



# Periospectives

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PERIODONTOLOGY

# Beyond *the* Basics

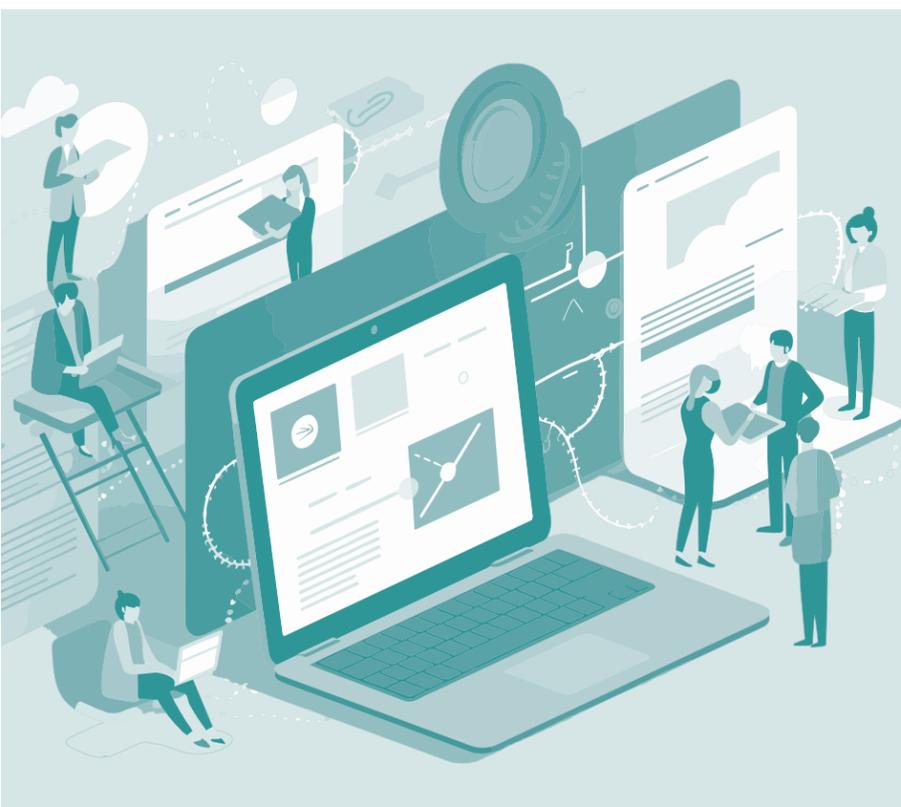


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**COVER STORY**



**Beyond the practice: ARRive recap**

This summer, rising third-year residents were invited to join the Academy for a one-of-a-kind weekend designed to prepare them for the transition from residency to practice at the AAP Resident Retreat, ARRive.

Learn more beginning on page 6.

**Mission**

To champion member success and professional partnerships for optimal patient health and quality of life.

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# President's message

BY DR. MIA L. GEISINGER



Growth and collaboration go hand in hand. Each one fuels the other. Growth stems from collaboration, and collaboration isn't possible without growth. This issue reflects both: the growth of our Academy and the collaboration that defines our members. Our theme, Beyond the Basics, highlights that spirit. We go beyond the basics to show you an inside look and recap of the AAP Resident Retreat, ARRive, as well as dive deeper into the 2025 Annual Meeting taking place in Toronto this Oct. 15-18.

With the Annual Meeting coming up in less than one month, we are proud to spotlight the 2025 awardees in this issue as well as the Balint Orban Research Forum finalists. These individuals exemplify the dedication, talent, and passion that moves periodontics forward. Looking ahead, don't forget that Innovations in Periodontics abstracts for the 2026 Annual Meeting are being accepted

until Feb. 27, 2026. Innovations in Periodontics sessions showcase advances in clinical periodontics, basic sciences or related subjects that have a direct application to patient care. The target speaker is anyone who has a validated innovation to share, and individual and team-based presentations are welcome for this session.

Your voice continues to shape our Academy. The 2025 elections wrapped up this summer and the election results are available in this issue. Don't miss the General Assembly announcement and learn more about the District Forums taking place at this year's Annual Meeting, and how you can take part.

They're back! We asked this year's Gen You individuals to share relevant practice 'hacks' and productivity tools drawn from their unique perspectives across different career stages. There is something

important for every one of our members to take away from their insights. Our International Periodontics feature also returns, exploring the impact of the 2017 Classification of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions.

Education remains at the heart of our commitment and focus. Don't forget to join us for the second session of the Saving Teeth Webinar Series developed by the AAP Work Group on Emerging Technologies for Bone and Soft Tissue Reconstruction to Save Teeth, spotlighting the power of preserving natural dentition through both traditional therapies and emerging technologies. The series continues on Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. CDT with our second webinar, Saving Teeth for a Healthier Life. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming webinars.

Finally, I encourage you to catch up on the latest news from the American Academy of Periodontology Foundation and the American Board of Periodontology in this issue.

These highlights are just a glimpse of how the Academy is going beyond the basics to support our members, to advance our specialty, and to strengthen our shared future. Our growth and collaboration are inseparable, and together, they drive us forward.

I look forward to seeing you all in Toronto this October! ■

Sincerely,  
**Dr. Mia Geisinger**  
President, AAP

## COVER STORY

### Beyond the practice- ARRive recap

*This summer, rising third-year residents were invited to join the Academy for a one-of-a-kind weekend designed to prepare them for the transition from residency to practice at the AAP Resident Retreat, ARRive. This inaugural event offered engaging and interactive programming featuring AAP, AAP Foundation, and American Board of Periodontology leaders as well as up-and-comers in periodontics.*

Through lively discussions, meaningful interaction, and dedicated time for collaboration, ARRive offered participants practical tools and a renewed sense of excitement for the next stage of their professional journey.

See a recap of the event below!



“  
To new periodontists,  
we urge you to get  
out there, attend  
continuing education  
events, and connect  
with others – this will  
be one of the best  
decisions you ever  
make.



## ANNUAL MEETING

### 2026 Annual Meeting: Call for Innovations in Periodontics abstracts

*The Continuing Education Oversight Committee (CEOC) is soliciting presentations that address advances in clinical periodontics, basic sciences, or related subjects for the Innovations in Periodontics program for the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held Oct. 29 – Nov. 1, 2026, in Seattle at the Seattle Convention Center. These sessions will consist of 15-minute presentations. A five-minute question-and-answer period will follow each lecture.*

#### There will be four sessions offered:

**Advances in Periodontics:** These two sessions are intended to showcase clinical advances and/or translational research with direct application to patient care. The target speaker is anyone who has a validated innovation to share. Individual and team-based presentations are welcome for this session.

**Rising Stars:** This session is intended for speakers in practice for ten years or less following post-graduate training. The selected candidates will receive training to present their material in a brief live or virtual platform showcase.

**Perio Open Mic:** This session is a platform to present a pivotal concept, perspective, or paradigm-shifting philosophy. The target presenter is a mid-to late-career periodontal clinician or scientist with a validated innovation to showcase. Unlike Advances in Periodontics, this is the forum to present a philosophy, ideology, or thought, rather than a case presentation.

#### Individual presentation abstract submission procedure:

- Abstracts will be subjected to a blind review and scoring by members of the CEOC.
- Presenters will be informed of the committee's decision in summer 2026.
- Presenters can submit as many abstracts as they would like. However, no one can present more than once.

#### You will need to provide the following information about your presentation:

- The title, which should be ten words or fewer, and not include brand names or acronyms.

# Have something innovative to share?



- Why this presentation is innovative.
- How your presentation impacts practicing periodontists.
- Which of the following topics it covers:
  - Emerging Concepts and Innovative Therapies
  - Implant Surgery and Prosthetic Rehabilitation
  - Interdisciplinary Therapy (ortho, endo, restorative)
  - Leadership, Personal and Practice Development
  - Oral Pathology, Oral Medicine and Oral Diagnosis
  - Periodontal and Systemic Interrelationships
  - Periodontal Plastic and Soft Tissue Surgery
  - Sedation and Anxiety Management
  - Tissue Engineering and Hard Tissue Reconstruction
  - Treatment of Periodontal Diseases and Peri-Implant Diseases

#### Team-based presentation abstract submission for Advances in Periodontics procedure:

- The team-based presentation will consist of presenting a case and then describing the treatment and rationale for therapy, or an etiopathogenetic mechanism or pathway.
- Teams are limited to two speakers.

#### Teams will need to submit one of the following cases:

- Periodontal-restorative dentate aesthetic
- Complex periodontal-restorative aesthetic implant
- Complex periodontal-orthodontic demonstrating Periodontally Accelerated Osteogenic Orthodontics (PAOO) or orthodontic site development for implants
- Correct aesthetic implant complication with interdisciplinary therapy

Interested parties should submit abstracts and cases for committee consideration by **Feb. 27, 2026**, via the Abstract Manager website. General submission information and directions for accessing the site can be found at [perio.org/ce-meetings/abstract-submissions/](https://perio.org/ce-meetings/abstract-submissions/) or contact the Continuing Education department at [continuingeducation@perio.org](mailto:continuingeducation@perio.org) or **312-787-5518**. ■

*Please note that as an Innovations in Periodontics speaker, complimentary meeting registration is not extended by the Academy. Speakers must take care of their registration fees and related travel accommodations and expenses for the meeting if they wish to present.*

## ANNUAL MEETING

### 2025 Balint Orban and Research Forum finalists

Congratulations to this year's Balint Orban Memorial Competition and Research Forum Poster Competition Finalists! Watch the finalists present at the AAP Annual Meeting in Toronto: the Balint Orban Competition will take place on Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. and the Poster Competition will take place on Oct. 17 at 11:30 a.m.

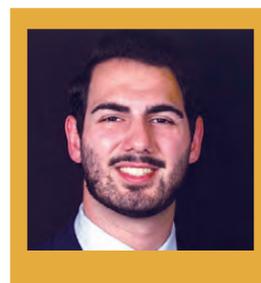
A special thank you to **Specialty1 Partners** for sponsoring this year's Balint Orban Competition, and to **Treloar & Heisel** for sponsoring the Research Forum Poster Session and Competition!

#### Balint Orban Memorial Competition finalists



##### Basic Science

Y. W. Stacy Cho, DMD  
Harvard University  
*Multimodal Single-Cell Analysis Reveals Disease-Specific Epithelial–Stromal Regulation of Inflammation in Periodontitis and Peri-Implantitis*



Jacques Jaar, DMD  
Nova Southeastern University  
*IL-17-mediated peri-implant inflammation and bone loss are exacerbated in diabetic mice compared to healthy mice in a murine peri-implantitis model*



Kiran Changa, DDS, MSBS  
Rutgers University  
*Titanium-Driven Microbial Dysbiosis in Peri-Implantitis Differs from Red Complex-Related Periodontitis*



Yumna Subhani, DDS  
University of California, Los Angeles  
*Instrumentation Effects on Surface Roughness, Characterization and Human Gingival Fibroblast Response of Milled Zirconia: In Vitro*



##### Clinical Science

Tu Nguyen, DDS, MMSc  
Harvard University  
*Treatment of Implant Esthetic Complications with Connective Tissue Graft vs. Collagen Matrix Saturated with Recombinant Human Platelet-Derived Growth Factor: A Randomized, Controlled, Clinical Trial*



Alexis Brito, DDS, MSD  
University of Washington  
*Characterizing the Effects of Periodontal Inflammation in Adjacent and Distant Tooth Sites in Patients with Stage III Periodontitis*



Kela Bowman, DDS, MSD  
Harvard University  
*A Cross-Sectional Examination of Alzheimer's Disease Molecular Markers in Human Gingival Tissue Samples*



Jeremy Bobera, DDS  
University of Iowa  
*Obesity Disrupts Oral Homeostasis: A Multi-Site Analysis of Metabolome, Microbiome, and Immune Profiles*



#### Research Forum Poster Competition finalists



##### Basic Science

Mahboube Hasheminasab  
University of Pittsburgh  
*Expression of the PRX1 Transcription Factor and Co-Expression of EDNRA+/ITGA7+/STEAP4+ Surface Markers Identify a Population of Human Periodontal Stem Cells*



Elizabeth Horta, DMD  
Nova Southeastern University  
*The Effect of B10 Cells on the Phagocytic Activity of Pro-Resolving Macrophages: An In-Vitro Study*



Haipei Luan  
University of Pittsburgh  
*Not All Bleeding on Probing Indicates Disease: Single-Cell Transcriptomics Reveal Distinct Immunologic Signatures Associated with Bleeding Severity Around Dental Implants*



Afnan Khalifah, BDS, DScD  
University of Pennsylvania  
*The Role of High-Risk PERK Haplotypes in Inflammation and Depression Among People With HIV on Antiretroviral Therapy*



##### Clinical Science

Hoda Albaqawi, BDS, MS  
University of Michigan  
*Estimating the Impact of Co-Localized Risk Variables on Peri-Implant Diseases*



Michelle Beverly, DDS, PhD  
University of Michigan  
*The Butterfly Effect: How JUUL E-Cigarettes Alter Microbial Mucosal Interactions*



Kylie Sestak, DDS  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
*Plasma MMP Levels and the Potential Role in the Interrelationship Between Periodontitis and Rheumatoid Arthritis*



Su Jung Kim, DDS, MSD  
Indiana University  
*Upregulation of Senescence-Associated Gene Expression Levels in Human Gingival Tissue Affected by Periodontitis*

## ANNUAL MEETING

### 2025 AAP and AAP Foundation awardees

*The Academy would like to recognize the contributions of our 2025 class of award recipients. Their leadership in education, science, service, research, and the community has established a standard of excellence and forged a pathway for the Academy's future.*



#### Clinical Research Award (AAP)

The Clinical Research Award is presented to the most outstanding scientific published article with direct clinical relevance in periodontics. The paper should present new information which may be readily used by practitioners in the evaluation and/or management of patients with periodontal diseases.

Article: Salivary and serum inflammatory biomarkers during periodontitis progression and after treatment. *J Clin Periodontol.* Teles FRF, Chandrasekaran G, Martin L, et al. 2024 Dec;51(12):1619-1631.

Lead Author: Dr. Flavia R Teles

Contributing Authors: Drs. Ganesh Chandrasekaran, Lynn Martin, Michele J. Patel, Camila Pinheiro Furquim, Michael J Kallan, Andrew J. Cucchiara, Tahir Hamza, Alpdogan Kantarci, Olivia Urquhart, James Sugai, William Giannobile

#### R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award (AAP)

This award is made possible by a generous contribution to the AAP Foundation from the estate of R. Earl Robinson

This award was established by Dr. R. Earl Robinson (1922-1995) to encourage research in periodontal regeneration. It is presented to the author(s) of the peer-reviewed published paper that has contributed most to the knowledge of periodontal regeneration in a given calendar year. The research work can be either in the basic or clinical sciences.

Article: The efficacy of reconstructive therapy in the surgical management of peri-implantitis: A 3-year follow-up of a randomized clinical trial. Renvert S, Giovannoli JL, Rinke S. *J Clin Periodontol.* 2024 Oct;51(10):1267-1276.

Lead Author: Dr. Stefan Renvert

Contributing Authors: Drs. Jean-Louis Giovannoli, Sven Rinke

#### Excellence in Peer Review (AAP)

The Excellence in Peer Review Awards are presented by the Editors of the AAP Journals to individuals who have provided an exceptional number of high-quality reviews with efficient turnaround times for the *Journal of Periodontology* and *Clinical Advances in Periodontics*. Peer review is essential for maintaining the integrity of scientific research, and the Editors rely on peer reviewers to provide constructive, unbiased evaluations of manuscripts submitted for publication. Each award recognizes the recipient's outstanding achievements and valuable contributions as a peer reviewer over the past year.



*Journal of Periodontology*  
Recipient: Dr. Anthony L. Neely



*Clinical Advances in Periodontics*  
Recipient: Dr. Sejal R. Thacker



#### ABP Leslie M. Salkin Achievement Award

This Award is presented by the American Board of Periodontology in honor of former ABP Director, Dr. Leslie M. Salkin, who contributed to the development of the ABP oral examinations up until his passing in 2013. The Achievement Award was developed by the ABP Board to honor the Diplomate who receives the highest score on the oral exam.

Recipient: Dr. Ellen Piehl Pearce



#### ADEA William J. Gies Periodontology Award (AAP)

The William J. Gies Award, in memory of Arthur Hastings Merritt, is presented by the William J. Gies Foundation for the Advancement of Dentistry of the American Dental Education Association for outstanding contributions to the field of periodontology.

Recipient: Dr. Yvonne Hernandez-Kapila

#### The Patty & Paul Levi Research Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to Patty and Dr. Paul Levi and more than a hundred other donors who made this award possible.*

The Patty & Paul Levi Research Award provides an annual \$5,000 award to a predoctoral student or students doing research related to preventative periodontology and being mentored by a periodontal faculty member.

The research project must be completed by a predoctoral student or students with the periodontal faculty mentor as a mentor/principal investigator. A postdoctoral periodontal resident may be part of the team.

The research should be associated with prevention of periodontal or peri-implant diseases. Prevention can be defined broadly to include epidemiologic studies, studies involving teaching non-surgical periodontology to undergraduate students especially in the first year of their dental school training, non-surgical periodontal therapy, or providing information about periodontal diseases to the public especially to students.



Recipient: Dr. Nishma P. Vias

#### Charles W. Finley Visiting Scholar Education Grant (AAPF)

*Thanks to GluStitch for their sponsorship of three 2025 Finley Grants*

The American Academy of Periodontology Foundation established Finley Visiting Scholar Education Grants to honor the memory of Dr. Charles W. Finley and all the great periodontal leaders of the past, present, and future. Grants of \$2,000 are awarded to accredited U.S. periodontal

programs to offset honoraria, travel, promotion, and seminars by speakers in periodontology. The grants must be matched by funds from each department or institution. Though the speakers spend the majority of their time with the periodontics department students and faculty, the grant requires that the speaker present a formal program to the entire dental school on a subject of interest.

Recipients: Indiana University, University of California; Los Angeles; University of Michigan; University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; Virginia Commonwealth University

#### AAP Foundation Fellowship to the Institute for Teaching and Learning in the Health Professions (AAPF)

*Thanks to the many donors whose ongoing unrestricted support makes these fellowships possible.*

AAP Foundation Fellowships are available to the Academy for Academic Leadership (AAL) Institute for Teaching and Learning in the Health Professions. Each \$3,500 Fellowship will cover the full tuition for the Institute's Program for Dental School Faculty.

Recipients: Drs. Kevin L. Chen, Mostafa Shehabeldin, Sahar Dowlatshahi, Zhaozhao Chen

#### Robert S. Schoor Research Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to the many donors who helped make this award possible.*

The American Academy of Periodontology Foundation supports resident research in the field of periodontology through the Robert S. Schoor Research Award Program, a \$2,000 annual award for a resident-written manuscript. A wide range of research subjects that are significant to the clinical practice of periodontology will be supported. The program is named in memory of Robert S. Schoor, DDS, a champion of periodontal education and students. He served as Director of the Advanced Program in Periodontics and Implant Dentistry at New York University College of Dentistry, President of the American Academy of Periodontology, and Examiner of the American Board of Periodontology. He also served as a Captain in the United States Air Force.



Recipient: Dr. Hamoun Sabri

# ANNUAL MEETING

AAP 2025 Award Winners  
Continued from page 13

## Dr. James T. Mellonig Regeneration Research Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to Dr. Jo Rummelhart for the transformative gift that made this award possible.*

The Dr. James T. Mellonig Regeneration Research Award recognizes excellence in original research by a resident in the specialty of periodontics that advances clinical therapies in periodontal regeneration. The scholarship was created by Dr. Jo Rummelhart in honor of Dr. Mellonig and the National Naval Medical Center's Periodontics Residency Program in Bethesda, Maryland, which Dr. Rummelhart completed.



Recipient: Dr. Joelle Foster McRee

## Dr. Mark K. Setter Leadership in Periodontology and Dental Implantology Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to Susan Setter, BioHorizons, and Dr. Hank Nichols, as well as the fundraising committee and many other donors who made this award possible.*

In February 2019, periodontology lost one of its greats - Dr. Mark Setter. Dr. Setter was well-loved and contributed to the field in many ways. He practiced for 30+ years, lectured, and mentored many dentists, periodontists, and students. To honor Dr. Setter's memory, Mrs. Susan Setter and Drs. Jason Souyias, Jason Stoner, and Mitch Godat worked with the AAP Foundation to establish the Dr. Mark K. Setter Leadership in Periodontology and Dental Implantology Award. This annual \$10,000 award recognizes a periodontal resident who exemplifies the leadership qualities that Dr. Setter lived and encouraged throughout his lifetime.



Recipient: Dr. Ethan Madison

## The Dr. D Walter Cohen Teaching Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to Carestream Dental, Ronald Tarrson, and the many other donors who made this award possible.*

The \$10,000 Cohen Award, is intended to assist third-year periodontal residents in launching their careers as educators.



Recipient: Dr. Amanda B. Rodriguez Betancourt

## Dr. And Mrs. Gerald M. Kramer Scholar Award for Excellence (AAPF)

*Thanks to the hundreds of donors who have supported this award.*



Recipient: Dr. Claire C. Coleman

## The Nevins Teaching and Clinical Research Fellowship and Nevins BioHorizons Fellowship (AAPF)

*Thanks to the hundreds of donors who made these awards possible including Dr. Myron Nevins, Quintessence Publishing Company, BioHorizons, Dr. Yoshihiro Ono, Dr. Khalid A. Al-Hezaimi, Osteohealth, Dr. Alan M. Levine, Zimmer Biomet, and Dentium USA. BIOHORIZONS*

The \$20,000 Nevins Teaching and Clinical Research Fellowship was created to address the retention of top periodontal clinical researchers and educators early in their careers. This Fellowship is intended to provide personal funding and support to those individuals who may be facing educational debt while striving to



Nevins BioHorizons Fellowship Recipient: Dr. Hawra N. AlQallaf



Nevins Teaching and Clinical Research Fellowship Recipient: Dr. I-Ching (Izzie) Wang

The award is not to be used to replace support that would have normally been provided by the recipient's institution. Award candidates must intend to pursue a career in full-time periodontal teaching and research in the United States.

The recipient of the Kramer Scholar Award for Excellence receives \$10,000. Applicants for the Kramer Award must be third-year full-time periodontal students as of the application deadline at an accredited U.S. periodontal programs and nominated by their periodontal program director.

establish themselves in an academic role. The award was created by generous donors in honor of Myron Nevins, DDS, a leader in periodontal clinical research. Full-time periodontal educators who have been teaching at least one, and not more than five, full-time academic years at U.S. programs are eligible to apply. Applicants must be board certified in periodontology.

## The Dr. Colin Richman and Family Perio-Ortho Interface Award (AAPF)

*Thanks to Dr. Colin Richman for the transformative gift that made these awards possible.*

Alveolar bone deficiencies provide excellent opportunities to incorporate new and innovative multidisciplinary therapies into periodontal practice. This, coupled with an appreciation that management of the airway is an essential component of orthodontic success and the health of associated periodontal tissues, provides a new paradigm of treatment, with particular implications to periodontal practice. A \$20,000 fellowship will be awarded annually to one or more individuals. Fellowship applicants must be a periodontal resident, orthodontic resident, or young faculty member with five or fewer years in academia at an accredited institution.



Recipients: Dr. Thais MF Fernandes Poleti



Dr. Eliane Dutra

## Teaching Fellowship (AAPF)

*Thanks to the American Academy of Periodontology and the thousands of members whose ongoing unrestricted support has made the Educator Scholarships possible.*

The \$25,000 Teaching Fellowship is intended to support the young periodontal educator's commitment to a career in academia by providing debt relief to a qualified applicant. The fellowships are given to qualified faculty members within their first three years of teaching at a U.S. periodontal training institution.

## Educator Scholarship (AAPF)

*Thanks to the American Academy of Periodontology and the thousands of members whose ongoing unrestricted support has made the Educator Scholarships possible.*

The \$12,000 Educator Scholarship provides financial relief to a student intending to pursue a career as a full-time teacher at a U.S. periodontal program upon graduation from a U.S. periodontal postdoctoral training program. The scholarship is intended to provide help with tuition and living expenses during the training period and may also be used for debt reduction. The Educator Scholar must commit to spending one year as a full-time periodontal educator at a U.S. program for each year they receive the award.

Recipients:



Dr. Y. W. Stacy Cho, Harvard University



Dr. Tanay V. Chaubal, University of Oklahoma

## Bud and Linda Tarrson Fellowship (AAPF)

*Thanks to donors including Linda and the late E. Bud Tarrson, the E. Bud Tarrson Foundation for Dental Research, and Ronald Tarrson for their support of this award.*



The recipient of the Bud and Linda Tarrson Fellowship receives a \$30,000 award (\$10,000 per year for up to three years). Candidates must be either a full-time faculty member at the instructor or assistant level or a part-time faculty member at a U.S. training institution and must be nominated by their periodontal program director.

Recipient: Dr. Sandra H. Stuhr

Recipients:



Dr. Sahar Dowlatshahi, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston



Dr. Amanda Finger Stadler, University of North Carolina

Continued on page 16

# ANNUAL MEETING

AAP 2025 Award Winners  
Continued from page 15

## Special Citation Award (AAP)

Special Citations are awarded to individuals for a specific contribution to the Academy. The citation is awarded for outstanding work on an Academy committee or special project.

Recipients:



Dr. Tyler Borg -  
Recognition for Service  
as AAP Anesthesia  
Committee Chair



Dr. Nicolaas Geurs  
— Recognition for  
Contributions as AAP  
Education Consultant

The AAP/AO Consensus on Prevention and Management of Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions.



## Chairs

Dr. Paul Stuart Rosen  
Dr. Hom-Lay Wang

## Co-Chairs

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Dr. Joseph P Fiorellini  
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Dr. Robert C. Vogel



## Distinguished Service Award (AAP)

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to an Academy member selected for distinguished service to the Academy in more than one area over a period of not less than 20 years.

Recipient: Dr. James G. Wilson

Dr. Wilson completed his dental school and periodontal training at the University of Florida College of Dentistry. He is a longtime member of the Academy, Southern Academy of Periodontology and the Florida Association of Periodontists, serving as the President of the latter in 2009-2010. In 2010 he began the first of two terms serving as a Trustee for District 3 of the AAP. While serving as a trustee, he participated on and chaired multiple committees and task forces. For his work as a member and the chair of the Task Force on General Assembly Voting, Dr. Wilson and other members of the task force were the recipients of an Academy special citation. Dr. Wilson served as an Academy officer for five years including as the AAP's President in 2020-2021. During his time as an officer, he championed the Academy's engagement with dental hygienists. He served as a member on the Task Force on Dental Hygiene Engagement, the group responsible for developing the Academy's dental hygiene recognition program as well as the dental hygiene study club program. In 2024 this group was also awarded in AAP special citation. He currently serves as a director and is the incoming Secretary-Treasurer of the AAP Foundation.

Dr. Wilson resides in Tampa, Florida and is a co-owner of Tampa Bay Periodontics and Implant Dentistry. He has been honored with Fellowship in the American and International Colleges of Dentists as well as the Pierre Fauchard Academy. Dr. Wilson has also received his Board Certification in Periodontology and Dental Implant Surgery from the American Board of Periodontology.

## Distinguished Scientist (AAP)



Sponsored by continuing the care that starts in your chair

The Distinguished Scientist Award is presented to an Academy member who has actively contributed to the basic science and/or clinical science of periodontology through published literature and may have contributed to pre- or postdoctoral education and/or scientific conferences or symposia.

Recipient: Dr. Dimitris Tatakis

Dr. Dimitris Tatakis serves as Professor of Periodontics at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine. He previously served as Professor and Director of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

Dr. Tatakis completed his dental education at the National University of Athens, Greece. He then attended the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he earned a certificate in Periodontics and a PhD in Oral Biology. He has authored over 190 peer-reviewed scholarly articles, several book chapters, and a textbook. His active research interests include periodontal plastic surgery and wound healing outcomes. His research

has been recognized with awards such as the R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award and the E. Bud Tarrson Research Award in Oral Plastic Surgery. He is a recipient of the AAP Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award. Dr. Tatakis serves as Director of the American Board of Periodontology and on the editorial boards of several biomedical publications, including the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology* and the *Journal of Periodontal Research*. He lectures nationally and internationally.

## Outstanding Periodontal Educator Award (AAP)



The Award for Outstanding Periodontal Educator recognizes an exemplary periodontal faculty member whose career demonstrates excellence in teaching and is an inspiration to students.

Recipient: Dr. Herbert Selipsky

Dr. Selipsky arrived at the University of Washington after graduating from dental school in South Africa in 1961 and earning a postgraduate degree in prosthodontics in 1965. He practiced privately until 1970, when he was accepted into the UW perio program. He called the offer of a full time faculty position after his residency "the honor of a lifetime."

Dr. Selipsky served full-time as a member of UW's faculty for 25 years after receiving his MSD, then another 25 years part time. During his time there he established The Selipsky Endowed Fund in Periodontics to help cover tuition for perio residencies. He continues to teach the surgery course to incoming residents. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology and has authored multiple contributions to the literature.

## Master Clinician Award (AAP)



Sponsored by

The Master Clinician Award is presented to an Academy member who has practiced and demonstrated consistent clinical excellence in periodontics and has willingly and unselfishly shared that clinical experience with members of the profession. The recipient is held in the highest esteem by the periodontal

community and is recognized as a master clinician in periodontics.

Recipient: Dr. David Paul Mathews

For years, Dr. David Mathews has been an innovator in interdisciplinary care, teaching the management of advanced cases that require periodontics, orthodontics, and all other dental specialists. His renowned 2002 paper, where he demonstrated for the world the pediculated connective tissue graft, was a landmark publication, and this procedure is still one of the most highly recommended procedures for advanced defects in the esthetic zone. His book, which he co-authored with Dr. Vince

Kokich Sr., "Orthodontic and Surgical Management of Impacted Teeth," is a staple for periodontist, orthodontists, and oral surgeons.

Dr. Mathews has donated so much of his time and energy to lecture at our Academy meetings, as well as worldwide, and he was the featured speaker at AAP's Opening General Session at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

He was an affiliate professor in graduate periodontics at the University of Washington until his retirement in 2018 and in full-time practice in Tacoma, Washington until 2016. He continues to write and speak on perio/ortho treatment, interdisciplinary dentistry, and implants in the esthetic zone.

Dr. Mathews received his dental degree at UCLA in 1969 and his certificate in periodontics from the University of Washington in 1974.

## Gold Medal Award (AAP)



The Gold Medal is awarded in recognition of outstanding contributions and service to the Academy and understanding of the field of periodontology and the diagnosis and treatment of periodontal diseases. It is the highest honor bestowed by the Academy.

Recipient: Dr. Joan Otomo-Corgel

Dr. Otomo-Corgel is being recognized with the Gold Medal largely for her outstanding service as a past president of the American Academy of Periodontology and a past President of the AAP Foundation. She has also led the Western Society of Periodontology, the California Society of Periodontists, and the Los Angeles Dental Society as their president. She is currently the Secretary of the California Dental Association.

Since joining the AAP in 1977, Dr. Otomo-Corgel has chaired the first AAP Dental Hygiene Committee in 1984 and a Task Force on Dental Hygiene Education in 1998. She represented the AAP in developing the World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal Diseases and hosted the first Los Angeles Perio Dash. She and her husband have opened her hearts and home to families needing shelter during the California fires and has dedicated 49 years of service to the oral health care of our veterans.

In addition to her roles as a clinical professor at UCLA and faculty at the VA Greater Los Angeles Health Care System, she also lectures extensively and has contributed to more than 60 journals and textbooks. She is a past Trustee of the California State University System, a current Trustee of Mount St. Mary's University, and immediate past chair of the UCLA School of Dentistry Board of Counselors and is a Director on the Fresno State University Board of Governors Foundation.

Dr. Otomo-Corgel currently practices periodontics and implantology in Manhattan Beach, CA.

She received her DDS from UCLA School of Dentistry in 1976. She completed her general practice residency and postdoctoral periodontics residency at the West Los Angeles Veterans Hospital in 1977 and 1979. She obtained her master's degree in public health from UCLA School of Public Health in 1980. ■

## AAP 2025 sponsors and educational partners

Thanks to the following sponsors and educational partners for their generous financial support of one or more AAP priorities, including the Annual Meeting, science agenda, and resident/leadership development programming



### Educational Partners



#### Signature Diamond



#### Platinum



#### Gold



#### Silver



#### Bronze



## YOUR ACADEMY AT WORK

## Ask the Board



## Will there be a printed program at this year's Annual Meeting?

### Life Active Member- Nashville, TN

Thank you for your timely question. Since introducing the current iteration of our Annual Meeting mobile app, more and more attendees have been using this tool rather than picking up a printed program.

Producing a printed program costs the organization a lot in both staff time, freelance support, printing, and shipping. Simply put, the value of the printed guide, based on how many people used it, no longer justified the expense.

In addition to the mobile app, the Annual Meeting website now features more information than ever before, with a new plugin that pulls information directly from the app. That information will also be the most accurate, because quite often, changes to session times, locations, or speakers occur after a physical guide has already been printed.

We do realize that many members still prefer having a printed program instead of a digital app. To meet the needs of these members, there will be a downloadable PDF schedule of events for them to print out and carry.

Thank you again for your timely question, and I look forward to seeing you in Toronto! ■

Sincerely,

### Dr. Walter E. Colón

District 3  
AAP Board of Trustees



# Join us in Toronto!



## 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

# TORONTO

October 15-18, 2025



Register Now!

Scan me or register at  
[am2025.perio.org](http://am2025.perio.org)

## YOUR ACADEMY AT WORK

### Board of Trustees meeting update



The AAP Board of Trustees recently met in Chicago to approve some exciting new initiatives for our members!

#### AAP scientific journals

In an effort to compensate for rising costs nationwide, and to address the transition of most of the Academy's membership to accessing content online, the Board authorized AAP staff to work with the AAP's publishing consultant and legal counsel to negotiate and finalize a publishing contract with Wiley for the 2027–2031 term. This new contract includes a balanced revenue share model as well as the transition to an online-only member access version of the AAP's scientific journals. Look for more information on this transition in 2026.

#### Insurance

One of the most frequently used member benefits is our suite of insurance consulting and education materials. These are updated each year in conjunction with the AAP's leadership meeting with leaders from the ADA.

Some of the items related to insurance coding that the Board approved include:

- Approval of the recommended ADA CDT 2027 code proposals for four code additions and one code revision, as presented.
- Approval of the recommended new member resource, Checklist for In-Network Providers.
- Approval of the recommended new and revised insurance policy statements, as presented.

#### Annual Meetings

Academy leaders take great care in deciding locations for upcoming Annual Meetings. The Board decided on locations and dates for the years of 2028, 2029, and 2030, pending favorable contract negotiation. Stay tuned for these exciting announcements!

The Board also approved a revised charge of the Continuing Education Committee and accepted policy changes related to the selection of speakers for the Annual Meeting program.

#### Finance

The key to the Academy's ability to represent and serve periodontists and periodontology is the detailed management of our finances.

Our financial strength as an organization will continue into 2026 and beyond with the following actions:

- Approved the 2024 Auditors' Report as presented.
- Approved the 2026 proposed budget as amended.

#### Leadership

The Board acted on the following volunteer appointments:

- Approved Dr. Sukirth Ganesan as the Academy's next CODA Commissioner for a four-year term beginning in Fall 2026.
- Approved the 2025-2026 committee appointments, charges, compositions, and terms.
- Approved the District Forum agenda for use at the 2025 District Forums.
- Elected Drs. Constantine Pavlakos and John Wilson to serve on the 2025-2026 Executive Committee for a one-year term. ■



#### BROCHURES

##### Beyond the Mouth: The Link Between Periodontal Disease and Other Health Conditions

A patient-friendly overview of the perio-systemic link.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$38 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$48



##### Calm and Comfortable

A patient's guide to sedation and anesthesia for periodontal procedures.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$38 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$48



##### Crown Lengthening

A patient-friendly description of the dental crown lengthening procedure.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$32 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$42



##### Dental Implants

Highlights the benefits of dental implants.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$38 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$48



##### How to Brush and Floss

A patient-friendly guide demonstrating the correct way to brush and floss.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$38 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$48



##### Periodontal Disease Treatment: Restoring the Health of Your Smile

A look at surgical and non-surgical periodontal disease treatments.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$38 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$48

## American Academy of Periodontology PERIO STORE

#### HANDOUTS



##### Chairside Guide to Periodontitis Staging and Grading

This two-sided, laminated chart outlines the new staging and grading classifications of periodontitis developed at the 2017 World Workshop. These handouts are perfect to share with your dental staff and referring colleagues.

10 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$24  
NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$34



##### What is Periodontal Disease Handouts

Handouts explaining periodontal disease, prevention, risk factors, and treatment.

50 pack

MEMBER PRICE: \$27  
NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$37

Order online: [perio.org/membersperiostore](https://perio.org/membersperiostore)

Free shipping on orders of \$150 or more (for U.S. and Canada)

Questions? Contact [member.services@perio.org](mailto:member.services@perio.org)

Not a member? Join today at [perio.org/join](https://perio.org/join)

## 2025 American Academy of Periodontology election results

Results are in for the AAP 2025 election. The individuals below will begin their terms after the 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto. There was a 26.49% participation rate, compared to a 27.63% rate in 2024.

The results are as follows:

### American Academy of Periodontology

#### Officers

Brad Crump Secretary/Treasurer

President Elect Ana Becil Giglio will succeed to the Presidency, Vice President Kristi Soileau to the office of President Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer Richard Nagy to the office of Vice President.

#### Trustees

Brete Moran	District 1
Andrea Ravida	District 2
Walter Colón*	District 3
George Mandelaris*	District 4
Natalie Frost*	District 5
James Katancik	District 6
Giorgio Di Vincenzo*	District 7
Alexandra Tsigarida*	District 7
John Wilson*	District 8

#### Officer Nominating Committee

David Wu	District 1
Monica Gibson	District 4
Vincent Iacono	District 7

### Nominating Committee for the American Board of Periodontology

Sejal Thacker\* District 1  
Mary Beth Aichelmann-Reidy District 2

### American Board of Periodontology

#### Directors

Jennifer Bain  
Benjamin Duval

\*Re-Elected

### Call for District and National Candidates

The Academy is always seeking qualified candidates for future elections. Elected district positions include Trustee, Officer Nominating Committee, and ABP Nominating Committee. National positions include Secretary-Treasurer and ABP Director. If you're interested in running for a district or national position in future elections, please reach out to your District Trustees for more information and visit the AAP website here. Questions? Email [volunteer@perio.org](mailto:volunteer@perio.org) for assistance.

Please note, the deadlines for national positions in the 2026 elections have passed. Applications for ABP Director candidates are due by July 31 each year, and for AAP Secretary-Treasurer by August 31 each year. However, we are still seeking candidates for district-level positions, which are accepted year-round until the Annual Meeting. Email your District Trustees or [volunteer@perio.org](mailto:volunteer@perio.org) to connect directly with your District's Nominating Committee and learn more. Visit the AAP website here for additional details. ■

<https://www.perio.org/for-members/aap-organizational-information/aap-elections/nomination/>

# Advocating for perio

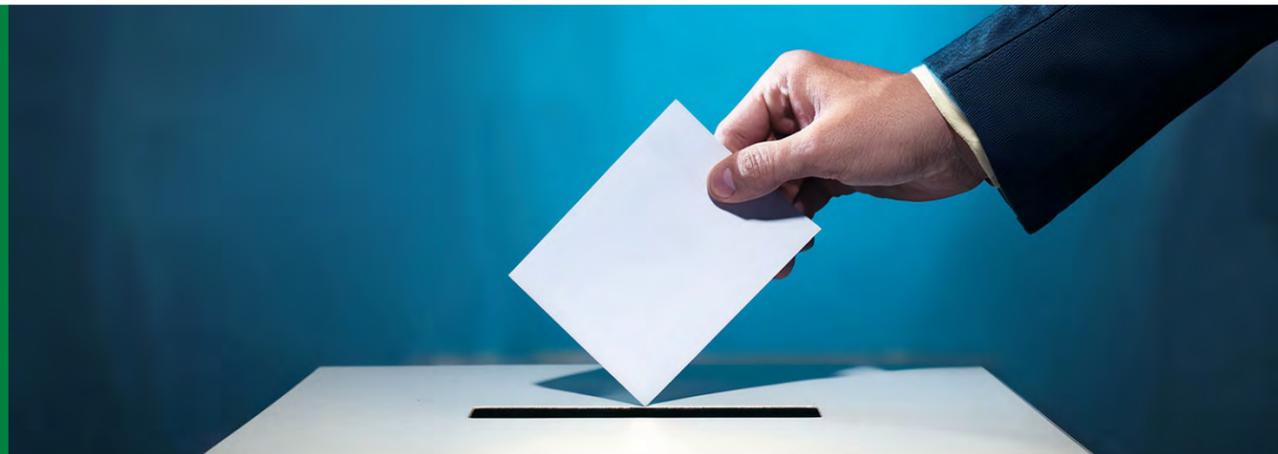
## Advocacy – ODC Activity

As part of ongoing involvement with the Organized Dentistry Coalition (ODC), the AAP has continued to support key initiatives through sign-on letters. Since May of this year, the AAP has signed on to the following letters:

- Community Water Fluoridation Sign-On Letter
  - This letter affirms the safety and effectiveness of community water fluoridation.
- Rejection of Proposed Cuts to the Department of Health and Human Services
  - This letter urges the rejection of proposed cuts across HHS agencies and programs and prioritizes investments that protect and advance America's oral health.
- Opposition to Tax Provision in H.R. 1 – the Pass-Through Entity Tax (PTET)
  - Separate letters to both House and Senate leaders voice urgent concern to tax provisions that would eliminate the ability of certain pass-through entities, specifically those defined as specified service trade or businesses, to deduct state level pass-through entity taxes on their federal returns.

- Requesting the Department of Defense to Maintain Current Water Fluoridation Levels on Overseas Bases
  - This letter urges the DoD to maintain current water fluoridation levels on overseas bases and emphasizes the long-affirmed importance of community water fluoridation.
- Letter to Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Leaders Regarding Student Loans
  - This letter expresses concern with some language put forth by the HELP committee in its contribution to the reconciliation package which would unintentionally make medical and dental education less accessible to many, exacerbating workforce shortages and jeopardizing patient access to care.
- Thank You Letter for the Reintroduction of the Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (ELSA)
  - This letter thanks members of the House and Senate for reintroducing this act.

ODC letters are posted to the Advocacy Resources section of the website ([perio.org/for-members/advocacy/](https://perio.org/for-members/advocacy/)) ■



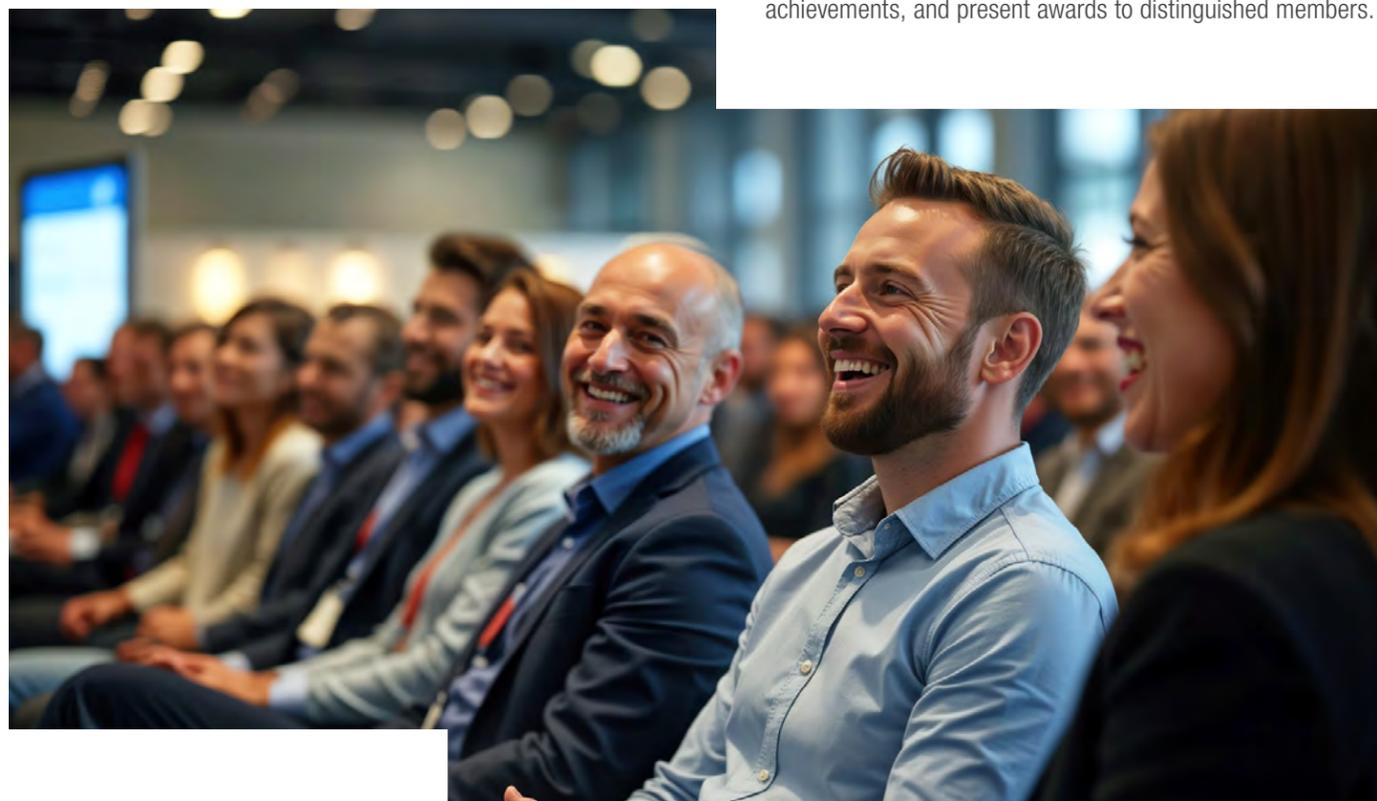
## YOUR ACADEMY AT WORK

### Join us at the 2025 AAP Annual Meeting: District Forums and General Assembly!

#### Exciting opportunities await at the District Forums!

Don't miss the chance to connect and collaborate with your peers at the District Forums on Thursday, Oct. 16, from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. These forums are your opportunity to:

- **Engage with your district trustees:** Share your thoughts, ask questions, and get firsthand updates on Board of Trustees actions and local district concerns.
- **Shape the future:** Participate in discussions about nominations and help select candidates for important positions such as Board of Trustees and Nominating Committees.
- **Discover key updates:** Learn about the latest on Academy programs, the ABP, AAP Foundation, and more.
- **Voice your opinions:** Make sure your voice is heard on local issues and announcements.



#### Celebrate and connect at the General Assembly! Call for new business items

Join us for the General Assembly on Friday, Oct. 17, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. This event will feature:

- **Research Forum honors:** Be there as we announce and award the recipients of the AAP's Research Forum Competition, recognizing outstanding contributions to the field.
- **Budget approval:** Participate in the membership vote to approve the proposed 2026 Operating Budget and have a say in the Academy's financial direction.
- **Policy ratification:** Witness the ratification of policy actions passed by the Board of Trustees, ensuring that key decisions are endorsed by the membership.
- **Special recognition:** Enjoy a champagne toast as we honor our dedicated Officers and Trustees, celebrate volunteer achievements, and present awards to distinguished members.

#### Stay informed and engaged

To include new business items on the General Assembly agenda, please email Jodi Sassana at [Jodi@perio.org](mailto:Jodi@perio.org) by Sept. 30, 2025. Items submitted by this date will be included on the agenda. Any additional new business items submitted after this deadline will be addressed from the floor during the meeting.

Stay updated by checking the AAP Annual Meeting Mobile App and our website for the latest information on the District Forum and General Assembly agendas.

We look forward to seeing you in Toronto for these exciting and important events! ■

#### Call for volunteers: District Nominating Committees

Are you interested in serving the Academy by participating on a District Nominating Committee? These committees will be elected during the 2025 District Forums on Thursday, Oct. 16, at the Annual Meeting in Toronto. The responsibilities of the District Nominating Committees include selecting two or more candidates, and an alternate, for each district vacancy that occurs on the Board of Trustees, Officer Nominating Committee, and the American Board of Periodontology Nominating Committee.

The District Nominating Committees elected at the 2025 District Forums will be responsible for identifying and vetting eligible candidates for district office vacancies in the 2027 election. If you are interested in serving on your district's nominating committee or learning more about the process, please connect with your District Trustees or email [volunteer@perio.org](mailto:volunteer@perio.org) for more information.



## FOR YOUR PRACTICE

### Dental Hygiene Engagement Initiative

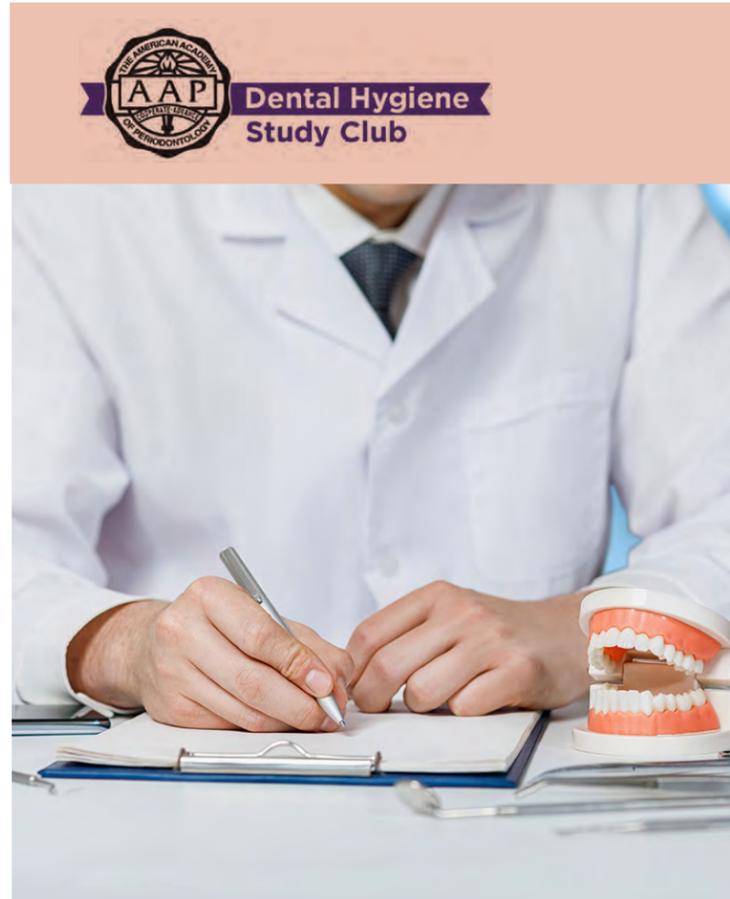
#### New study club module coming soon!

We are excited to announce the upcoming launch of a brand-new Study Club module: The Oral Systemic Connection: The Link You Can't Ignore, presented by Caitlin Darcey, DMD, MS, MHPE.

This interactive module explains the powerful connection between oral and systemic health. Focusing on the relationship between diabetes and periodontitis, Dr. Darcey explores the biologic mechanisms linking these conditions, uncovers how each impacts patient outcomes, and shares evidence-based strategies for managing individuals with these intertwined health challenges. This module reviews a compelling case report, giving Study Club participants practical, real-world insights to improve both oral and overall health for their patients.

#### Dental Hygiene Symposium

Bring your hygiene team to the Dental Hygiene Symposium at AAP's Annual Meeting in Toronto! The Dental Hygiene Symposium is a full-day program taking place on Saturday, Oct. 18, and will cover an array of periodontal topics relevant to dental hygienists. This year's symposium is held in collaboration with the Canadian Dental Hygienists' Association. Learn more at [am2025.perio.org](http://am2025.perio.org).



#### Questions?

Do you have questions about the Dental Hygiene Engagement Initiative? Visit the Member Resource Center in the exhibit hall at the 2025 AAP Annual Meeting in Toronto and connect with AAP professional staff to learn more about the initiative, its resources, and new content on the way!

*Thank you to AAP's hygiene partners for sponsoring the Dental Hygiene Engagement Initiative!*



## 2025 Signature Diamond Sponsors

The AAP thanks its Signature Diamond Sponsors for their generous support in 2025.



## FOR YOUR PRACTICE

# Your income, inflation, and practice values have all gone up. How is your life insurance keeping up?

Contributed by  
**Shawn M Johnson, ChFC®, CLU®, CLTC**  
Regional Vice President  
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“

Overall, 52% of American adults report owning life insurance, and 41% of adults — both insured and uninsured — say they don't have sufficient life insurance coverage.

If you're like most dentists and physicians, you likely incurred a substantial amount of debt to fund your education. Upon graduation, that debt trend shifted (or will shift, if you're still in training!) as you begin to make money.

At some point, you will be able to save money toward future goals. You may purchase your home, perhaps you will start a family and choose to provide opportunities for your children. All of this is possible.

### How will your family continue living the way you envisioned?

When all this growth is happening in your life, it's easy to ignore the potential risks that could get in the way of your vision for the future. From a life insurance perspective many of you are woefully underinsured. Basically this means that if you were to unexpectedly pass away, your family would not be able to maintain the lifestyle to which they have become accustomed based on your income.

### A significant portion of the population is underinsured.

According to research conducted by the Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association (LIMRA) and Life Happens, "Overall, 52% of American adults report owning life insurance, and 41% of adults— both insured and uninsured — say they don't have sufficient life insurance coverage."

As a dentist or physician, and it's possible that you, too, may be among the 41% of the American population that doesn't have sufficient life insurance coverage. For example, unless there are significant additional assets, a specialist earning say \$400,000-500,000 a year may not be appropriately covered with just \$2 million of life insurance.



Whether you make more or less than this in annual income is not the question. The point is: when was the last time you sat down to calculate how much insurance you truly need? People tend to buy life insurance in their thirties when they are thinking of having or starting a family. Many never go back to revise that amount as their family grows, or as their income grows.

### Private equity has driven up the price of practices.

If you are a partner in private practice, you may have noticed that practice values have gone up dramatically in recent years. This is because private equity firms have entered the dental and medical space and have started acquiring practices, thereby driving up prices. If you were to have a valuation done on your practice, and it showed an increase in value, that should propel you to increase your life insurance coverage to adequately fund your buy-sell agreement.

Other things that have been trending upwards in the past few years are incomes — which ties into another upward trending factor, namely inflation. Rising inflation means that the cost of everything is going up, and with it naturally the replacement cost of everything in your life is going up. Your life insurance policies need to be updated to reflect these increases in price.

### How do you know how much life insurance you need?

The simplest answer is that your life insurance need is the amount of money your family will need in the future to live minus the assets (including retirement plans) and life insurance you currently have. This will give you a ballpark number. If you work with a financial professional, they will ask you how much you're saving, how much taxes you're paying, what assets you have and how they are invested. That will give you a more accurate picture.

Typically, we do not include your home as an asset in these calculations because if you pass away, your family will still need a place to live and will likely incur costs associated with

this expense. Anyway, you do the math, and you will probably realize that you are underinsured.

### Review your existing life insurance coverage with an experienced professional.

The best gift you can give yourself and your loved ones is to set up a meeting with an insurance professional to accurately calculate your life insurance need. The best place to begin is to figure out how much life insurance you truly need. Once you know that, you can move to the next step of determining how best to fill your insurance coverage gap.

If you have any questions about this, feel free to reach out to me!

### About Treloar & Heisel

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## FOR YOUR PRACTICE

# Ask the Coding Coach

When looking back at third party complaints from periodontal offices over the last few years, there are issues that surface repeatedly. The AAP receives complaints that could be avoided by establishing some basic ground rules when submitting claims. Let's look at some of the things your office should be taking into consideration when working with a patient's insurance.

### Scaling and root planing

A frequent complaint we receive relates to scaling and root planing. Many carriers require periodontal charting and radiographs when a claim is submitted. In the past, reading the charting was a challenge at times. Software has resolved this problem, but if you are still using handwritten charting, please make sure it is legible. Carriers also recognize repeated patterns of pocket depths, which can send up red flags. Radiographs should coordinate with the pocket depths noted. In other words, a seven-millimeter pocket should show more bone loss radiographically than a four millimeter pocket. Most importantly, radiographs should be of diagnostic quality. Panoramic radiographs in most cases do not sufficiently show bone loss. On the other hand, vertical bitewings and periapical images can clearly demonstrate bone loss. We have found that most complaints about claims involving scaling and root planing result from a carrier not seeing bone loss radiographically.

### Soft tissue grafting

Soft tissue grafting is another procedure where problems occur. Like scaling and root planning, many times the periodontal charting is not easily read or required information is not present. Although pocket depths may not seem relevant, all periodontal charting should be complete with pocket depths as well as the amounts of recession and attached/keratinized gingiva, frenum attachments, and any inflammation with bleeding on probing. Carriers will deny soft tissue grafts if the prognosis for the tooth is compromised, so a radiograph is also necessary. The AAP recommends taking digital photos of any teeth where a soft tissue graft is indicated. It is not difficult for any team member to take these using a cell phone or intraoral camera as documentation in the patient's record. In most cases carriers do not require a

photograph in the original claim, but it is useful if a claim is denied and needs to be appealed. It is also a wonderful marketing tool to use with a patient. A photograph can also be helpful when treating root caries or resorption, especially if taken when the tissue is reflected and the lesion exposed.

### Incorrect information on claims

Claims are denied at times when the information is submitted incorrectly. A common mistake is when osseous surgery is performed in a quadrant that also includes an implant. When implants are present, they should be coded separately, distinct from the area of osseous surgery. Each implant should also be coded individually, using the CDT codes in the implant category. For example, a quadrant which has five teeth and two implants present should be coded as one quadrant of osseous surgery and two codes for debridement and osseous contouring of a peri-implant defect.

As was discussed in the last Coding Coach, when treating an edentulous area for ridge augmentation, correct coding is dependent on how large the area is. Normally codes should be submitted per site, which includes the area where up to two teeth would be present. So, if bone grafting is completed for large posterior areas where three to four teeth would exist, then two codes would be appropriate.

### Similar procedures

The difference between gingivectomy, crown lengthening, and anatomical crown lengthening can also be confusing. Make sure you code for what you do. Gingivectomy is applicable when pseudopocketing is present without bone loss. The periodontal chart and radiographs will be needed with the claim, but again, photographs may be helpful to support the need for treatment. A crown lengthening is necessary when caries or a fracture impinges on the transeptal fibers attachment (formerly biologic width). This may or may not be recognizable radiographically. Anatomical crown lengthening is performed when more of the crown is exposed, and the gingiva is healthy with no bone loss present. A typical patient might have completed orthodontic treatment and

would like a more esthetic smile line, so anatomical crown lengthening is done. In most cases this procedure would be considered cosmetic and will not be reimbursed.

### Plan limitations

Plan limitations are always a factor in reimbursement. One example is the frequency of appointments for periodontal maintenance. Most plans allow three-month intervals, but some plans extend it up to six months. If maintenance is performed even one day before this time limitation, the treatment will not be covered. Many times, this also applies to scaling and root planning procedures with frequency of two to three years, generally.

It is difficult to know every individual plan, but most offices are familiar with plans in their area that many patients have. There will always be times when the unexpected happens; a company changes plans between your pre-treatment estimate and when treatment is performed, for example. Communicating with the patient through the claims process is vital.

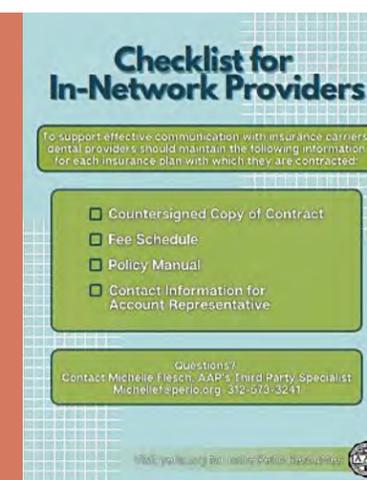
### Final thoughts

To summarize, have as much information as possible present to support a claim. Charting and radiographs should be of diagnostic quality. Photographs may be beneficial but unless required do not have to be included in the initial claim. You should submit pre-treatment estimates when possible. And most important, use appropriate codes and always code for what you do. ■

Submit your third-party questions to **insurance@perio.org**. Members with coding questions or difficulties with insurance claims can also contact the AAP's third-party specialist at **312-573-3241** or **michellef@perio.org**.

### New member resource

Check out AAP's Checklist for In Network Providers. If you are in network with any dental insurance carriers- make sure you have the items listed in your office. Find it here: <https://members.perio.org/viewdocument/checklist-for-in-network-providers>

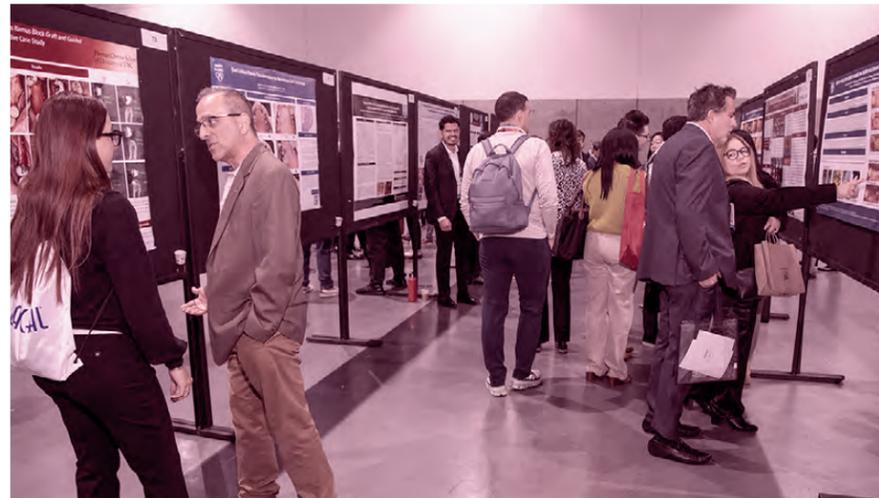


## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

### Research Forum Poster Session

The Academy's Research Forum Poster Session is a highlight of the Annual Meeting, offering a valuable platform for presenting innovative clinical research, basic research, and case studies in periodontics.

Open to all researchers, abstracts are submitted online and reviewed by the Research Submissions Committee. Those not selected as finalists for the Balint Orban or Research Forum Poster competitions—or who do not meet the eligibility criteria—are invited to present their posters during the general Research Forum Poster Session. This provides an excellent opportunity to share research with attendees, foster new collaborations, and gain visibility within the specialty.



Research Forum posters will be on display in the Exhibit Hall on **Thursday, October 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, and **Friday, October 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** The dedicated poster presentation session will take place on **Friday, October 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

This session is a great way to engage with peers, exchange ideas, and highlight the latest advancements in periodontology!

We look forward to seeing you there! Interested in participating in the 2026 Research Forum Poster Session at the Annual Meeting in Seattle? Look for submissions to open in January 2026. ■

*Thanks to the 2025 Research Forum Poster Session sponsor, Treloar & Heisel.*



# Just one month away!



## 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

# TORONTO

October 15-18, 2025



Register today at  
[am2025.perio.org](http://am2025.perio.org)

Network, learn, and be a part of something great with:

- A keynote address from entrepreneur, author, and advocate Tiffany Dufu
- AAP/AAPF/Osteology Foundation Regeneration Symposium
- Dental Hygiene Symposium  
*in partnership with the Canadian Dental Hygiene Association*
- Global Speaker Pavillion
- And much more!

The 2025 Annual Meeting will be a new  
Wednesday - Saturday format

The 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is being held in collaboration with the

CANADIAN ACADEMY OF PERIODONTOLOGY  
ACADÉMIE CANADIENNE DE PARODONTOLOGIE



### Education updates



#### 2025 Annual Meeting

Thanks to Philips Oral Healthcare for sponsoring the 2025 Educator Symposium.

The Educator Symposium, titled “*Are We Graduating Truly Competent Professionals?*” will take place in Toronto on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10:30 – 2:30 p.m. All educators are invited to attend.

Don't forget to add it to your Annual Meeting registration. ■

#### Perio people on the move

The following individuals have been named Postdoctoral Program Director:

Jason Starace, DDS  
New York University

Rachel V. Dulebohn, DMD, MS  
Naval Postgraduate Dental School

The following individuals have been named Interim Chair:

Sebastiano Andreana, DDS, MS  
New York University

Kavitha Parthasarathy  
University of the Pacific

# AAP Online Career Center

## Searching for a job? Looking for the ideal employee?

Let the AAP Career Center connect you with the perfect next opportunity in your periodontal career. Visit [careers.perio.org](https://careers.perio.org) to browse job postings for free! The online Career Center will also allow members to upload a resume or CV, post a classified ad to sell a practice, or create a job search.

The Career Center will offer discounted rates for members to post a job listing.

To use the AAP Career Center, members will be required to create an account (including username and password).

Please note: Your AAP member login will not log you into the Career Center.

#### Questions?

Contact Customer Service at **1-888-491-8833**



### Career Center



# Welcome new members

Congratulations to the new members of the Academy who joined between May 09, 2025 and Aug. 28, 2025

New Member	Location	Category
<b>District 1</b>		
Kevin Albite	Bala Cynwyd, PA	STUDENT
Pamela Espinoza	Boston, MA	STUDENT
Alejandra Gonzalez	Boston, MA	STUDENT
Jaewon Kim	Cambridge, MA	STUDENT
Ahmed Mohamed	Philadelphia, PA	STUDENT
Ivanelis Negron Ojeda	Aguadilla, PR	STUDENT
Rafaela Oliveira	Somerville, MA	STUDENT
Gustavo Perdomo	Westwood, MA	ASSOCIATE
Hyo Sook Ryu	Boston, MA	STUDENT
Nikolai Shipkov	Framingham, MA	STUDENT
<b>District 2</b>		
Mazidi Almazidi	Richmond, VA	STUDENT
Sarah Bazr	Baltimore, MD	STUDENT
Matthew Lee	Annapolis, MD	STUDENT
Richard Smith	Midlothian, VA	STUDENT
Jacob Worms	Morgantown, WV	STUDENT
Tara Zhou	Richmond, VA	STUDENT
<b>District 3</b>		
Kenia Alvarez	Winter Garden, FL	ACTIVE
Reeti Banerjee	Louisville, KY	STUDENT
Dominique Carranza	Charleston, SC	STUDENT
Peter Heitman	Charleston, SC	STUDENT
Sarah T Maddox	Vestavia, AL	STUDENT
Paige Nicholson	Gainesville, FL	STUDENT
Elizabeth Shalaby	Cape Coral, FL	STUDENT
<b>District 4</b>		
Cristina Alba	Columbus, OH	STUDENT
Jordan Andrade	Kirkwood, MO	STUDENT

New Member	Location	Category
Jack Britten	Milwaukee, WI	STUDENT
Erica Chhokar	Indianapolis, IN	STUDENT
Emma Dixon	Columbus, OH	STUDENT
C'Vaeo Edwards	Detroit, MI	STUDENT
Gregory Farris	Iowa City, IA	STUDENT
Ansh Gandhi	Chicago, IL	STUDENT
Giovanni Garella	Cleveland, OH	STUDENT
Sharadyn Ille	Cincinnati, OH	STUDENT
Era Kakar	Ann Arbor, MI	STUDENT
Swati Kejriwal	Milwaukee, WI	STUDENT
Jenny Li	Iowa City, IA	STUDENT
Cheng Lu	Saint Paul, MN	STUDENT
Jose Medina Robles	Saint Louis, MO	STUDENT
Michelle Morris	Chicago, IL	STUDENT
Avinash Nagpal	Indianapolis, IN	STUDENT
Jason Naud, DDS	Moose Lake, MN	ACTIVE
Audrey Riegel	Ames, IA	ACTIVE
Ashwin Shastri	Indianapolis, IN	STUDENT
Sydney Steinhardt	Madison, IN	STUDENT
Rilee Taege	Indianapolis, IN	STUDENT
<b>District 5</b>		
Robert Cline	Lincoln, NE	STUDENT
Dhiraj Mallela	Lorena, TX	STUDENT
Nick Stolze	Lincoln, NE	STUDENT
Thomas Conrad Watson	Houston, TX	STUDENT
Briton Wright	Oklahoma City, OK	STUDENT
<b>District 6</b>		
Michelle Abad	Manhattan Beach, CA	
Abdulrahman Alkhalidi	Redlands, CA	
Michael Badaoui	Portland, OR	
Euiyong Chong	Seattle, WA	
Mark Gettas	LA Canada, CA	

New Member	Location	Category
Marjan Ghaffarinia	Portland, OR	
Daniella Janfaza	Santa Monica, CA	
Stephan Kohnen DMD	Folsom, CA	ACTIVE
Jordon McAdam	Seattle, WA	
Riley McKay	Los Angeles, CA	
Caitlin Neapole	Los Angeles, CA	
Arthur Oh	Redlands, CA	
Kavitha Parthasarathy	San Ramon, CA	ACTIVE
Pooja Patel	Portland, OR	
Nicolette Sameyah	Beverly Hills, CA	
Taylor Thornton	Kennewick, WA	
Jeremy Kaoru Ueno	Campbell, CA	ACTIVE
Jesus Yanez	San Jose, CA	ASSOCIATE
<b>District 7</b>		
Solène Bothorel	New York, NY	STUDENT
Tiffany Chen	New York, NY	STUDENT
Yung-Ching (Joyce) Chung	New York, NY	STUDENT
Alice Herrmann	New York, NY	STUDENT
Isaac Hong	Weehawken, NJ	STUDENT
Kiran Joseph	Amherst, NY	STUDENT
Zack Kraushaar	New City, NY	STUDENT
Amy Yu Xuan Lin	New York, NY	STUDENT
Luis Loera	Brooklyn, NY	STUDENT
Daniel McCarthy	Center Moriches, NY	STUDENT
Rubelisa Oliveira	Buffalo, NY	STUDENT
Julia Kishanie Persaud	Huntington, NY	STUDENT
Tom Rubinstein	New York, NY	ACTIVE
Carol Scuro	Rochester, NY	ASSOCIATE
Clark Smith	New York, NY	ASSOCIATE
Victor M Sternberg, DMD	Briarcliff Manor, NY	LIFEACTIVE
Zhong Wang	Little Neck, NY	STUDENT
Shu Wang Yip	Williamsville, NY	STUDENT

New Member	Location	Category
<b>District 8</b>		
Kelly De La Torre	San Pedro, CA	
Nicholas Eccles	North Bethesda, MD	
W Bradford Emery	Rochester, NY	ASSOCIATE
Drew Gottwald	Richlawn, KY	
Hyun Kang	Columbia, MD	
Natalie Nuckolls	Bethesda, MD	
Zachary Snider	Alamo Heights, TX	
Natalie Wen	North Bethesda, MD	

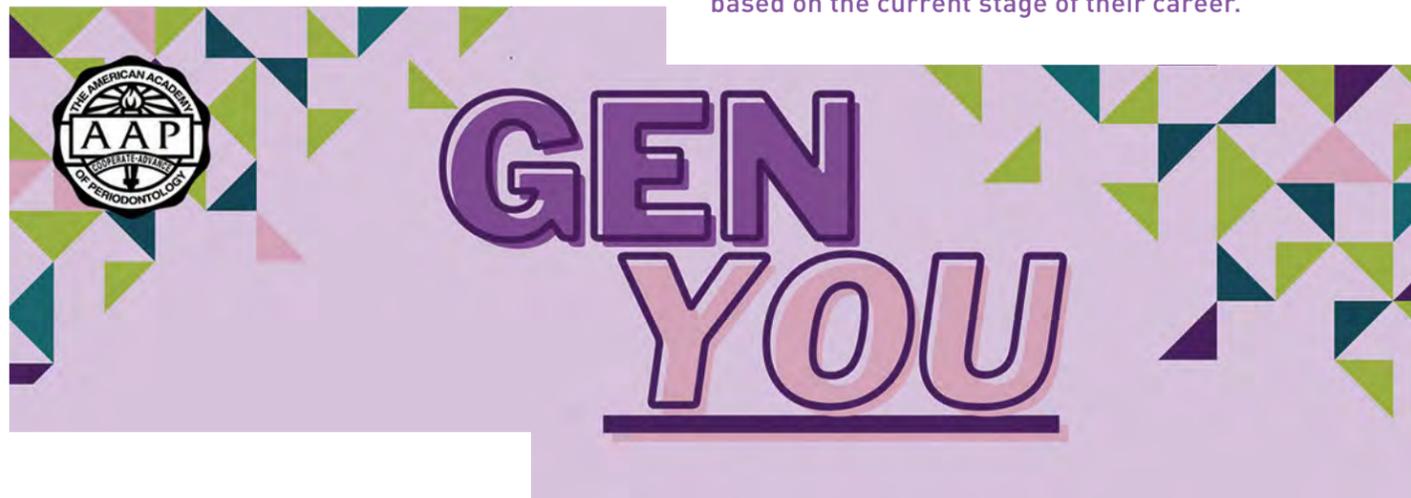
INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS	
New Member	Location
Ahmad Akroof	Kuwait City, Kuwait
Mohammad Al-Hashemi	Kuwait City, Kuwait
Saleh Aloraini	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Xavier Demers	Ottawa, ON, Canada
Emilio Ramon Mateo	Santiago DE Los Caballeros, DR
Vincent Senini	Nanaimo, BC, Canada
Avi Shelemay	Avi Nepean, ON, Canada
Yoshifumi Tomizuka	Kobeshi, Japan
Ryuboku Torikata, DDS	Osaka, Japan
Tomoyasu Yamada	Fukuoka-City, Japan

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MEMBERS	
New Member	Location
Jose Rovira Alvarado	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Isabella Barreto Cote	Halifax, NS, CA
Madison Flamand	Winnipeg, MB, CA
Yollian Velazquez Gonzalez	Carolina, Puerto Rico
Fumihiko Kimura	Yokosuka-Shi Kanagawa, Japan
Martin Lambert	Toronto, ON, CA
Justin McMurray	Vancouver, BC, CA
Karam Notay	Guelph, ON, Canada
Frida Van Straaten	Vancouver, BC, CA



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

With busy schedules, difficult schoolwork, multiple patients, and heavy workloads, our Gen You individuals know a thing or two about productivity and practice hacks. In this issue, they share their best tips based on the current stage of their career.



**Ryan Lark**  
Student  
AAP Member since 2024

Hi there! My go-to study and organization method has always been breaking everything down into bite-sized tasks:

things that are more manageable. I usually have a weekly overview whenever I have big deadlines, and I have a daily checklist for clinic, coursework, and different responsibilities. The simple task, the simple act of checking something off keeps me moving forward especially on the busy days. In terms of digital tools, I live by my Google calendar. It's synced across my phone and laptop, and I color code everything for studying, clinic, and downtime. I also sometimes use apps like Plan that are great for whenever you have projects. Staying productive while balancing so many responsibilities really comes down to being very intentional with my time. I try to avoid multitasking and give my full attention to whatever I'm doing, whether it's treating a patient, leading a meeting, trying to write a paper, or just literally walking my dog. If I could give one piece of advice, it is certainly to build a system that works for you. What helps me may not help someone else, and that's okay, but don't wait until you're overwhelmed to get organized. Stay small, consistent, and be kind to yourself.



**Dr. Maria Cecilia La Torre Sanchez**  
First-Year Resident  
AAP Member since 2024

Hola, hola! Adapting my time management and productivity strategies evolved through time. When I initially started my perio residency, going from dental school, I had a lot of what I did in dental school within me. However, it is a different kind of environment, so at the beginning it kind of took me a while

to come up with a strategy and a plan.

Communication is key in perio residency. This is because your faculty is going to help you understand things that are new for you that you don't understand. They will be able to talk to you about literature, procedures that you might not understand at the moment. It's also very important to communicate effectively with your upper classmates and act kind of as a family where everybody helps each other because they've already gone through it, so they have a readily available plan. It might not be as perfect for you, but you can always change the plan. At least this can help you get a start.

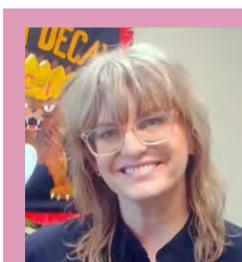
That is exactly what I did. I'm in constant contact with my faculty and upper classmates for any questions that I have. They help me develop a plan where I not only have my excel sheet to work with, but we have different interfaces where we can share work or different papers and go through it together. We have a cloud where all of us input a little bit, and it helps the young students coming in to get a grasp on how things work.

Tools and habits to handle patient load and academic responsibilities will grow through time. You will develop them as the residency goes on. I use excel sheets for patient management, where I have all my patients with all their needs: when their SRP is coming, when their next re-eval is, when their next perio maintenance is, when they're due for surgery. For academic work, I use the cloud a lot. The school provides us with one terabyte where all the residents can share their literature and the different topics that we cover, so

we like to kind of brainstorm and go through these topics together. I use other interfaces like Notability to help me with taking notes. A good habit to have during residency is to have a dedicated space for research, literature, and patient care. If you're working with your Patient Care Coordinator, have a dedicated time when you can talk to them about your patients. When it comes to academic work, have a dedicated time throughout the day – even if it's an hour – just to go over topics you have covered throughout the week.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. I know sometimes we can be afraid to be wrong or think the wrong thing, but believe me, there's nothing wrong with that. You need to ask questions, and even if you're wrong, that's okay. We're humans and we make mistakes, but we also learn a lot from them. Don't ever let anything hold you back. Even if you made a mistake or you feel like this is the worst day, it's not. It's just part of the learning curve.

The most unexpected challenge for me came in 2022. Unfortunately, I lost my dad and my little brother in an unexpected turn of events back in my hometown in Colombia. During that time, I was here in the U.S. going through my transition from second year to third year. It was very challenging. Grieving is not easy. However, I had a strong support system with my family, the University of Detroit Mercy Dental, and my friends that took care of me while I was in my lowest moments. It was really hard for me to accept things that I couldn't change, but throughout time I learned to be more resilient and strong and I was able to overcome this challenge. It took me a while but God always watches over his angels.

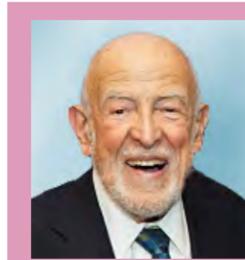


**Dr. Cassandra McKenzie**  
Clinician  
AAP Member since 2021

In private practice, it is essential to utilize systems. We must create a way to have as much black and white as possible to deal with the inevitable gray. In our

office, we have a shared spreadsheet that clearly defines each team member's role and the timeline in which they are expected to perform their tasks and responsibilities. For any additional items, we will often add those to a task list on an app called Connect Teams. This is a fantastic app if you haven't heard of it. We use this app as our time plug (or log), we also use it to request time off, and there are even options for rewarding team members with tokens which they can then redeem for gift cards of their own choice. Another strategy that has worked well for us is to have a monthly meeting with a theme of start, stop, continue. We have a giant posterboard that we're consistently adding to for this

meeting. It's essentially a living document that lives in the breakroom. We start out with things that we should start or continue to start—maybe there's a new product that we want to implement or a different way of managing phone calls, things like that. We continue on with things that we should stop. Perhaps there are systems in place that just don't make any sense anymore, so we don't need to do those. Then we end the meeting on a celebratory note with the "continues." These are the things that are going well and it's a good opportunity to praise each other and just be happy that we're in it together. Creating a culture of humility and solidarity has been essential to the success of my team. We take responsibility for our mistakes, we learn from them, and we help each other. We don't play the blame game, we try very, very hard to not use shame with each other, and especially not with our patients. One of my favorite quotes is from Maya Angelou: "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." If we can live by that and practice that way, we're all going to have a good time.



**Dr. Max J. Perlitsh**  
Clinician and Educator  
AAP Member since 1964

Productivity in the clinical practice of Periodontics is dependent on the development of a referral base of general dentists who value your special skills. I learned very early to educate

my office staff on the fundamental differences between primary and secondary trauma from occlusion. Dental hygienists and dental assistants knew the importance of monitoring progressive pathologic tooth mobility over time and its relationship to radiographic bone loss reflecting varying degrees of osteo-malacia, osteopenia, and osteoporotic bone changes. They understood the need to dry tooth surfaces in order to record clinical evidence of enamel tooth wear and fremitus of maxillary and mandibular molar and anterior teeth. They also noted visible gingival recession and learned to suspect anatomic defects such as dehiscences and fenestrations.

The ultimate goal of all periodontal treatment of severely compromised periodontal teeth is to treat to a target that fine tunes the NLRP3 Occlusasome to enable angiogenesis, osteogenesis and neurogenesis to restore H-cell capillaries and alveolar bone homeostasis to attain total inflammatory resolution. ■

## AAP’s Saving Teeth Webinar Series underway — next up: “Saving Teeth for a Healthier Life”

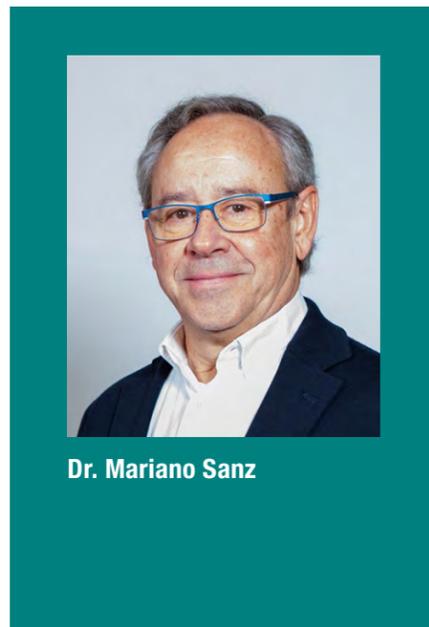
The AAP has launched the Saving Teeth Webinar Series, developed by the Work Group on Emerging Technologies for Bone and Soft Tissue Reconstruction to Save Teeth. The 14-part series underscores the importance of preserving natural dentition through proven therapies and emerging technologies shaping the future of care.

Each session features internationally recognized experts who present scientific evidence, clinical applications, and strategies to support tooth retention and long-term oral health—providing clinicians with practical, evidence-based insights for everyday practice.

The first webinar, “Why and When Saving Teeth?” featuring Dr. Mariano Sanz and Dr. Angela Palaiologou-Gallis, is now available on demand at [perio.org](http://perio.org).

Coming next: “Saving Teeth for a Healthier Life” featuring Dr. Maurizio Tonetti and Dr. Mia Geisinger, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. CDT. This session will focus on the impact of preserving natural dentition on overall health and longevity, offering attendees both the scientific evidence and clinical strategies needed to integrate these concepts into practice. ■

For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.perio.org/ce-meetings/saving-teeth-webinar-series/>

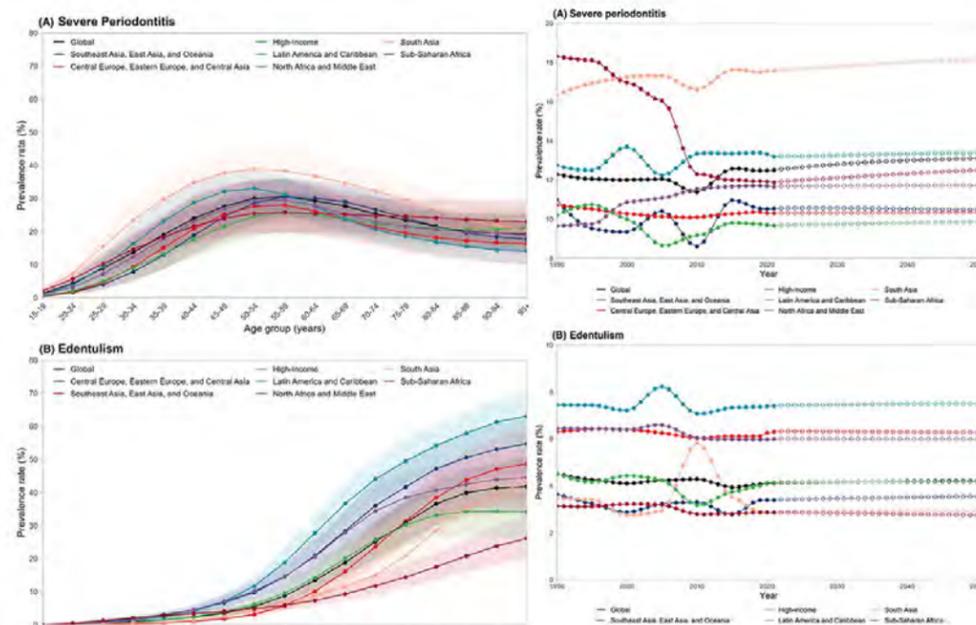


Dr. Mariano Sanz



Dr. Angela Palaiologou-Gallis

### What are the global trends in the prevalence and severity of periodontitis?



## AAP Journals roundup



It has been a busy year so far for the AAP Journals, with more to come. Read below to learn what the Editors, Academy, and Wiley have planned for Toronto and beyond.

### 2025 Annual Meeting

#### Peer Review Workshop

Building on the success of the two previous workshops, the Editors of *Clinical Advances in Periodontics* (CAP) and the *Journal of Periodontology* (JOP) will once again host the **Peer Review Workshop** during the Annual Meeting. In this workshop, participants will learn about the publication process, the guiding principles of peer review, and the article types published in both journals. They will also have an opportunity to review sample papers in breakout groups and interact with the Editors. By enhancing your reviewer skillset, you can become a better author and scholar, too.

The workshop will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 8 am to noon Eastern Time. Simply purchase a ticket for the workshop when you **register** for the Annual Meeting and then join us for this informative and collegial continuing education event!



### Member Resource Center

The AAP Journals will have a presence again at the Member Resource Center in the Exhibit Hall. Be sure to visit the Journals booth to learn about the latest journal offerings, pick up some giveaways, and help celebrate JOP’s 95th anniversary! In addition to editorial staff, the Editors will be at the booth for meet and greets and to answer any questions you might have about the journals.

### Special Content

#### AO-AAP Consensus conference proceedings

Papers from the landmark Consensus Conference on the Prevention and Management of Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions, hosted by the Academy of Osseointegration and the AAP, were published in June 2025 in *The International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants*, *The International Journal of Periodontics & Restorative Dentistry*, JOP, and CAP. All 11 papers are open access and can be viewed and downloaded at [perio.org](http://perio.org).

#### JOP 95th anniversary special issue

A special issue with the theme “Celebrating Science” will be published in late 2025/early 2026 to celebrate JOP’s 95th anniversary. As envisioned, this issue will include both high-quality original research and review papers on topics selected by the Editors. As these papers are accepted for publication, they will be published individually in JOP issues and compiled into a virtual issue on the Wiley Online Library.



#### CAP microsurgery special issue

Be on the lookout for a special issue on microsurgery in early 2026! For this issue, a diverse group of authors have prepared a wide-ranging mix of papers featuring original research, clinical applications, new technology, and educational experiences. This trailblazing issue will also feature images and videos, along with a foreword written by AAP Master Clinician Award Recipient Dr. Leonard S. Tibbetts. ■

## AO/AAP Consensus Proceedings on Peri-Implant Diseases now available

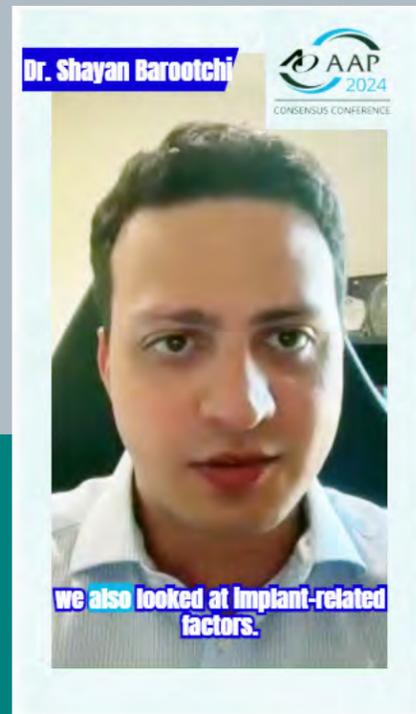


The Academy of Osseointegration (AO) and the AAP recently partnered on a landmark consensus conference focused on the prevention and management of peri-implant diseases. The full consensus proceedings are now available, published across four journals: *Journal of Periodontology*, *International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants (IJOMI)*, *Clinical Advances in Periodontics*, and *International Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry (IJPRD)*. This collaboration brings together cutting-edge research, clinical expertise, and practical guidance to advance peri-implant care.

To help highlight the key findings, the AAP will release short video summaries from the authors along with recorded conversations with the authors and master clinicians, offering practical insights and real-world applications. Stay tuned for these resources in the weeks ahead! ■

Explore the full proceedings and watch the first summary videos here: <https://www.perio.org/research-science/academy-of-osseointegration-and-american-academy-of-periodontology-consensus-on-prevention-and-management-of-peri-implant-diseases-and-conditions/>

AAP AO Summit Special Citation – link to group photos: <https://osseointegration.org/2024-consensus-conference/>



### Global Connection through the 2017 Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions

In 2017, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) and the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) co-presented a landmark global workshop that reshaped the way clinicians around the world diagnose periodontal and peri-implant diseases. The official proceedings, co-published in a special June 2018 supplement of the *Journal of Periodontology* and *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*, introduced an updated classification system designed to reflect modern science, clinical realities, and international collaboration.

The result of this landmark gathering was a redesigned disease classification framework that guides comprehensive treatment planning and allows for a personalized approach to patient care. Highlights from the updated classification included a multi-dimensional staging and grading system for periodontitis classification, a recategorization of various forms of periodontitis, and the inaugural classification for peri-implant diseases and conditions.

The framework was designed to be applied globally, but its use can vary across countries and is shaped by

differences in healthcare systems and terminologies. For periodontists in Canada, where the AAP is hosting the 2025 Annual Meeting, the 2017 Classification continues to provide a shared scientific foundation. So, what does this mean for attendees of the 2025 Annual Meeting in Toronto? This global framework reminds us that our work goes beyond the basics. It helps us personalize care, stay evidence-driven, and **stay connected to colleagues around the world**, many of which we will interact with in Toronto during the meeting.

As the specialty continues to evolve, the 2017 Classification serves not only as a clinical tool, but as a symbol of what's possible when the global periodontal community comes together: growth through collaboration, and collaboration through growth.

To learn more about the 2017 Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions, visit [perio.org](http://perio.org). ■

### International member recognition

New in 2025, the AAP will shine the spotlight on its International members by highlighting individuals in a new feature.

If you have a motivational story, personal accomplishment, or something else that you'd like to share, please let us know by contacting [publicrelations@perio.org](mailto:publicrelations@perio.org).

## International periodontics





# ABP

## DIPLOMATE INTERVIEW



**Ellen Piehl Pearce, DMD, MS**  
**2025 Salkin Award Winner**

*Dr. Leslie M. (Mike) Salkin served as a Director of the American Board of Periodontology from 1995 to 2001. Following his last year as a Director, he returned every year to assist the Board on the Oral Examination as an Examiner until his death in November 2013. The Board established the Leslie M. Salkin Award to honor his many years of exceptional service to the ABP. The award is presented each year to the candidate who earns the highest score on the Oral Exam.*

### **Tell us a little about yourself and your current practice?**

I am originally from Pennsylvania and went to dental school at the University of Pittsburgh prior to moving to Texas for residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. I moved to Connecticut after graduation and currently work in private practice and live on the shoreline. I am fortunate to work with three other periodontists who have been wonderful mentors as I begin my career.

### **When did you know you wanted to pursue a periodontal residency? What occurred that made you decide on this career path?**

I was fortunate at Pitt to receive an excellent predoctoral periodontics education with a series of informative and engaging didactic courses and time spent assisting the residents during surgery. I realized quickly that the focus in periodontics on treating a disease process and saving natural teeth while working to restore function and esthetics suited my interests. I spent time shadowing in private practice and knew that I wanted to pursue a career in periodontics.

### **Why did you pursue board certification?**

During residency, I understood that pursuing board certification was an expectation. My education instilled in me the knowledge that it was an important step in my career which represents a commitment to a deep knowledge of the periodontal literature and the highest standard of care in our specialty. Board certification is a way of honoring the values and standards of our profession, and is a visible commitment to my patients, colleagues, and myself that I will continue to grow and uphold those values.

### **What is your view on professional excellence and how do you plan to maintain this throughout your career?**

Professional excellence is not a single achievement but an ongoing standard that encompasses clinical expertise,

professional integrity, and a commitment to lifelong learning. It means striving to deliver the highest quality of care to every patient while upholding the values of our profession. I believe excellence is sustained through continual growth – seeking out new knowledge, embracing advances in science and technology, and learning from both colleagues and patients. My personal commitment is to remain a student of periodontics throughout my career so that I can continue to evolve as a clinician, uphold the trust placed in me, and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of our field.

### **What are your professional goals for the next five to ten years?**

I want to continue working in private practice, honing my clinical skills, setting roots in the area, and connecting with my patients and the surrounding dental community. I currently serve as the treasurer of the Connecticut Society of Periodontists and look forward to being more involved in organized dentistry to help advocate for our profession.

### **What is most useful for you as you start your practice?**

As I begin my practice, the most useful resource for me is the ability to collaborate with my colleagues. Periodontics is not a profession practiced in isolation – it thrives on shared knowledge, open dialogue, and teamwork. I find tremendous value in being able to consult with my peers and mentors, learn from their experiences, and exchange perspectives that help me approach patient care more thoughtfully.

### **What makes your generation of periodontists unique?**

I believe my generation of periodontists strikes a balance between honoring the legacy of the leaders who paved the way in the field of periodontics and embracing the innovations that are shaping our future. We are fortunate to have the foundational knowledge from decades of research which has set the standard of clinical excellence and patient-centered care. We have also grown up in an era of extremely rapid technological advancement. We will continue to navigate the integration of digital workflows and new materials in an increasingly connected world.

### **What motivates you in your career?**

My primary motivator is the ability to make a real difference in patients' lives – whether that's by treating periodontal disease and helping to save their natural dentition, improving esthetics and their confidence to smile through soft tissue grafting, or restoring function with dental implants. The daily practice of periodontics presents an intellectual challenge that is also extremely motivating. Each patient brings a unique background and clinical situation which necessitate critical thinking and problem solving to deliver the highest quality care. Collaborating with and learning from my colleagues has also been extremely rewarding and has pushed me to continue to develop and improve my skills.

### **What do you think is different about the practice of periodontics today?**

Well, today's practice is all I have known! But I recognize how much the field of periodontics has evolved over time. Today's practice is defined by advanced technology, evidence-based practice, and interdisciplinary collaboration which allows us to deliver a consistently high level of care. We practice in an increasingly digital era of transparency and connectivity where knowledge is nearly instantly shared and patients are more informed and engaged. I am excited about what the future brings! ■

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My personal commitment is to remain a student of periodontics throughout my career so that I can continue to evolve as a clinician, uphold the trust placed in me, and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of our field.



## 2025 ORAL EXAMINATION

232 candidates participated in the 2025 ABP Oral Examination. 177 were successful with a pass rate of 76%. The following periodontists achieved Board Certification Diplomate status and received a certificate in Periodontology and Dental Implant Surgery:

Rivka Abramova	Akshay Chhana	Joseph Gluck	Annette Ko
Mustafa Adami	Yi-Chen Chiang	Roberto Gonzalez Yumar	Priyanka Kodaganallur Pitchumani
Yamen Akhras	Ovadia Chocron	Christos Gousias	Daniel Kruk-Leahy
Kent Akin	Suzie Choe	Bryan Habet	Sara Kube
Noor AlAsaad	Teebok Choe	Anum Haider	Julia Lacy
Reem Alreshaid	Crystal Chun	Daniel Hall	Michael Lamb
Alaa Alsaffar	John Corbett	Jenna Hang	Jessica Latimer
Mukhlid Alshammari	Sandrine Couldwell	Andrei Hatara	Jake Lazer
Rawaa Alshatti	Gazelle Crasto	Teresa Heck	Erin Lee
Emilie Ammoura	Garrett Crawford	Brandi Herron	Hsin-Chiang Lee
Leah Andriasian	Blake Crosby	Nour Hobani	Joyce Lee
Zaineb Aslam	Christian Davila	Richard Hong	Po Lee
Meghrik Assadourian	Omar Daweri	LeRoy Horton	Andriy Leshkiv
Leah Baldinger	Aditi Desai	Dale Irving	Agata Lesniewski
William Bane	Rachel Duval	Sam Jameel	Ryan Levy
Travis Barrett	Joseph Eddy	Tamara Jandali	Gary Li
Therin Baum	Mahmoud Elashiry	Joseph Jankovich	Katherine Lin
Neil Bealka	Radwa Elghadafi	Tyler Johansen	Yi Te Lin
Anahita Behshadpour	Lina Elnakka	Lucy Johnson	Ariana Maiberg
Ronak Bhagat	Nathan Eshoiee	Ryan Johnson	Koby Martin
Anjali Bhagirath	Sawsan Fadhl Alkawla	Ryan Johnson	Ruben Martin
Bayliegh Biebel	Hoorshad Fathi-Kelly	Erin Jorgensen	Carsen McDaniel
Gary Blyleven	Eric Feichtinger	Hazeka Kadri	Elizabeth Miller
Rosalie Braun	Sarah Fita	Arushi Kakar	Jad Mourad
Ana Bujila	Lauren Fitzgerald	Rida Kazmi	Nader Nagavi
Danielle Burgess	Matthew Flaherty	Francis Keeling	Nader Naguib
William Burns, IV	Brett Freeman	Urvashi Keswani	Lincoln Nguyen
Loredana Calce	Shamus Gartley	Shafia Khawaja	Quan Nguyen
Katherine Carmona Hernandez	Andrea Geffin	Sang Hun Kim	Trisha Nguyen-Luu

Shale Ninneman	Kantapon Rattanaaprskul	Erin Schwoegl	Livia Valverde
Kenechi Okany	Seyedeh Maryam Razmi	Maria Sepulveda	Brittany Wall
Cleona Oliver	Joseph Retrum	Emily Sexton	Kelin Walsh
Elsy Orellana	Trevor Richmond	Omar Shehab	Curtis Wang
Magdalena Orłowska	Audrey Riegel	Mostafa Shehabeldin	Emma Wood
Daniel Overfelt	Daniel Ritchey	Yusuf Sheikh	Jesse Woon
Meghan Pandya	Masooma Rizvi	Slade Shepherd	YuChang Wu
Mirali Pandya	Nerea Robles-Leyzaola	Ashley Shields	Zixiang Xu
Linda Park	Roxana Rodriguez	Brett Silvers	Natalie Yam
Anand Parmar	Nicole Rogers	Evelyn Spencer	Jing Yang
Neil Patel	Paola Rojas	Chrysi Stavropoulou	Min Yang
Ellen Pearce	Isolde Rojas-Rudolph	Fatemah Tayyib	Mina Youssef
Raul Perez	Christina Rostant	Brook Thibodeaux	Jessie Yuan
Jordan Pierce	Samer Sabbagh	Julie Tokatlian	
Andrew Race	Aziz Saqr	Andrew Tong	
Catherine Ramundo	Paula Schlemmer	Edwin Tsang	

## NEW DIPLOMATES RECEPTION

The ABP Board of Directors is pleased to celebrate the accomplishments of the above-listed new Diplomates. The ABP will host a reception for new Diplomates and current Examiners on Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Hockey Hall of Fame during the AAP Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada. Please contact the ABP at [staff@abperio.org](mailto:staff@abperio.org) for information about registering for this event.

## DIPLOMATES CELEBRATING 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The following periodontists achieved 25 years of Active Diplomate status in 2025:

Ken Akimoto	Benjamin Duval	Paul Lin	Robert Pulliam
Wayne Aldredge	Bret Dyer	Yu-Heng Lin	Michael Quinn
Salomon Amar	Dor Evron	Jack Lincks	Darrin Rapoport
Alexios Bakopoulos	Barry Feldner	Eduardo Lorenzana	Ana Saenz
Steven Bartel	Frank Feuille, V	Simon MacNeill	Khalid Said
Ray Beddoe	Mitchel Godat	George Mandelaris	Mandy Pen Shui
Ann Blue	Ashton Gouldin	Stephen Meraw	Juan Silva
Milita Borguet	Matthew Gramkee	D. Douglas Miley	Sidney Stein
Robert Bouffard	Richard Heard, III	John Mumford	Ngoc-Nhung Tran
Gayle Bradshaw	Robert Herold	Indra Mustapha	James Vlassis
Jeffrey Brain	Taylor Hoang	Michael Najera	I-Chung Wang
Pintippa Bunyaratavej	Hana Hobbs	Richard Nichols, Jr.	Stephen Weisglass
Cherng-Tzeh Chou	Deborah Jones	Menachem Oren	Robin Weltman
Jonathan Cole	Bradford Klassman	Ernest Orphanos	Hwey-Chin Yeh
Kenneth Corsig	Kathleen Kutalek	Louis Pannullo	David Yu
Anna Dongari-Bagtzoglou	Barry Levin	David Paquette	Scott Zirkin

*In addition, Paul A. Levi achieved a remarkable milestone with 50 years of Active Diplomate status in 2025.*

## Qualifying Exam Committee and Item Writing Workshop

The Qualifying Exam Committee met in Chicago July 11 –12, 2025, to conduct a comprehensive review of the QE item bank and blueprint, and to select items for the 2026 exam. Eight new item writers joined the committee for an item writing training workshop. The ABP extends its gratitude to the Qualifying Exam Committee for their valuable service and warmly welcomes new item writers.



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**QE Committee:** Drs. Leena Palomo, Chair; Nicolaas Geurs, Vice Chair; Charles Powell; Craig Yonemura; Kerri Font; Carlos Parra; Srinivas Ayilavarapu; Dimitris Tatakis; Natalie Jeong; Alon Frydman; and Mitchell Bloom. Dr. Jeffrey Rossmann and Dr. Angela Palaiologou-Gallis supported the committee in their respective roles of Director of Examinations and Assistant Director of Examinations.

**New Item Writers:** Drs. Rachel Dulebohn; Eswar Kandaswamy; Pin-Chuang (Patrick) Lai; Gian Pietro Schincaglia; Sejal Thacker; Sukirth Ganesan; Vrisiis Kofina; and Keith Merchant.

**ARRive Resident Retreat** – The ABP served as an educational partner and financial supporter for the inaugural AAP ARRive resident retreat held in San Antonio, Texas, August 8–10, 2025. ABP President Dr. Paul Luepke; Vice-President Dr. Leena Palomo; and Immediate Past President Dr. Palaiologou-Gallis, led a panel discussion on how the ABP supports professional growth, enhanced knowledge, and expertise development for practitioners who successfully challenge the certification examination. The ABP was pleased to join rising third-year residents for three days of educational programming and networking activities, and to engage in dialogue about why board certification is worth the effort.



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## UPDATE YOUR PROFILE AND IMPROVE YOUR VISIBILITY

Did you know the “Find a Board-Certified Periodontist” tool is the most visited page on the ABP’s website? Make sure you are visible by adding a profile photo and website address. Do you have multiple offices? We can help you with those listings. Contact the ABP Office if you have any questions or need assistance updating your profile.

## IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- October 31, 2025: 2026 Oral Examination Registration Deadline
- November 20, 2025: 2026 Qualifying Examination Registration Deadline
- January 26 – 30, 2026: 2026 Qualifying Examination
- April 27 – May 1, 2026: 2026 Oral Examination ■

## 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The CareCredit healthcare credit card can help bridge the gap between patient benefits and cost of care.



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Banking Built for Doctors, by doctors: Panacea Financial is a doctor-founded and expert-driven digital bank that caters to Periodontists. Whether moving for residency, opening a practice, or consolidating debt—Panacea Financial was built specifically for you.



SoFi consolidates and refinances federal and private student loans to offer rates customized to you, creating meaningful savings.



Treloar & Heisel offers dental and medical professionals nationwide a comprehensive suite of financial products and services ranging from insurance to investments and financial planning.



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ACE SOUTHERN Surgical Solutions offers members an upfront discount on the products that are used everyday in a periodontal practice!



Aspida offers a HIPPA compliant encrypted email solution, which includes email archiving, retention and backup for six years along with robust spam and malware protection.



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## AAP FOUNDATION

# AAP Foundation at the AAP Annual Meeting

The AAP Foundation will have a robust presence at the AAP's Annual Meeting in Toronto. The Foundation Booth is being redesigned as a welcoming space in which current and prospective donors can learn about programs, meet the staff, interact with volunteer leaders, enjoy some refreshing infused water, and complete a variety of tasks including:

- Making a donation or pledge
- Picking up donor recognition and other ribbons for their name badge
- Nominating a Student or Practice Ambassador
- Ordering gifts and cards to honor patients and referring dentists
- Discovering silent auction items

A favorite Annual Meeting tradition, the **AAP Foundation Silent Auction** is made possible through generous donations from individuals and corporate partners. Bidding on all items starts at 50% below retail value, giving you the chance to score great deals on practice essentials, wine, travel, and more. All proceeds from the winning bids directly support the Foundation and the future of periodontics.

Register by texting **AAPF25** to **76278**. You'll receive a link on your smartphone to view and bid in the auction, open October 14–18. Most winners will receive their items later by mail.

The Foundation is actively seeking contributions for the auction, from periodontal supplies and equipment to artwork, fine wines, and stays in vacation homes. Although most items are advertised with a photo, we are especially seeking a few small, high-value items that will be easy to bring into Canada for display at the booth such as designer watches or handbags in new or like-new condition. Email [sarah@perio.org](mailto:sarah@perio.org) to donate.

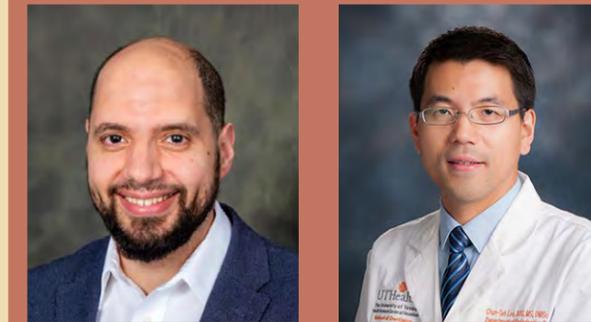


"Flossopher" badges donated by Dr. Cassandra McKenzie to the AAP Foundation's Silent Auction

The Foundation will recognize its award, scholarship, and fellowship recipients, as well as our major donors and industry partners, at the joint **AAP-AAP Foundation Awards Ceremony**. *Thursday, Oct. 16, 5:30-7 p.m., Metro Toronto Convention Centre.*

The Foundation will again provide Annual Meeting attendees with valuable information at the **Practice Transition, Retirement, and Estate Planning Breakfast**, as well as the opportunities for philanthropic impact that those life events can create. *Friday, Oct. 17, 6:30-8 a.m., Metro Toronto Convention Centre.*

Sponsored by Treloar & Heisel



**Future Horizons in Periodontology speakers**  
Drs. Muhammad Saleh and Chun-Teh Lee



Curious about artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on the future of dentistry? Want to learn how AI can enhance diagnostics, streamline clinical workflows, and improve patient outcomes in periodontics? Interested in the emerging technologies that could shape your practice in the years ahead? Then don't miss the **2025 Future Horizons in Periodontology** session, presented by AAP Foundation award recipients.

This year's session focuses on Artificial Intelligence Applications in Clinical Periodontics. Join four accomplished clinicians and researchers recognized by the AAP Foundation for their outstanding work. Speakers Dr. Chun-Teh Lee (Institute for Teaching and Learning Fellow, 2016; Teaching Fellow, 2017) of UTHealth Houston and Dr. Muhammad H. Saleh (Schoor Research Awardee, 2021; Institute for Teaching and Learning Fellow, 2022; Nevins Teaching and Research Fellow, 2024) of the University of Michigan will share practical insights on how artificial intelligence is transforming periodontics. Moderators Dr. Beatriz Bezerra (Institute for Teaching and Learning Fellow, 2021; Tarrson Fellow, 2023) of UCLA and Dr. Roger Arce (Educator Scholar, 2012; Institute for Teaching and Learning Fellow, 2014; Teaching Fellow, 2015) of UTHealth Houston, both experienced educators and practicing periodontists, will lead the discussion. Come learn from innovative clinicians and researchers who have benefited from AAP Foundation awards. *Friday, Oct. 17, 10:45-11:30 a.m.*



Dr. Myron Nevins

In lieu of the usual donor appreciation reception, a special **Celebration of Teaching, Mentorship, and Friendship Honoring Dr. Myron Nevins** will be held to benefit both the AAP Foundation and the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Made possible by presenting sponsor Dr. Yoshihiro Ono, the event will include a gourmet meal, live music, dancing, and tributes to Dr. Nevins from some of his many students, mentees, and friends. Sponsorships are still available starting at \$5,000 and individual tickets are on sale through October 3. Visit [click here](#) for more information. *Friday, Oct. 17, 6:30-10:30 p.m., Fairmont Royal York.* ■



## Join the Dash: PerioDash 2025

It is not too late to be part of the AAP Foundation's virtual 5K. Run or walk anytime between Sept. 12 and Oct. 10, either on your own or with a team.

Groups are already having fun with creative names like **15c Blades of Glory; Top Gum; Cirque du Gingiva; Bone, Gums and Harmony; Bifurcation Brigade; Teeth Titans;** and **Calculus Cowboys**. Team names are printed on the back of your official shirt—so you can wear your pride on every step of the dash.

**Register today to secure your spot.** Allow up to three weeks from the registration date for delivery of your PerioDash gear. ■

