

Bronx County Dental News



A PUBLICATION OF THE BRONX COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

BCDS Dentists Serve Their Community



BCDS's Dr. Amarilis Jacobo and Joy Patane supported an event hosted by Dr. Christopher Lane and St. Barnabas Hospital Health Systems. Free dental health screenings were provided for adults and children in our Bronx community.

Dr Jacqueline Samuels represented the Bronx County Dental Society alongside Hostos Community College Dental Hygiene students and Bronx Care Pediatric residents to promote oral health awareness during the annual Give Kids A Smile event.

This year's event was held at PS 160, where over 80 children received oral health education and gift bags. ■





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Risk Management Tip: Tracking Test Results

The Risk

The receipt and review of test results are important aspects of patient care and safety in dental practices. Tests may not be completed, or results may be lost, overlooked, or not received, leading to a potential delay in diagnosis and subsequent liability exposure. Follow-up procedures should be an integral part of your practice and can help ensure that patients obtain the necessary testing as ordered and that results are received, reviewed, and properly addressed.

Recommendations

1. Inform patients about the indications for the test(s), and document this conversation in the record.
2. Implement a follow-up system in your practice to ensure that patients have undergone the recommended test(s) and that the results are returned to the office.
3. The follow-up system should allow you to track the following information: the patient's name, the name of the test(s), the date the test(s) was ordered, the date the results were received.
4. The record should indicate the date of the provider review.
5. It is the dentist's responsibility to notify patients of significant test results. This should be documented in the patient's record.
6. Your process should include follow-up when patients have not undergone the recommended test(s). This may include telephone and/or electronic communication. All attempts to reach the patient should be documented in the record.
7. A follow-up mechanism that utilizes the same process should also be in place to track consultations. ■

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The advertisement features a dark blue background with the text "UNIVERSAL PRODUCTS SIMPLIFY PROCEDURES" in large, white, bold letters. In the top left corner is the Kuraray Noritake logo. Below the text, there are three large, overlapping circles in teal, pink, and red. Inside the teal circle is a bottle of CLEARFIL Bond Quick 2. Inside the pink circle is a syringe. Inside the red circle is another syringe. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular inset photo of a smiling man, Jim Kaplan. To the right of the photo is a large, teal button with a white cursor icon and the text "Contact Jim Kaplan REQUEST SAMPLE".

Statement from State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald on Health Benefits of Water Fluoridation

Apr 14, 2025

"SAFE AND AVAILABLE WATER FOR DRINKING

and for recreation promotes healthy people, healthy communities, and a healthy economy. Considered to be one of the greatest health achievements in the past century, the New York State Department of Health supports optimal levels of water fluoridation as a significant and cost-effective public health measure.

"Fluoride is a mineral that is often naturally present in drinking water. When it is not naturally present, adding it at low levels prevents tooth decay or cavities, the most common chronic childhood disease. Drinking water with fluoride at the optimal level contributes to maintaining good oral health. Scientists have found that when fluoride is removed from water, tooth decay increases across the population.

"Good oral health and physical health are inseparable. Poor oral health can lead to oral conditions that cause inflammation in the mouth and signal a response in the body that can impact chronic diseases like diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Loss of teeth due to dental decay can limit consumption of fruits and vegetables that impact chronic health conditions, especially in older adults.

"The benefits of proper dentition, or oral hygiene, which includes flossing and brushing twice a day, in addition to community water fluoridation, go beyond physical health. Studies show poor access to dental care contributes to poor oral health and can have lifelong psychological effects and can be a

barrier to self-confidence and social belonging.

"Because the fluoridated water supply reaches everyone equally, health disparities decrease, as we know not everyone has access to regular dentist checkups. Water fluoridation provides everyone with the same starting opportunity of having a healthy smile.

"The low levels of added fluoride that we recommend for water systems are optimal for the promotion of dental health and the protection of public health. When water is fluoridated at those levels, there is no reason for concern about health risk. Water supply professionals continuously and carefully monitor these levels to ensure public safety.

"The U.S. Public Health Service recommends a fluoride concentration of 0.7 parts per million in drinking water, equivalent to three drops in a 55-gallon drum; this is a safe and effective level carefully chosen and monitored to prevent cavities. Those New York State water systems that are fluoridated provide this safe level of fluoride.

"Water fluoridation is determined at the local level, and not all communities have fluoridated water. However, currently, about 13 million New York State residents receive the benefits of water that is fluoridated or contains naturally occurring fluoride at approximately optimal levels. The Department will continue to support the right of local municipalities to have this public health option for their communities." ■

CPR Training

Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers

Current CPR Certification is a requirement for licensure. You must take an in-person class.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 | 6:00pm

Maestro's Caterers 1703 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx New York 10462

Wraps, Crudite, and Beverages at 6:00pm

CPR Training at 6:30pm

BCDS Members and their staff - \$125/person

Non BCDS Members and their staff - \$150/person

This is a renewal class intended for those who have an American Heart Association certification card and wish to renew it. Bring your current card to the class. There will be a written test that can be completed online, after class, to receive your new certification card.

The class will start at 6:30 pm. It is a 2½ hour class so please arrive on time.

YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR A SEAT IN THIS CLASS. EMAIL JOY PATANE AT BRONXDENTAL@OPTONLINE.NET OR CALL 718-733-0186 ■

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Dr. Joshua Gindea

How to Attract New Patients in 2025 and Beyond

Tuesday October 28, 2025 | 6:00pm

Maestro's Caterers 1703 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx, New York 10462

Buffet Dinner at 6pm

Lecture at 7pm

\$35 for BCDS members | \$75 for non-members | Free for residents of Bronx Hospital programs

While dentists are among the most highly educated and talented groups of people, most will admit to being totally uninformed about how to grow their practices. The business of dentistry is never discussed in school and must be self-taught or learned through (sometimes) very uncomfortable experiences.

Dr. Joshua Gindea, a practicing dentist for more than 3 decades and one of the owners of DoctorsInternet.com, among the nation's leaders in website design and internet marketing for health professionals, is uniquely qualified to train his fellow health practitioners in the use of today's marketing and business tools to help restore and build a practice's revenues during these uncertain financial times.

Dr. Joshua Gindea

Dr. Joshua Gindea is an honors graduate of the combined BA-DDS program at NYU over 40 years ago. He completed a GPR residency and went into private practice, owning and operating 4 dental practices in NYC for over 35 years. Dr. Gindea and his partners have created several dental related businesses, including Westchester Dental Product, Professional Offsite Data Backup and DoctorsInternet.com. Dr. Gindea has lectured extensively throughout the country.



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Congratulations to Dr. Amarilis Jacobo on being honored by the New York Women's Chamber of Commerce

The NY Women of Excellence Award celebrates her leadership, dedication and advocacy in fostering a more inclusive and equitable business landscape. Amarilis has made significant strides in uplifting her community, promoting diversity and supporting women and minority entrepreneurs. ■



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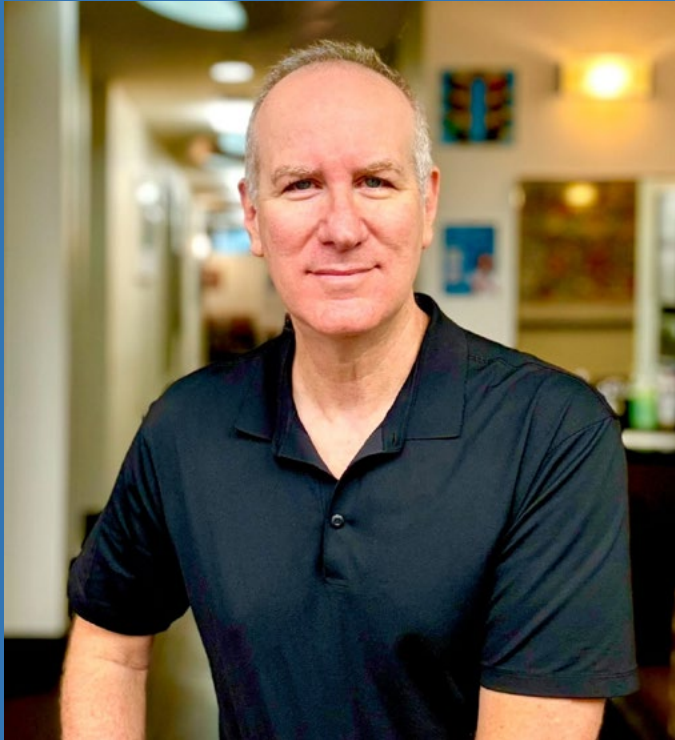



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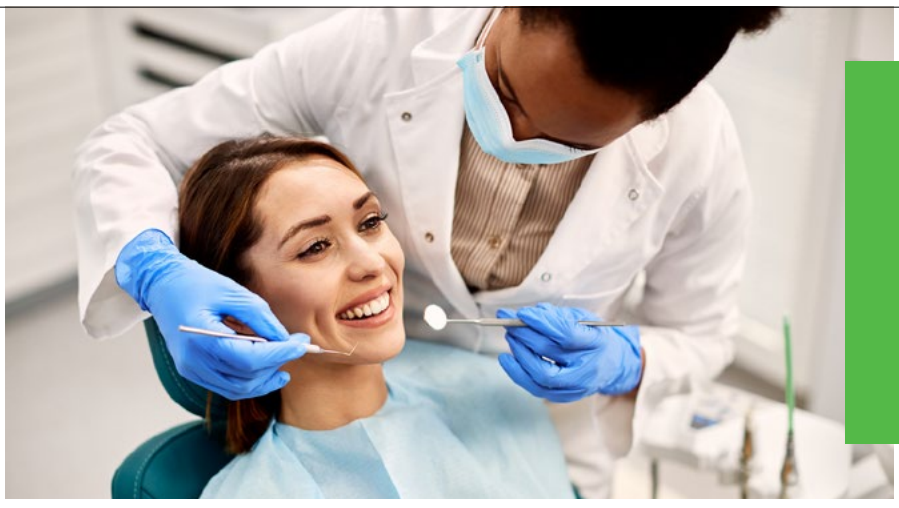











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Eighth Letter from the ADA Second Trustee District to the NYSDA Components

April 2025 | Trustee's Corner

SPRING IS HERE AND IT IS EVEN WARMING UP IN my hometown of Buffalo. I hope all of you and your families have made it through the winter in good order and are looking forward to an enjoyable summer. There have been several changes at the American Dental Association, and I will try to get you up to speed with my correspondence to you. To begin with, we are officially in our new headquarters on the top four floors of a 35-floor building at 401 North Michigan Avenue in Chicago. We have a very agreeable long-term lease and just completed the leasehold improvements in February. If you make a trip to Chicago any time soon, please stop by for a tour. The view is spectacular, and the location is second to none.

There has been a change at the top of the ADA administration. Our previous Executive Director, Dr. Ray Cohlmiya, stepped down from the position in early February this year. The decision was reached amicably, and the ADA Board is extremely proud of Dr. Cohlmiya's service to our organization. We continue to follow his vision for the ADA and hope to see many of the projects he and the ADA Board agreed upon over the past four years come to fruition and/or be completed. Dr. Cohlmiya worked incredibly hard during his tenure at the ADA, and we are extremely grateful for his service. In the meantime, Dr. Betsy Shapiro was unanimously approved by the Board as Interim Executive Director. Dr. Shapiro previously served as Chief of Governance and Strategy Management. She originally graduated from dental school at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Dentistry and was in private practice for several years. She has a Juris Doctor from Northern Illinois University. Dr. Shapiro began her career at the ADA as a Hillenbrand Fellowship scholar and ended up staying at the ADA working in many different

areas of the organization. The ADA Board is very pleased to have Dr. Shapiro as our interim Executive Director as we conduct a national search for a permanent director.



I would like to apologize to all our members due to the delay of the implementation of the Salesforce Fonteva IT program. Unfortunately, there have been many technical challenges. The ADA has received the help of an external consulting firm, Datazuum, to assist us with a health check of the system and implementation. It considered the overall system health rating "at risk" and recommended targeted remediation to stabilize and standardize the program over the next several months. Remediation will be discussed with the states and the Strategic Forecasting Committee during that time. Although this will take some time, the American Dental Association believes we are making progress and taking the proper corrective measures to get our organization on the right path.

The ADA credit union will be scheduled to launch at the end of Q3 or early Q4 of this year. As many of you know, this has required much background work and due diligence over the past year. The ADA is finishing the final touches on a contract with an established credit union with extensive experience in this area to provide financial services to all ADA members and their families. You will be receiving information on this exciting venture in the very near future.

I know that I talked to you in my last Trustee's Corner about water fluoridation, but the landscape has changed even more since our last correspondence. The entire state of Utah has passed a law to eliminate water fluoridation

in their state. Approximately fifteen other states are discussing it at various levels of their legislative process. Countless other municipalities nationwide have it under review. Not all the news is bad though. New Hampshire just reaffirmed its commitment to water fluoridation as did North Dakota. It is a state by state and municipality by municipality battle, depending on your location in the country. Albion, New York, located between Buffalo and Rochester, has had a hearing about it and will have another one later in the spring. The most unfortunate factor is the rhetoric of our HHS Secretary in Washington, DC, Robert Kennedy Jr. He has called water fluoridation a toxic process and should be eliminated nationally. Although there is a plethora of well-done evidence-based studies over the past 80 years, he and the anti-fluoridation folks point to poorly controlled dubious international studies that have faulty conclusions. It is sad we have reached this point in our country where some of our national leaders do not understand settled science.

The ADA will not lay down due to this national trend. We have started an ADA Fluoride Ambassador program to sign up an army of dentists, hygienists, physicians, nurses, and community leaders to be ready to testify, be interviewed or provide information as needed all around the country as these hearings are announced. Currently, we have 72% of the communities in this country with properly titrated fluoridated water at .7 parts per million. The goal is to keep it at that level or increase the percentage, along with keeping a running tab of the outcomes to keep practicing dentists apprised of what is going on. The purpose is to keep our members informed to treat their patients properly as things change.

Thank you for letting me continue to serve you as your ADA Trustee and please email me at dowdb@ada.org or call me at 716-510-3217 if you have any questions. Enjoy your summer!

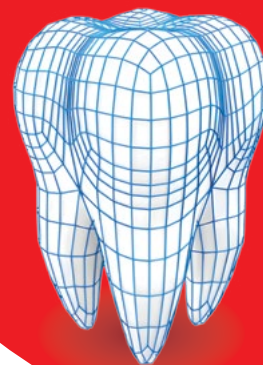
Sincerely, Brendan
Brendan Dowd DDS
ADA Trustee, Second District ■

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See our website:

www.bronxcountydentalsociety.org

THE SITE IS DESIGNED TO BE A RESOURCE FOR MEMBER dentists as well as the public we serve. Take a few minutes to take a tour of the site. Some of the new features are:

- A Member Center full of resources for your practice. All information here is updated constantly by the ADA and NYSDA to keep you informed in real time.
- A Public Resource Center for the general public. The Find A Dentist feature enables patients to search for ADA member dentists by zip code and specialty.

Please give us feedback. This is your site and we have the ability to adapt it to better serve our members. ■

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