

District of Columbia  
DENTAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

November 2020, Vol. 66, No. 11



*Dr. Ladan Basiri*

### **Letter from the DC Dental Society President Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD**

For us, learning never stops – even for the most basic skills! Our wellness webinar by Ms. Jill Holland on Oct 20 was a reminder of this principle. I have been a lot more conscious of my breathing and posture thanks to Jill’s informative words: “Always breathe from your nose, not your mouth, and breathe slowly. Keep your shoulders back to open up the intercostal muscles and your rib cage.” If you missed the webinar, you can always watch the recording on our website.

This wellness webinar was also illustrative of how today the balance between life and work is as important as ever. We need to consciously take breaks for wellness and relaxation – whether for breathing exercises, yoga, or some other method – to pay attention to and care for ourselves. I know that is far easier said than done, particularly with the stresses and pressures of the past six months. Dentists in practices of all types are pulled in many directions, now more than ever with constantly changing regulations (see links 1-5 at the end of this article). We all have to actively take care of ourselves just like we care for our patients!

This month has been especially busy for us at DCDS. First, I want to thank our Strategic Planning Group for working hard to revise our strategic plan to work towards the long-term success of our society. I thank our Membership and New Dentist Committee for planning and implementing outreach to

*(Continued on Page 3)*

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### **Reach Us**

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## Ransomware Activity Targeting the Healthcare/Public Health Sector, Warns FBI/HHS/CISA

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) yesterday warned of an increased and imminent cyber-crime threat to U.S. hospitals and healthcare providers. HBMA has become aware of at least one member that was affected recently by a ransomware attack.

CISA, FBI, and HHS issued a joint advisor warning the Healthcare and Public Health Sector (HPH) of tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) used by cybercriminals to infect systems with Ryuk ransomware for financial gain. The full report is available on the CISA website.

[Link to announcement](#)

[Link to report](#)

## Have You or Your Staff Experienced Delays or Other Issues Getting/Renewing Your DC License?

We have received anecdotal reports of delays processing license applications for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants. Share your feedback on the DC license renewal process via this short survey. Let us know how long it took you to secure your DC license the last time you applied/renewed so we can share this critical feedback to the DC Board of Dentistry and help the Board benchmark performance.

[Link to survey](#)

### Advertise with us!

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members, non-members, and students, and I commend all of our other committees for working so industriously for our collective benefit. I also want to thank our executive director, Mr. Kurt Gallagher, for all of the work he has done on our behalf, including development of a survey that is currently underway to quantify challenges that you or your staff may have encountered with the licensure renewal process in DC. Thanks to the education committee, on October 13 we had our second monthly meeting and enjoyed Dr. Kitrina Cordell's informative, evidence-based presentation on oral pathology lesions. Please check the recording if you missed this amazing presentation. I thank all the members who attended and supported our efforts.

October was also the ADA/FDC's first-ever Virtual Connect Conference. In addition, the House of Delegates held its elections and virtually reviewed and voted on dozens of resolutions! These virtual events reflected tremendous adjustments to our new normal, and both were jobs well done. I had the honor and pleasure of attending the ADA House of Delegates (HOD) meeting and reference committee hearings alongside our delegates, Drs. Angela Noguera and Stephen Tigani, our alternate delegate, Dr. Pat Grogan, HOD secretary, Dr. Sally Cram, and our wonderful Executive Director, Mr. Gallagher – the amount of reading, analysis, patience, and hard work that went into these events was certainly impressive! Dr. Cram has prepared a thorough report on the 5-day events of the HOD (see link 6 below), which I strongly urge you to read. I want to sincerely thank our team for all the hard work and time that they dedicated to this demanding 5-day meeting.

I hope that you got a chance to attend the courses, workshops, discussion panels, and 24/7 exhibit hall at the ADA FDC virtual connect conference. I personally enjoyed attending a simulated malpractice mock trial: Covid-19 lawsuit, Dr. Frank Spear's presentation, the Cellerant Award panel discussion and the digital impression technology course taught by Dr. Jonathan Ng using Bellus 3D scans. Notably, interesting top new 2020 technologies included composite materials with antimicrobial properties, Smart Mirror, Pink Wave curing light, scanners and software like Weave and Simplifeye/Amplifye.

At the DC Board of Dentistry meeting on October 21, the chairperson, Dr. Rene McCoy-Collins, asked us to encourage and remind our members to get the Flu vaccination. We were also informed of a new [notification system for Covid-19 called DC CAN](#). You can learn more about how DC CAN works by going to <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/dccan> (see links 7 and 8 at the end of this article).

Finally, I wanted to ask our wonderful membership to please participate in our short survey on the DC licensure renewal process. Now more than ever given our inability to be together in person, these surveys are a very important means of hearing your voice and measuring the state of our membership. Thank you for your participation.

I hope that everyone gets a chance to enjoy the fall foliage's colorful canvas. Please know that I am

here for you and should you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [info@dcdental.org](mailto:info@dcdental.org), and I will be sure to respond promptly. Thank you for your patronage and support of our dental society.

Sincerely,

Ladan

Ladan Basiri, MA, DMD  
FACD, FICD  
DC Dental Society President

#### Resource Links

1. [ADA study finds COVID-19 rate among dentists less than 1%](#), ADA News
2. [U.S. Food and Drug Administration Approves Gilead's Antiviral Veklury® \(remdesivir\) for Treatment of COVID-19](#), Gilead Press Release
3. [HHS Provider Relief Fund webinar set for Oct. 15](#), ADA News
4. [Coming Soon: Dramatic Changes to Your ADA Morning Huddle](#), ADA News
5. [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Appendices](#), CDC
6. [Secretary's Report on the 2020 ADA House of Delegates Meeting](#)
7. [DC Government Coronavirus Situational Update](#), October 19, 2020
8. [DC CAN \(DC COVID Alert Notice\)](#), DC Government Coronavirus website

## Call for Nominations for DCDS Delegation to the ADA House of Delegates

Nominations for DCDS Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the ADA House of Delegates will be accepted from the floor of the DCDS November monthly meeting scheduled to begin at 5:45 PM on November 10th. For more information or to submit a nomination, please write to DCDS at [info@dcdental.org](mailto:info@dcdental.org) or call (202) 367-1163.

## New Option to Secure PPE

DC dentists have a new option for securing PPE and other supplies for their practice: a group purchasing program established through a partnership of the DC Hospital Association, National Capital Area Shared Services and ShareSource.

This new program is administered by ShareSource, a group purchasing organization. You can learn about the program on the [ShareSource website](#).

Dentists should complete and submit the [Continuum of Care Membership Application](#) to enroll in the program. Questions about the program should be directed to the ShareSource staff via the website or by calling (301) 731-4700.

# November Webinar CE Event: The Biomimetic Approach: Permanent Restorations that mimic natural teeth

Clinical CE Virtual Presentation by Dr. Matt Nejad

Registration closes Monday, November 9 at 5 PM.\*

Tuesday, November 10

Business Meeting Begins at 5:45 PM

Educational Program Begins at 6:00 PM

CE Credits Offered: 1.5 CE Credits



## Course Description:

The intact natural tooth has the perfect combination of properties via dentin, enamel, and the DEJ. The properties of these individual layers combine to result in superior performance as a multi-laminar structure. An understanding of the structure, function, and resulting biomechanics of natural teeth allows for maximum success in restorative dentistry. Restorative procedures with the biomimetic approach replicate the properties of natural teeth with conservative restorations that preserve intact tooth structure and pulp vitality. Traditional approaches do not even remotely restore the natural tooth properties or performance. As a result, these restorations have complications and failures that result in more aggressive and more invasive treatments over time, leading to loss of teeth. This lecture will review the major concepts and paradigm of the Biomimetic Approach.

## Learning Objectives:

- 1) Properties of Dentin, Enamel, and DEJ
- 2) The strong “biological-bond” between Enamel and Dentin
- 3) Dental Materials properties suitable for enamel dentin and DEJ substitutes
- 4) The Adhesive Equation: Techniques to maximize bond strength and minimize polymerization stresses

For more information about the speaker, [please click here.](#)

The DC Dental Society is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. The DC Dental Society designates this presentation for 1.5 CE credits.

*\* Attendees registering by deadline will receive the link for the CE evaluation the evening of the event. Those registering after the deadline will receive the link within 48 hours after event.*

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## Dr. Klemmedson Takes Office as ADA President

The [ADA News](#) (10/19, Versaci) reports that Dr. Daniel J. Klemmedson, of Tucson, Arizona, was installed as the 157th president of the American Dental Association on Oct. 19 during the ADA FDC Virtual Connect Conference. While addressing the ADA House of Delegates, Dr. Klemmedson said, “The pandemic has offered insight to the interconnectedness of our society and the economic engines that keep it running. The same is true for the interdependent nature of dentistry.” Dr. Klemmedson added, “COVID-19 catalyzed a domino effect that demonstrated just how fragile our return to normal was. A return to normal should not be our goal. Better and stronger is clearly within our reach.”



In addition to Dr. Klemmedson, President-elect Cesar R. Sabates, Second Vice President Maria Maranga and five new trustees also assumed office: Dr. Chad R. Leighty, 7th District; Dr. Rudolph T. Liddell, 17th District; Dr. Michael D. Medovic, 6th District; Dr. Scott L. Morrison, 10th District; and Dr. Gary D. Oyster, 16th District. The ADA News also lists returning officers and trustees.

## Pandemic Brings Changes to University of Maryland as Dental Students Return to Campus

Their final year of dental school.

Pandemic bring changes to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry as fourth-year students Dan, LaShonda and Ben return to campus.

[Click here to view the full story from the ADA.](#)



*New normal: University of Maryland School of Dentistry students show off their new PPE. Clockwise from left are Ben, Dan and LaShonda.*

## Community Calendar: DCDHA Virtual Holiday CE Event

Saturday December 5th 2020

11AM-2:15PM 3CEs

Two topics will be featured: 1. the relationship between Xylitol and oral health , and 2. the psychosocial impact of COVID-19.

For more information, [please visit the event web page.](#)





## Small Group, Individual Health and Medicare Open Enrollment for January 1, 2021 Begins Soon!

The 4th Quarter is a busy time of year when it comes to insurance. Whether you are exploring employer-sponsored plans, individual health plans or Medicare, the insurance professionals at R.K. Tongue are standing by and are ready to help. By choosing to purchase your insurance through an endorsed vendor, you're not only getting a trusted and vetted company, but you're helping to support organized dentistry and the advocacy efforts of the DC Dental Society. This is the only time that employer contribution & participation requirements are waived for group health insurance in the District of Columbia.

### Small Group, November 1 – December 1

Healthcare Reform has created a special one-month open enrollment period for small groups that might not otherwise meet minimum participation or contribution requirements. It is a little-known window of time that could save you money and secure better health care coverage for you, your family and your employees. Benefits to you and your business may include lower rates, better coverage, tax advantages and happier employees.

### Individual/Family Health Plans, November 1 – December 15

Annual Open Enrollment occurs once per year. If you don't enroll in a plan by December 15, you won't be able to get 2021 coverage unless you have a qualifying life event throughout the year.

### Medicare Annual Open Enrollment, October 15 – December 7

During Annual Medicare Open Enrollment, individuals may make many changes to their enrollment including switching between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage, changing to a different Medicare Advantage Plan and/or updating their Prescription Drug Coverage.

Deadlines in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter are **strict**. To learn more, contact Melanie with the Employee Benefits Department with RKT at 410-369-3953 or via at [MNowak@RKTongue.com](mailto:MNowak@RKTongue.com)

## FROM THE ADA

### ADA Supports Silver Diamine Fluoride for Caries Management

The ADA has a new policy statement on the use of silver diamine fluoride for caries management.

Silver diamine fluoride, or SDF, is a topical antimicrobial and remineralizing agent. When used at 38%, it is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a Class II medical device to treat tooth sensitivity. SDF may also be used as a non-restorative treatment to arrest carious lesions on primary and permanent teeth, which the ADA determined in its 2018 systematic review and subsequent evidence-based clinical recommendations for the arrest or reversal of noncavitated and cavitated dental caries using nonrestorative treatments in children and adults. [Read more information here.](#)

### ADA Supports Efforts to Allow Dentists to Administer Vaccines

The [ADA News](#) (10/23, Solana) reported the ADA House of Delegates passed a resolution on Oct. 19 that expresses the ADA's support for "dentists who are seeking to administer vaccines, including – when it becomes available – a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19." Resolution 91H-2020 "states that dentists have the requisite knowledge and skills to administer critical vaccines that prevent life- or health-threatening conditions and protect the life and health of patients and staff at the point of care." Dr. Duc M. Ho, chair of the ADA Council on Dental Practice, said, "The pandemic has highlighted the potential benefits of an expanded role for dentists in preventive health care, including access to and the administration of vaccinations."

### CDC Revises Guidance on What Constitutes "Close Contact" with COVID-19 Cases

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (10/21, Abbott, Subscription Publication) reports the CDC has changed its definition of what constitutes close contact with a person infected with COVID-19 in the wake of a Vermont prison officer who tested positive for the disease after a number of brief interactions with infected inmates.

The [Washington Post](#) (10/21, Sun) reports the [new guidance](#) "greatly expands the pool of people considered at risk of contracting the novel coronavirus" and "is likely to have its biggest impact in schools, workplaces and other group settings where people are in contact with others for long periods of time." The CDC "had previously defined a 'close contact' as someone who spent at least 15 consecutive minutes within six feet of a confirmed coronavirus case." The updated guidance, "which health departments rely on to conduct contact tracing, now defines a close contact as someone who was within six feet of an infected individual for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, according to a CDC statement Wednesday."



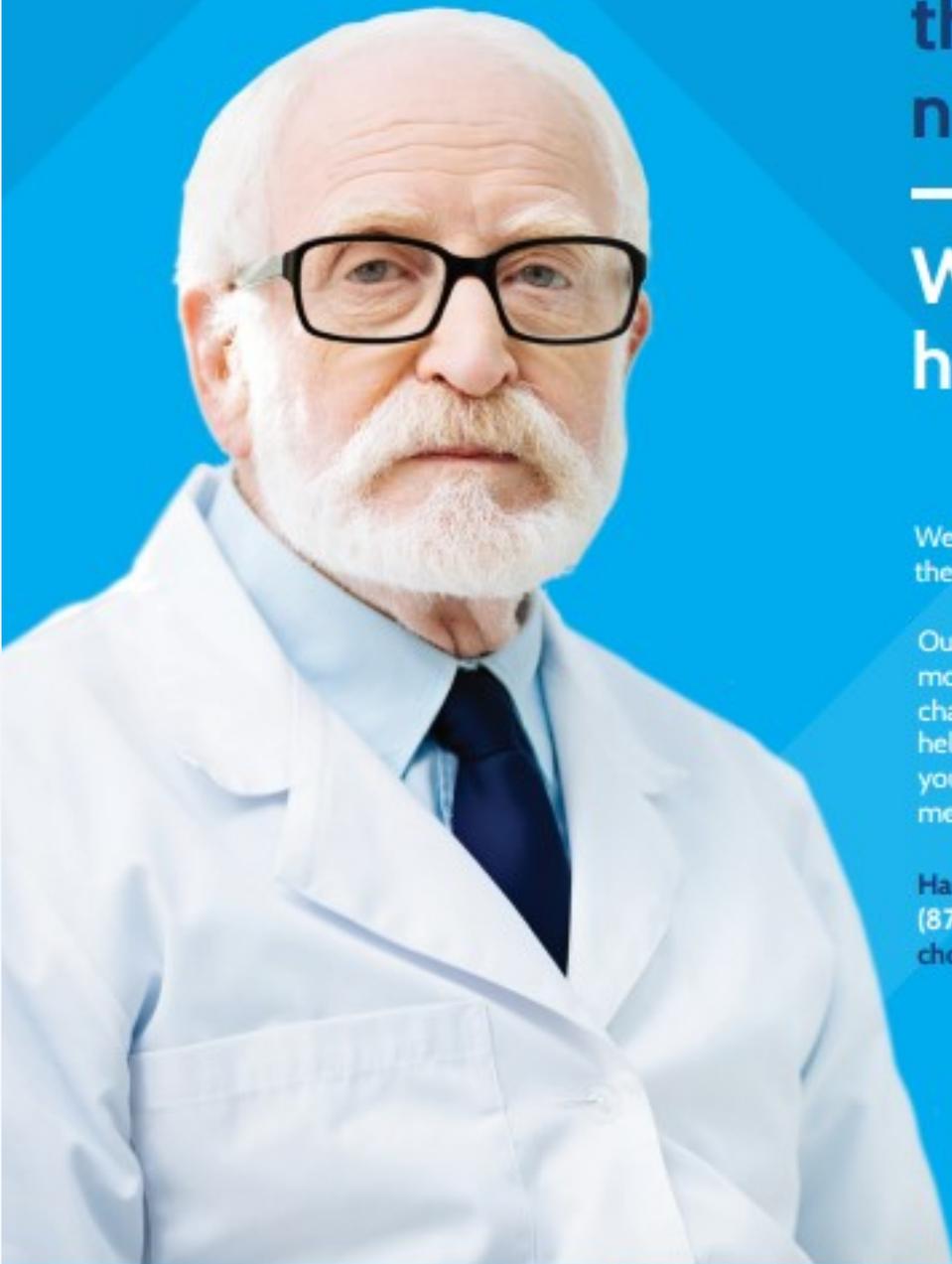
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the new  
normal?”

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# Thank you to our 2021 Partners



## COVID-19 Resources

DC Government: [COVID-19 Statistics and Information](#)

HHS: [Provider Relief Fund Post-Payment Reporting Requirements](#)

CDC: [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Dental Settings During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic.](#)

CDC: [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

A promotional banner for Lenovo with a purple and blue geometric pattern background. On the left is the Lenovo logo. The main text reads "Cozy up to Semi Annual Savings!" followed by "Up to 60% off PCs & more" and "Now through 10/12/20". On the right, it says "Free Shipping" with a truck icon and "While supplies last!"

**Lenovo**

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While supplies last!

## Classifieds

### Equipped Dental Space Available

**Description:** Dental office space available near both Farragut West and North metro stations. 1-4 furnished tx operatories available depending on the week day(s).

**Contact:** Jan | 202-812-4990 | varichmail-qu@yahoo.com

### Space Sharing in Downtown DC Opportunity

**Description:** Reduce your overhead, risk. Space share in our state-of-the-art, multi-specialty 11 operatories (General/Endo/Ortho/Perio) practice located in the heart of Downtown DC. A great opportunity for new or established dentist to share space, spec, empl.

**Contact:** Dr. Samira Shenan | 703-261-3649 | | brr168@gmail.com

### Periodontist and/or an Oral Surgeon Needed

**Description:** Looking to have a Periodontist and/or an Oral Surgeon come to our main office either 1 day a week or every other week to place implants, soft / hard tissue grafts and difficult third extractions. We have a CBCT and Cerec Stent fabrication capabilities.

**Contact:** Dr. Tsaknis at City Dental DC | 202-628-7979 | jtsaknis@citydentaldc.com

### DC Practice for Sale

**Description:** DC Dental Practice for sale. 25 years in NW DC. Profitable practice. Diversified payer mix. Trained staff. Over 1,500 active patients. First floor location. Owner is retiring.

**Contact:** Ulric Donawa | 301-502-1375 | Ulric@allenbusinessadvisors.com

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