic complications that lead to the highest mortality of all psychiatric disorders. It is a problem that is epidemic on our college campuses. Members of the dental team play an integral role in helping to identify those patients with undiagnosed eating disorders. In fact, because of oro-facial manifestations they may be the first health care providers to encounter such patients and will be instrumental in making appropriate referrals for further diagnostic work-up and treatment. This presentation will address the psychologic, medical, dental and oral health issues associated with these disorders as well as dental management considerations.

Register online TODAY for the 2020 SDDA Annual Session!

www.sddental.org
We are excited to welcome back our students for the Spring 2020 semester. Our Spring semester is filled with hands-on labs and clinical rotations. Students are developing expanded function skills, learning the essentials of dental radiography, and enhancing their understanding of dental materials through lecture and lab application. They spend over 10 hours a week in our dental lab in a 6-to-1, student-to-instructor ratio. It’s an exciting time to be involved in their education and see the “ah ha” moments and connections between previous material, their lab activities, and clinical experiences.

The Spring Clinicals allow students to apply knowledge and skills obtained in the Fall semester into a clinical setting. These rotations are integral to our students learning and development of essential soft and hard skills. Preceptors at our clinical sites take on the important role of guiding their student through some of their first interactions with patients and we are always grateful for their commitment. We’d like to thank our Clinical Sites for taking the time to be actively involved this year: Anderson Dental; Aspen Dental; Black Hills Area Dental; Bloom Family Dentistry; Carpenter Dental; Creative Smiles Designs; Fibonacci Dental Studio; Hillview Dental; Jackson Boulevard Dental Associates; Loftus Dental; Nelson & Bury Dental; Orchard Meadows Dental; Ray Dental Group; and, Unkenholz Family Dental.

This year the Dental Assisting Program will be providing free dental services to WDT students and families by offering dental exams, radiographs, rubber cup polish, sealants, and fluoride treatments. Two local dentists have graciously volunteered their time to oversee the students. We’re excited about this opportunity for WDT students to have access to free dental services on campus. Additionally, the educational experience for dental assisting is invaluable.

Progress has been made towards program accreditation and we are nearing our mandated six-month waiting period required by CODA during program director transitions. We hope to have our site visit scheduled for the academic year 20/21.

Our next advisory board meeting will be held on March 23rd at 6:00 pm at Pure Bean. We’re excited to welcome six new advisory board members. As with all advisory board meetings, they are open to the public.

We want to thank our community for involvement this academic year as we’ve added new clinical sites and advisory board members, had several guest speakers and volunteer dentists for clinic oversight, and multiple offices participating in mock interviews that took place in the Fall semester. Involvement from the community enhances student’s education and commitment to the Black Hills. We always welcome new advisory board members, guest speakers, and clinical sites.

Sara Nolen, RDH, MSDH, CDA
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SDDHA Update
By Tia S. Meyer, RDH; SDDHA President 2019-2020

We have had a productive start to 2020 and looking forward to what the rest of this year has in store! The SDDHA recently attended the South Dakota Legislative Session in Pierre as of 01/27/2020. It proved to be beneficial meeting with legislators on current topics in our regard as well as goals for future potential legislation.

We have two upcoming continuing education events that we are pleased to extend invitations to. The first is being offered on the western side of the state in Rapid City, SD. This will be regarding laser technology in dentistry. The event will be held on Saturday, March 7th, 2020 from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. The second event is being offered on the eastern side of the state in Sioux Falls, SD. This will be focused on dental radiology. The event will be held on Thursday, April 9th, 2020 from 6:00 P.M.- 8:30 P.M. For more information regarding these events please visit sdda.org and click on CE Events.

The SDDHA board is currently preparing for Annual Session which will be held May 14th-16th,2020 in Sioux Falls, SD. We have some great speakers in store and will be opening up registration via our website soon. Stay tuned!

We are committed to growing the field of dental and once again thank you for your support of our association! Together we can continue to enhance patient care and streamline efforts collaboratively! Here is to a great 2020!

Classified Ads
Maher Dental Clinic in Pierre, SD is seeking a full time Dental Hygienist. Our family focused practice serves patients of all ages. The ideal candidate will have a calm, reassuring, friendly demeanor while multitasking in a small private practice environment. Our office mission statement is to treat patients and staff like family by sharing knowledge, talents, and using teamwork to promote the health and wellbeing of all. Salary will depend on experience. We are located in Pierre, SD. Pierre is known for its river recreation, great schools, and proximity to hunting and fishing opportunities.

Please send any questions and resumes to Jamie@maherdentalclinic.com.
Office Managers Can Obtain CE Through the SDDA

Office managers and administrative staff are an indispensable asset to every dental office. And while training and continuing education have regularly been available to dentists, hygienists and assistants, that has not been the case for administrative staff. Complying with new and ever-changing regulations and keeping up with the rigors of filing insurance claims has made administering a dental office more challenging than ever and administrative staff need education and support in order to do their job. Beginning with the SDDA Annual Session and going forward the SDDA will be offering continuing education and training for administrative office staff. The courses to be offered will include insurance, finance, personnel and anything else that administrative staff request. “The Biggest HR Mistakes in Dental Offices” will be presented by Trish Dougherty, of the Weston Group on Friday, May 15 at 11:30. The presentation will include lunch and will be followed by a discussion about the future training that would be valuable to administrative staff.

USD Dental Hygiene celebrates the retirement of 3 faculty members!

It is bittersweet to report that 3 important faculty members will retire at the end of this academic year. All three were part of the same USD Dental Hygiene graduating class in the 1970s and will now all retire having made a significant impact on the professional lives of hundreds of students. It is with heartfelt gratitude that I report their accomplishments:

JoNell Bly began her career as an Instructor within the Department of Dental Hygiene in August of 1984 and will retire from her position on May 21, 2020 having served 36 years. She has served as the clinical site coordinator for the student rotation to the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls. In this capacity, she successfully guided hundreds of students as they provided services to inmates. She demonstrated professionalism, respect, and inclusive care for all persons, while focusing on improving their oral and systemic health. In addition to these duties, Ms. Bly has also served the campus clinical program working with junior dental hygiene students beginning their clinical education. She has been instrumental in establishing good ergonomic habits to facilitate a long, productive career as a clinician. Joey’s passion for ergonomics led her to publications in national journals and many presentations.

Marti Pollard began her career as an educator with the Department of Dental Hygiene in August of 1983. Her 37 years of service have been incredibly impactful to many. Marti was the clinical site coordinator for the student rotation to the Mike Durfee State Prison. Her one-on-one attention to enhancing student clinical instrumentation will be remembered as a strength of our program. Marti was also instrumental in early interprofessional activities as a co-principal investigator for a CDC grant dealing with diabetes education. Marti was a legislative advocate that resulted in changing the SD Dental Practice Act to allow dental hygienists to practice in alternative settings in order to expand access to care for underserved individuals. Marti’s achievements have been critical to the success of hundreds of students.

Martha Steil began her career with USD Dental Hygiene as an Instructor in 2006. Martha has served as a primary clinical instructor for both junior and senior dental hygiene students at the Vermillion campus clinic. She has been instrumental in teaching students the high standards required in infection control while supervising their Clinic Assistant rotations. Ms. Steil demonstrates the professional values of teamwork and support of colleagues as well as kind and compassionate care for all patients. She has made several oral health presentations to other School of Health Sciences’ disciplines and has been a frequent supervisor for student participation at community health fairs. Ms. Steil’s impact over the last 14 years has been incredibly valuable.

If you would like to send greetings to these individuals, you can reach Joey Bly at Jonellbly@gmail.com; you can reach Marti Pollard at Martipollard@yahoo.com, and you can reach Martha Steil at rcsmes@cableone.net. Cards can be sent to the USD Department of Dental Hygiene 120 East Hall/414 E. Clark Street, Vermillion, SD 57069.

Respectfully submitted ~ Ann Brunick, Chairperson
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
May 14-16, 2020 Sioux Falls, SD

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
Contact: 605-718-2410

Dental Radiology 2-Day Course
April 4-5, 2020; Rapid City
May 2-3, 2020; Rapid City

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/corporate-education/corporate-education-registration/

Expanded Functions Dental Assistant Program
June 1-5, 2020

Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene 605-677-5379

Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course
Offered two to three times per year

Home Study Radiology Courses available:
- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application

Dentistry in South Dakota
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