



District of Columbia
DENTAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

June 2024, Vol. 70, No. 6



Dr. Cheryle Baptiste

Letter from DC Dental Society President Cheryle Baptiste, DDS, FICD, FIAMDI

Dear Colleagues,

As we welcome the vibrant month of June, I am thrilled to share with you the latest updates and events from the DC Dental Society. This month brings numerous opportunities to enhance our profession and engage with our community.

Dental Smiles Month: Celebrate Dental Smiles Month by emphasizing the impact of a healthy, confident smile.

Dental Diversity Month: During Dental Diversity Month, highlight your practice's commitment to inclusivity and serving a diverse community. Showcase the multicultural aspects of your team, provide educational content on oral health tailored to various cultural backgrounds, and offer special promotions or events that emphasize the importance of oral care for everyone. I encourage you to post about this on DCDS social media feeds (see icons accompanying this article). This is an excellent opportunity to connect with a broader audience and strengthen relationships within your diverse patient base. The ADA Task Force to Eliminate Barriers for Underrepresented Minorities met in January, February, May and will meet again this month. I am honored to be a member of this task force!

Pride Month: June is also Pride Month, a time to celebrate the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ members of our community, be they fellow dentists, team members or patients. I hope that you will join me in creating a welcoming and inclusive environment in your practice not only for the month of June, but throughout the year.

National Hydration Day: June 23, 2023: On National Hydration Day, emphasize the importance of oral health and hydration.

DCDS Advocacy Efforts

Our advocacy efforts continue to be robust and impactful. If you are a specialist practicing in DC, please take a moment to [sign our letter opposing the specialty license and board certification requirement](#) for specialist dentists in DC. A hearing on the Dental Specialties Licensure and Scope of Practice Amendment Act (B25-0632) is scheduled for Wednesday, July 10. You may sign up to testify at [this link](#).

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Cover photo: Dr. Jonathan Esquivel speaks to DCDS members during the May CE event.

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Advocacy Update

100+ DC Dentists Sign DCDS Letter Opposing Specialty License Proposal

There's Still Time to Add Your Name

DCDS is opposing a legislative proposal before the DC Council to require all specialist dentists to obtain a specialty license and be board certified in order to continue practicing in DC. DCDS estimates that approximately half of all specialist dentists overall would be ineligible to secure a specialty license because of the board certification requirement. This proposal is included in the [Dental Specialties Licensure and Scope of Practice Amendment Act of 2023 \(B25-0632\)](#).

A hearing on the legislation is scheduled for Wednesday, July 10, starting at 9:30 AM. Testimony can be delivered in person or virtually over Zoom. It is important that DC dentists testify at the hearing to explain the devastating, long term impact this proposal would have on the number of dentists practicing in DC and consequently on the health and well-being of the public.

The legislation also include a provision to authorize dentists to administer FDA approved neurotoxins (e.g., BOTOX), but only for dental purposes. DCDS is advocating for a broader authorization to allow dentists with proper training to administer these substances for cosmetic as well as dental purposes.

Want to help this effort? See the checklist to the right.

Visit www.dcdental.org/advocacy to learn more about DCDS advocacy or write to info@dcdental.org.

DC Health Offers Funding to Support Oral Health

Senior Dental Services Program Funding Opportunity CHA-SDSP-5.3.24

Intended to support the efforts of DC-based dental practices to promote the dental health and welfare of the District's seniors, with an emphasis on engaging seniors in quality, comprehensive dental care.

Eligibility: For profit or nonprofit dental practices located and licensed to provide services within the District of Columbia, who are experienced in providing comprehensive dental services to seniors, currently billing to DC Medicaid, and have experience charging patients according to a formal sliding scale fee policy.

Continued on page 7.

Checklist to Defeat DC Specialist Dentist License

Learn about the issue

[See DCDS information page](#)

Cosign our letter of opposition

[Add your name via our sign on form](#)

Share this info

Tell your DC colleagues about this issue.

Sign up to testify

[Register to testify for the July 10 hearing on the DC Council website](#)

Letter from the President, Continued

Additionally, we are advocating for:

- An increase in Medicaid fees for covered dental procedures.
- The ability of dentists to administer injections of FDA-approved neurotoxins (e.g., BOTOX) for cosmetic purposes.
- The appointment of actively practicing dentists to the Board of Dentistry. We are pleased to report that four DC dentists were recently nominated to seats on the Board, and we are working to establish a more collaborative relationship with the DC Board of Dentistry.

DCDS/ADA Dues Reduction

Thank you to all who voted on the bylaws amendment. Your support enables DCDS to participate in an ADA pilot program, resulting in a reduction in dues. For dentists who pay full dues, membership fees will be reduced by \$270 next year!

If you have not yet paid your 2024 DCDS dues, please let us know why. We value your feedback and are committed to addressing your concerns.

Recent and Upcoming Events

On Tuesday, May 14, we had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Jonathan Esquivel, who delivered a superb lecture on “Modern Implantology, Prosthodontic Approaches to a Biological Challenge.” A recording of his presentation and other past CE presentations are [available on the DCDS website](#).

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Happy Hour at Lia’s in Chevy Chase on May 21st. The food and conversation were wonderful!

We look forward to our next outing to see the Washington Nationals baseball game on June 7, followed by a FREE concert by Flo Rida at National’s Park .

On July 18th we will host a special networking event at the DC Dental Society headquarters to welcome home the newest dentists to DC. We are building in a speed networking component that will also enable general dentists and specialists to connect. I hope that you will join us.

Please save the date for our next continuing education event on September 10: Breathing Disorders/Myofunctional Therapy presented by Gillian Gladstone Teran, MA, CCC-SLP.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our profession. Let’s make this June a month of celebration, diversity, and advocacy for better dental health in our community.

Warm regards,

Cheryle Baptiste, DDS, FICD, FIAMDI
President 2024-2025

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Thank You for Approving Pilot Programs Bylaws Amendment

DCDS Members Will See Greatly Reduced Dues Rates in 2025

DCDS members voted overwhelmingly to approve a proposed bylaws amendment that was the final action to enable participation in the ADA Membership and Engagement Pilot Program from 2025 through 2027. The pilot program is designed to test a new model for membership categories and dues rates with the goal of growing overall membership totals, particularly among early career dentists where there is a steep drop-off as dues are phased in. Most dues paying member dentists in DC will see their dues decline in 2025.

Under the amended bylaws, the board of directors is authorized to adjust membership categories and associated dues levels while participating in the pilot program. Historically, all changes to membership categories and dues rates required approval of the membership in a separate vote, which would have delayed and potentially blocked the ability of DCDS to fully participate in the pilot program.

In the final count, 91 members voted to support the amendment and two voted in opposition. The threshold to approve the amendment was participation by at least 58 members.

2025 ADA/DCDS Membership Dues Rates

Dues Rate	2024 ADA/DCDS Dues	2025 ADA/DCDS Dues	2025 Dues Reduction
Full Active Members Primary Membership Category	\$1240	\$970	\$270
Life Members, Active Practicing	\$1073	\$803	\$270
Full Time Academic Faculty	\$1073	\$803	\$270
Dentist, 1st Year Out of Dental School	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dentist, 2nd Year Out of Dental School	\$453	\$288	\$165
Dentist, 3rd Year Out of Dental School	\$905	\$288	\$617
Dentist, 4th Year Out of Dental School	\$1073	\$288	\$785
Dentist, 5th Year Out of Dental School	\$1240	\$288	\$952
Life Members, Retired	\$0	\$0	\$0

In Memoriam

It is with a heavy heart that we share news of the passing of Dr. Mohamed Zamaludin. Dr. Zamaludin was a longtime member of DCDS and a past president (1982-1983). The following text is reprinted with permission from his celebration of life held on May 3.

Mohamed ‘Zam’ Zamaludin D.D.S

October 17, 1938 - April 23, 2024



Dr. Mohamed ‘Zam’ Zamaludin was born to Mohamed and Jhyte in Guyana, South America (formerly British Guiana) on October 17, 1938. He went home to meet Jesus on April 23, 2024. Predeceased by his parents and 4 siblings, he is survived by his wife (Jemelia), daughter (Lisa), grandson, son-in-law, five siblings, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Dr. Zamaludin was a long-time resident of the Washington, D.C., area. His life was the very embodiment of the American immigrant success story. He emigrated to the D.C. area in 1959 to attend Howard University, where he drove a cab to pay his way through both his undergraduate and graduate degrees. His fierce determination, persistence, and value of hard work ultimately resulted in him receiving many honors, including being elected President of the District of Columbia Dental Society, serving as Alternate Delegate to the American Dental Association, being inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Dentistry, Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry, and Fellow of the International College of Dentistry.

Dr. Zamaludin believed in giving back to others, his community, and his profession. He and his wife were members of the Rockville Assembly of God and more recently Park Cities Baptist Church of Dallas. He also served as an Associate Professor at Howard University College of Dentistry. He treated special needs children in the D.C. school system and spent countless pro bono hours treating many others.

Dr. Zamaludin loved being a dentist, loved traveling with his family, and especially loved talking with others. He never lost his passion for the Guyanese Cricket team and would spend time explaining the rules of cricket to his football-playing grandson. After retiring in 2010, he and Jemelia moved to Texas to be closer to their daughter and their grandson. Without question, his grandson was the “apple of his eye.” A blessing to others, Dr. Z, Papa, Dad, and husband will be sorely missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to Park Cities Baptist Church of Dallas or the American Cancer Society.

Fall 2024 Continuing Education Presentations

As a reminder all members of the DC Dental Society, including those in a residency program, can attend our monthly meetings at no cost. I hope you will join us in-person at the DCDS office to reconnect with your friends and colleagues in the dental community over dinner, while earning up to 2 hours of continuing education.

Monthly business meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. Educational session begins at approximately 6:00 p.m. [Visit the DCDS website](#) for course information, speaker bios, fees and cancellation policy.

About DCDS Speakers

Your DC Dental Society has developed a continuing education program that features leading experts in dental care whether they practice across the country or down the street. The inclusion of local presenters on the program for DCDS monthly meetings is intended to foster collegiality and support our local community. DCDS does not endorse one specialist over another, but celebrates D.C. talent.

Meeting Date	Meeting Topic	Speaker
September 10, 2024	Oral Motor/Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders In the Pediatric Population	Ms. Gillian Gladstone Teran
October 17, 2024	Updates on Current Dental Materials	Dr. Nate Lawson
November 14, 2024	Risk Management and Malpractice Avoidance	Dr. Marc Leffler
December 10, 2024	Cybersecurity	Mr. Gary Salman

Member Notice—We're Moving to a New CE System!

DCDS is moving to a new system for recording CE credits. Please complete all evaluations and quizzes for 2024 CE meetings by June 9. Access [Online CE Evaluation Portal](#). The username is your ADA number. The password is dcds.

Continuing Education Disclaimer: The District of Columbia 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. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the CE requirements of his or her licensing or regulatory agency and to contact them with any questions regarding licensing. The DC Dental Society designates the above presentations for 2 CE credits each.

Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the **Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition** at [ADA.org/CERP](#).

ADA CERP® | Continuing Education Recognition Program

DC Health Offers Funding to Support Oral Health, continued from page 2

Intended to support the efforts of DC-based dental practices to promote the dental health and welfare of the District's seniors, with an emphasis on engaging seniors in quality, comprehensive dental care.

Recipients will be required to deliver the following services to DC seniors: outreach and education; health care navigation; and diagnostic, preventive, and restorative dental health care services.

Anticipated Award Amount: \$550,000 (minimum: \$250,000)

Application Deadline: June 18, 2024

Visit [Senior Dental Services Program](#) for more information.

Preventing Avoidable Dental Emergency Department Visits CHA-PADEDV-6.14.24

Intended to reduce dental-related Low Acuity, Non-Emergent (LANE) use of Emergency Departments (EDs), to improve effective use of dental services, improve patient experience, and improve health outcomes.

Anticipated Award Amount: \$150,000

Eligibility:

- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)
- Nonprofit or for-profit organizations providing clinical services within a dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA).

Application Deadline: July 16, 2024

Visit [Preventing Avoidable Dental Emergency Department Visits](#) for more information.

Next Board of Dentistry Meeting

Wed., June 12th at 9 AM

In-Person and Virtual

New Location: 2201 Shannon Place SE, Washington DC 20020

All DC Dentists are encouraged to attend

[Click this link](#) to join online.

Come Meet Your New DC Colleagues

DCDS Welcome Home Summer Networking Event

Thursday, July 18
5—7 PM

Mark Your Calendar!

DCDS is hosting a special event to welcome all dentists who are new to DC. Join us for the 2024 Welcome Home Networking Event. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, drinks and camaraderie. Plus the event will include a speed networking activity to help you to connect with your DC colleagues whether you are new to DC or have been a member of the community for many years.

When: Wednesday, July 18 from 5-7 PM

Where: DCDS Headquarters—2001 K Street, 3rd Floor North

All dentists who are new to DC will receive a Welcome Home Gift Set, if not already a DCDS member, will have an opportunity to join!

Registration opens soon. Hope you see you in July!

This innovative event is made possible thanks to generous funding from the ADA Acquisition, Retention and Conversion (ARC) Grant program.

Refer a Dentist and Receive Recruitment Bonus when they Join!

We are stronger together. Help DCDS grow.

Members are encouraged to invite dentists who are not current members to join DCDS and the ADA. When a non-member dentist joins, the referring dentist will receive a \$100 recruitment bonus in appreciation.

Thank you **Dr. Elana Shlansky** for referring Dr. Toshar Taneja, who was listed as a new member in our April 2024 newsletter.



Do I Really Need That Insurance?

Assessing Your Practice's Need for Insurance Against Data Breaches and Cyber Crime

by E. Andrew Gerner, R.K Tongue Co., Inc.

Warnings and reports of cyber-crime and data breaches are so frequent they become background noise. The purpose of this article isn't to establish the presence of a threat. [ADA publications](#) and actual breach events experienced by state dental associations, dental vendors, municipalities, and practices of all sizes around the country make awareness of the risk unavoidable. The true purpose of this article is to provide a toolkit and quick reference guide for assessing the risks and rewards of mitigating and transferring cyber crime and data breach exposure ...or not.

First, a word about risk management: work with a capable and sophisticated IT service provider to strengthen your IT security posture. Good IT managed service providers will ensure security patches are up to date, antivirus software is robust and current, and network policies like multi-factor authentication, remote access VPNs, partitioned remote backups, etc. are present and properly configured.

Next, educate yourself and staff about breach and cybercrime vectors like phishing, spear phishing, site-spoofing, device theft, and social media and online scams. Significant [free resources](#) are available through the U.S. Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). If nothing else, periodic team meetings and reminders go a long way. Make sure staff verify that sender email addresses are authentic and do not click links or open files from unknown or suspicious senders.

No dental practice can realistically reduce the risk of data breach or cyber-crime victimization to zero.

No one knows for certain if and when you will experience a cybersecurity event and therefore *need* insurance for it, but you can choose today how painful the experience will be when you find out the answer. Here's how:

Option A:

A robust, standalone, data breach and cyber liability policy will cost a typical dental office several hundred or even a couple thousand dollars annually depending on the size of the practice and its existing cyber security controls. This solution will require an application and underwriting process that is difficult or impossible to complete without the assistance of your IT service provider. This is the solution for practice owners who want the least pain in the event of a cybersecurity incident. The policy will typically include:

- Reimbursement for lost collections revenue up to a stated limit
- Legal services for negotiating a ransom and/or interaction with regulatory authorities
- IT forensic services to identify source(s) and scope of the breach
- Public Relations and regulatory responsibility coaching

Assessing Your Practice's Need for Insurance Against Data Breaches and Cyber Crime

- Financial services for payment of a ransom (typically in cryptocurrency) if necessary
- Funds to pay for it all, up to a stated limit

Option B:

A cyber insurance endorsement on an existing liability or businessowner's policy. This is the solution for practice owners who are willing to endure moderate to severe pain in the event of a breach in exchange for saving a few hundred insurance premium dollars per year. Little standardization exists in the realm of this option except that coverage is generally very inexpensive and very limited. Obtaining a policy endorsement may require a light application and underwriting process. Most cyber insurance endorsements include a limited amount of funds to pay for some of the expenses associated with a cyber security event. Many companies that offer this type of endorsement may provide funds but *not* a panel of experts to support the needs of a cyber claim, e.g. negotiation, PR, IT, and financial services. With this option, you may receive reimbursement to pay for some required services, but it will likely fall short of the actual cost of those services. You will generally need to source and retain appropriate professional services on your own, and reimbursement for lost revenue collections are limited or specifically excluded. Lost collections could be more substantial considering the time required to DIY a cybersecurity event response.

Option C:

Nothing. The big benefit is no up-front cost or effort. The downside is five, six, or seven figures of potential loss and a complete lack of outside guidance or assistance should that loss materialize. This is the option for practice owners who are exceptionally lucky, like to gamble, and/or don't mind adversity or emotional and financial stress/distress. It goes by many names, e.g. "naked", "no parachute", "take my chances", "my IT company says I don't need it" (they didn't), "my CPA says I don't need it" (he or she wouldn't), or the author's personal favorite: "self-insuring" (definitely no segregated reserve funds, appraisal of risk, actuarial study, reinsurance, or stop-loss provisions found with true self-insurance programs. Just hoping it doesn't happen). Cheeky? Perhaps. Factually accurate? Yes.

In truth, most business and practice owners are just too busy to proactively research, select, and go through the process of obtaining many of the things they want or need, let alone cyber insurance that they don't really want but *may* need or only need *later*. A good broker with specialized programs can make it easier, even if it's still not effortless. [Contact your DC Dental Society endorsed R.K. Tongue broker.](#) Your future self will thank you.

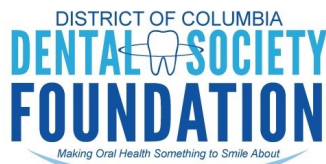


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“The time spent has been at times challenging, difficult, frustrating, but is very rewarding and well worth serving these patients. These patients are timely, diligent and extremely appreciative. I feel so blessed to help.” Dr. Rodney Savoia

Sign up for DC Dental Cares, the DC Dental Society Foundation’s pro bono program.

This program is win-win-win: for our community, for the individuals who receive dental procedures that would not otherwise be possible due to costs, and for the DCDS volunteer who gains that warm feeling that comes from doing good.

Patients are fully vetted for need by our partner, the Catholic Charities Healthcare Network (CCHCN), and the treating dentist sets the level of care provided. You can treat one person a year or several a month, all while in the comfort of your own office.

DC Dental Cares Sign Up Form

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ADA Endorsed Programs

ADA endorsed companies bring you special member savings on products and services designed specifically to work for your practice: from professional liability insurance to business credit cards to office supplies and computers. There are also endorsements geared towards your home life, such as health insurance, appliances, and even automobiles.

Many members are able to recoup a great deal of their dues dollars through the savings they receive by simply participating in these programs. Take advantage of the benefits of membership.

For more information about these programs, visit the [DCDS website](#).



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**-Dr. Aliya Kassam
Two Aces Dentistry
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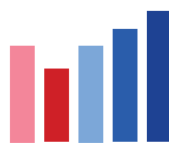


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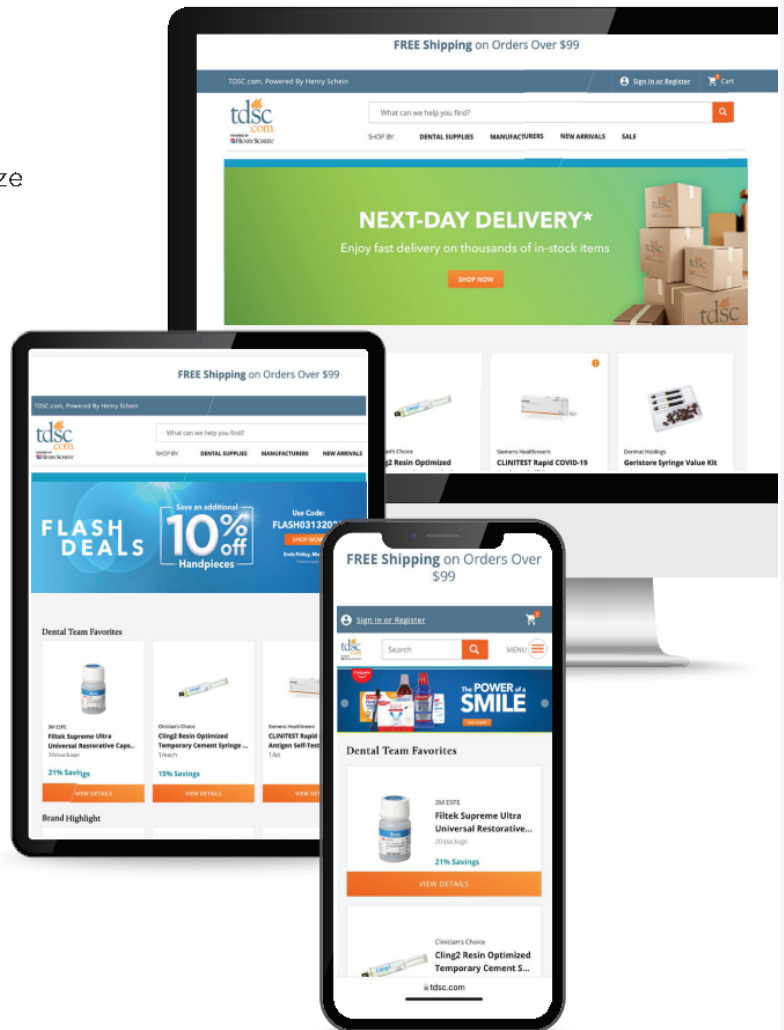
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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

On **March 15, 2024**, the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) will accept applications for the Health Professional Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP). The program provides loan repayment services to eligible providers practicing in HPLRP-certified Service Obligation Sites (SOS) in the District.

Who Can Apply:

Primary Care, Mental Health, and Dental Providers, Including: Physicians, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Registered Nurses, Midwives, Advanced Practice Nurses & Physician Assistants

The HPLRP will issue up to eleven (11) award contracts. Award contracts will cover two years of participation and award contract amounts will be equivalent to 44 percent of a provider's total eligible debt - up to a maximum of \$72,617.88 for physicians and up to \$39,938.83 for all other eligible primary care providers. The maximum award amount for four years of service is \$165,040.64 for medical doctors and dentists and \$90,770.07 for all other approved DC licensed providers.

When to Apply:

New provider applications will be accepted from **March 15, 2024 to April 15, 2024.**

How to Apply:

dchealth.dc.gov/service/dc-health-professional-loan-repayment-program-hplrp

How to Complete an HPLRP Application

March 14, 2024 3-4pm

Meeting link: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6m9atd>

Join by phone: 202-860-2110

Access code: 2306 248 7393

Meet virtually with Cisco Webex.

Additional Information:

Providers interested in the program must be employed or have an employment contract with a certified Service Obligation Site (SOS) to provide direct patient care for at least 20 hours per week. A site must be an approved SOS for a provider to be eligible for the HPLRP. To become an SOS, a site must be a public or nonprofit entity located in a Health Professional Shortage or Medically Under-served Area/Population (HPSA/MUA/MUP) and must submit a Site Certification Application to the HPLRP. HPLRP applications, including recommendation letters and loan verification information, must be completed and received by DC Health by April 15, 2024.

Providers at for-profit facilities are newly eligible. See the website for details.

The anticipated contract start date for selected applicants is **August 2024.**





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Could the flapless surgical approach be a viable surgical treatment alternative for peri-implantitis?

ADA Morning Huddle, May 29, 2024

A study in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology aimed to evaluate the effectiveness of a flapless surgical approach in the treatment of peri-implantitis and to explore the factors influencing its outcome.

[Full story: Surgical Treatment Alternative for Peri-Implants](#)

Effect of antiresorptive drugs on osseointegrated dental implants

ADA Morning Huddle, June 3, 2024

A systematic review published in the Journal of Clinical Medicine aimed to evaluate the effect of antiresorptive drugs on osseointegrated dental implants.

[Full Story: Effect of antiresorptive drugs on osseointegrated dental implants](#)

Tooth autotransplantation suitable alternative to traditional prosthetics

ADA Morning Huddle, June 4, 2024

Tooth autotransplantation can provide an alternative to other prosthetic options, according to a study published in the June issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association. The cover story, “Advancements in Tooth Autotransplantation,” examines the history, advances and advantages of tooth autotransplantation, which involves the surgical relocation of a tooth from one site in the mouth to another site within the same patient.

[Full Story: Tooth autotransplantation to replace missing teeth a natural and functional alternative to traditional prosthetic options](#)

What to know about new Medicaid rules

ADA Morning Huddle, May 29, 2024

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently issued two final rules related to access to care within Medicaid managed care and fee-for-service plans. The ADA previously sent letters to CMS after the rules were proposed, offering suggestions for each. Learn more about the key takeaways from the rules concerning rate transparency, access monitoring and more.

[Full story: New Medicaid rules](#)

Dental affordability, availability focus of Senate Committee hearing

ADA Morning Huddle, May 30, 2024

A Senate committee discussed various ways to make oral health care more accessible and affordable for Americans. The ADA submitted a Statement for the Record on the topic and issued a news release applauding Congress for prioritizing oral health as an important part of overall health and well-being.

[Full story: Senate hearing on dental affordability](#)

ADA Advocates for Dentists in Debt

ADA Morning Huddle, May 30, 2024

The ADA is supporting several of the U.S. Department of Education's proposals to amend student loan debt relief regulations for borrowers throughout the country. Some areas of ADA support include various proposals like providing relief across different loan types, offering debt relief to borrowers who have been in repayment for extended periods and income-driven repayment adjustments.

[Full Story: Association supports income-driven repayment adjustments, relief for various loan types](#)

ADA says mental health bill is critical for health care workers

ADA Morning Huddle, May 31, 2024

The ADA is expressing support for a Senate committee’s efforts to reauthorize a federal grant program aimed at increasing mental health resources for health care workers. The ADA signed on to a coalition letter thanking the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for their “critical effort” to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act.

[Full story: ADA supports mental health bill](#)

ADA pushes proven, effective solutions for patient care

ADA Morning Huddle, May 31, 2024

Jane Grover, D.D.S., senior director for the ADA Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention, joined The Indicator, a Planet Money and NPR podcast, to discuss the ADA's alternative solutions for access to care that are more effective with treating patients in underserved areas. The focus of the podcast was dental therapists, who can perform cleanings and some procedures typically done by dentists. Dr. Grover discussed alternative ways the ADA is fighting for quality care by supporting both patients and providers.

[Full Story: ADA's alternative solutions for access to care](#)

\$1.6M grant supports increasing dentist in underserved areas

ADA Morning Huddle, June 3, 2024

The Maryland Department of Health is launching a program to increase the number of dentists and dental hygienists in underserved communities in the state, as many of those areas have fewer than 20 dentists per 100,000 people.

[Full story: Maryland DOH launching program to increase number of dentist](#)

Dental Museum offers programming, exhibits

ADA Morning Huddle, June 3, 2024

The Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry in Baltimore, Maryland, boasts an object collection of more than 40,000 dental instruments, personal oral care items and artwork. The Smithsonian affiliate features several ADA artifacts such as a portrait of the first ADA president and transactions of early Association meetings.

[Full story: Beyond the office, the storied history of dentistry](#)

Health data exchange focus of ADA Panel

ADA Morning Huddle, June 5, 2024

Hear from dental software developers and informatics experts during the ADA's Dental Interoperability and Data Exchange Panel on June 12. The purpose of the panel discussion will be to explore the evolving landscape of health information exchange and interoperability. Panelists will discuss their perspectives on dental data exchange and the integration of electronic dental records with other health information software.

[Full story: Learn about health data exchange at ADA panel](#)

Introducing ADA Foundation Give Veterans A Smile program

ADA Morning Huddle, June 5, 2024



Attention! At this year's SmileCon, we're highlighting the unmet oral health needs of veterans with the launch of the ADA Foundation Give Veterans A Smile program. This salute to service includes a celebration event at the spectacular National WWII Museum, ethical continuing education to learn about veterans' unique needs and a Pack & Give Back service event in partnership with the Disabled Veterans National Founda-

tion. [Register today at SmileCon.org.](https://www.smilecon.org)

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