San Diego welcomes AAOMS Annual Meeting

By Aaron Rothkopf, Dental Tribune Staff

The beauty of San Diego will be tempting attendees to head outside, but from Thursday, Sept. 21 to Saturday, Sept. 23, all the action will be inside the San Diego Convention Center as the 105th AAOMS Annual Meeting takes place.

Organizers of event hope you become inspired, come away with new insights and get hands-on experience throughout the three days. The convention center floor will be packed with vendors showing off their specialty-related products and services as well as many programs you can partake in. And dozens of professionals will also be onsite for you to earn continuing education credit.

The annual meeting offers a range of subject areas to learn about and enhance your knowledge.

There are many new and exciting lectures and activities taking place at this year’s event. Attendees can learn more about facial cosmetic surgery, marketing, cybersecurity or treatment for sleep.

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The three-day conference, this year taking place from Sept. 7 to 9, has previously been held in San Francisco.

This year, the convention center will be filled with more than 200 exhibitors, giving attendees a chance to explore the latest advancements in the field and gain insights from industry experts. There will also be more than 80 speakers offering lectures on a wide variety of topics from endodontics to mental health, as well as more than 160 courses which can earn you up to 8 hours of C.E.

With hundreds of vendors on-hand, attendees will be able to see the latest dental technologies and services, get hands-on demos and talk with experts who can help find the right products to fit every business need. Exhibitors will also be modeling the latest trends and developments in the field of dentistry and give attendees hands-on demonstrations.

This year the exhibit hall will be open Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For those new to the dental field, CDA will have events targeted just for them. The students and new grads hub in exhibit hall 2 will be the place for students to gather.

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The California Dental Association is leading the way to San Jose where one of dentistry’s most anticipated events will take place. For the first time, attendees will travel to the South Bay and gather at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center.

The 105th AAOMS Annual Meeting will head to San Diego, above, from Sept. 21 to 23. The event promises educational sessions, hands-on experiences and an exhibit hall floor packed with vendors.

(PHOTO/Boatguy619 via Wikimedia Commons)
and early career dentists to learn, connect and recharge throughout the day.

On Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., there will be snacks available as well as spots to recharge devices and connect with other peers and mentors. There will also be several speakers with topics geared just for students and new grads as well as an hourly raffle.

Later, at 3:30 p.m. in the San Jose Hilton Almaden Ballroom, there will be a student networking event. Attendees can build new relationships with peers over food, drinks, and fun games.

After a full day of touring the exhibit hall and earning C.E., attendees will be able to unwind at the wine tasting seminar on Sept. 7 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Attendees can enjoy award-winning wines from across California. Sample favorite reds and whites or try a new vintage.

On Friday night, the floor will be shaking but not from an earthquake. Burn off those wine calories at the CDA Dance Party from Tech Interactive on from 7 to 10 p.m. There will be food and drink as well as different exhibits to explore. For all the latest news and to see what's going on at CDA in San Jose, you can log onto www.cda.org.
A DOC & HIS CHAIR

As I was shopping for a new mattress recently with my wife, the salesman struck me with the wild statistic that humans spend roughly 1/3rd of their lives sleeping. I sat there on the showroom King sized mattress and started to really think about this mind-boggling fact. I wondered why most people don’t run out and purchase the best mattress on the market—given how long we spend in bed! Yet we see that sometimes people bargain shop for their mattresses and very often do not go for the supposed better quality options. It made me wonder if people might change their perspective on that if they only knew how much of their lives they actually do spend using this product? Being in the dental seating game, this got me thinking about dental chairs. Think about how many hours a dentist and their staff spend seated at the patient chair on an average day. Multiply that by the days in a week. Then multiply that by the weeks in a year. Then multiply that by the years in a typical dental career. The result would be a massive amount of time and hours spent seated with patients! These facts made it clear to me that any piece of equipment that a professional uses for multiple hours each day should be a center of focus.

I thought back to when I first started my journey with RGP nearly 20 years ago. There was a specific dentist from Southern California near Santa Barbara who would always seek our booth out at trade shows and drop off a bucket of the most delicious locally made butter cookies for all the RGP reps. Apparently, he had been doing this for years, ever since he purchased an RGP Dental Stool for his dental office in the mid 90’s. Being new to the industry, it was at this very moment that I realized just how big of a difference a supportive and comfortable stool made in the lives of dental professionals.

Nearly 20 years have gone by, and Dr. Mark Shultz still makes it a point to stop by the RGP booth and give testimonials about what a good chair can do for you in dentistry. We decided to ask the since-retired doc a few questions about chairs and ergonomics in dentistry...

Dr. Shultz, tell us a little about yourself. Are you still practicing occasionally?

“I owned a clinic and practiced in Solvang, CA for the bulk of my professional career. I am retired now and enjoying it. I still love dentistry and will probably always do some here and there. Currently I volunteer at the Conejo Free Dental Clinic in Thousand Oaks and offer my time as an occasional locum tenens throughout California. It keeps me busy, and I truly enjoy giving back. And yes, my RGP Chair comes everywhere with me. I never work without it.”

What was it that caused you to seek a better option for seating and back support in your practice?

“Since my years as a teen I have had a history of periodic lumbar spinal pain, which ultimately resulted in surgery. I had been looking for something more supportive that could compliment and help sustain my newly operated-on back. I came upon RGP at a CDA meeting and once I sat in the chair, I felt a unique style of support that was unlike any other chair I had tried.”

How did the right dental stool make a difference in your life both professionally and personally?

“With 40 years of practice under my belt, I like many other dentists have purchased so many materials and pieces of equipment that end up a financial waste. We purchase so many items that had nothing to do with our own personal day-to-day experience. For once I switched that focus to myself and I’m glad I did because your chairs helped me to continue working comfortably. I’m not sure I’d still be practicing today without the help of RGP chairs.”

We see you chatting with younger dentists about RGP a lot. What do you typically tell them?

“I try to get them to understand that as a dentist your body is your money maker, and you only get one. It’s important to take steps to preserve and protect your biggest asset, that being... yourself. As practitioners we sacrifice a lot to make sure our patients are happy and have healthy smiles. The least we can do is invest in ourselves a little and try to maximize our quality of life. Because let’s face it, dentistry is not an easy profession. It truly does take a toll on one’s overall musculoskeletal health which is why we see a bigger push nowadays for proper ergonomics in the workplace.”

Dr. Shultz, if you had to sum up why you chose RGP for your seating needs in 3 sentences or less, what would you say?

“RGP has provided me with optimal ergonomic comfort, aided me in less postural fatigue, and extended my longevity in practice. Any product that can do that should be at the very least considered. The RGP Stool was the single best investment I ever made for my overall health in the workplace.”

VISIT RGP IN BOOTH #621 AT THE CDA SAN JOSE 2023 DENTAL MEETING!
Guideline details pain management strategies for pediatric patients

Acetaminophen or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like ibuprofen are recommended as first-line treatments for managing short-term dental pain in children younger than age 12, according to a new clinical practice guideline developed by the American Dental Association Science & Research Institute (ADASRI), the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and the Center for Integrative Global Oral Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine.

The guideline has been endorsed by the American Dental Association. A guideline panel determined that, when used as directed, acetaminophen alone, NSAIDs (like ibuprofen) alone or acetaminophen in combination with NSAIDs can effectively manage a child’s pain after a tooth extraction or during a toothache when dental care is not immediately available.

These and other recommendations are now available in the September issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association.

The guideline evaluated doses of acetaminophen and NSAIDs that may differ from the dosing printed on the over-the-counter packages of these medications. According to the guideline, when acetaminophen or NSAIDs are administered as directed by a dentist or other health care provider, the risk of harm to children from either medication is low.

Guideline senior author Paul Moore, DMD, PhD, MPH, is professor emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Dental Medicine. He said the recommendations align with previous guidance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which contraindicated the use of codeine and tramadol in children younger than age 12 in 2017.

“While prescribing opioids to children has become less frequent overall, this guideline ensures that both dentists and parents have evidence-based recommendations to determine the most appropriate treatment for dental pain,” Dr. Moore said. “Parents and caregivers can take comfort that widely available medications that have no abuse potential, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen, are safe and effective for helping their children find relief from short-term dental pain.”

This is the first of two guidelines on acute dental pain management. A second set of recommendations for adolescents and adults is in development.

The new acute pediatric pain management guideline can be found at ada.org/painmanagement.

For more information on how the ADA is working to combat opioid misuse, while continuing to help patients manage dental pain, visit ada.org/opioids.

(Source: American Dental Association)
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As the pandemic slowly fades away into the rear view mirror and the smoke from a couple years of uncertainty clears, RGP is standing stronger than ever in the dental stool game, according to the company.

Based in historic Bristol, R.I., RGP spent all of 2022 pumping dental chairs out of their factory at a record pace.

“In the spring of 2020, we were standing there wondering which direction we would go when everything hit the fan with Covid. We knew we had to get creative and roll up our sleeves to ensure that as a small business, we could withstand the blow of the pandemic,” said RGP Vice President Jason DeCosta.

“Thankfully, we have some incredibly loyal customers who even in the midst of that whole situation found their way to our website and to our phone lines and were still ordering chairs and other items from us, helping us push forward during that tough time,” Costa said. “We ended up having an overall successful 2020, which was amazing. 2021 followed suit and sales grew back to our pre-pandemic levels.”

When asked about 2022 DeCosta said: “We were very fortunate to have had an incredible year of growth last year. It was by far our best year since our inception back in 1995.

“We had a great push in 2022 from well-known ergonomic speakers recommending our products, an incredible stretch of successful trade shows — many of which were record setting — and a few new products that really served as catalysts to push our sales to new levels.

“It was the perfect storm for our business, and we look forward to continuing that success into 2023 and beyond.”

RGP specializes in providing dental professionals with optimal seating options for proper ergonomics in the workplace.

It offers unique chair designs that can be combined with arm supports and other accessories. It mainly operates in the dental sector but also has a foothold in other industries, such as ophthalmology, dermatology, plastic surgery and veterinary.

Visit RGP in booth No. 621 at this year’s CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry meeting in San Jose, or at booth No. 1831 during the ADA SmileCon and see what the company has for you and your staff!
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New innovations to expand your vision

By Designs for Vision Staff

Designs for Vision has launched several game-changing loupes and headlight designs to change for the better the way you work.

One of Designs for Vision’s several new product lines includes the new patented Panoramic Field Loupes (US pat. 8,928,572B2).

The Panoramic Loupes represent the most significant advancement in telescope design in more than 100 years, according to the company. The viewable areas are twice as large as prismatic expanded field designed loupes and up to five times greater than Galilean loupes.

Panoramic Field loupes provide unprecedented field of view, clarity, definition and color, the company asserts.

Are you experiencing back or neck pain or want to prevent musculoskeletal injuries by improving your posture? The Infinity VUE Loupes by Designs for Vision may be your answer.

The Infinity VUE allows you to keep your head in a neutral position while the loupes do the bending for you. The Infinity VUE is available in 3.0x, 3.5x and 4.5x magnifications.

 Designs has also added the Micro 3.0EF to the award-winning Micro Series Loupes. The Micro 3.0EF has a field of view of 100 mm and weighs less than 70 grams.

Designs for Vision is also introducing patented (US pat. 8,851,709 & RE46,463) hands-free infrared technology with the WireLess IR HDi and the Micro IR HDi headlights. The patented IR feature allows you to operate the headlight without touching the system. The IR headlights use a built-in infrared signal to allow you to turn the light on or off simply and safely. Onboard biometrics sense the position of the headlight to filter out unintended signals while working.

You can see the Visible Difference yourself by visiting Designs for Vision’s booth, No. 1428, during the AAOMS Annual Meeting or contact the company to arrange a visit in your office by calling (800) 345-4009 or emailing info@dvimail.com.

For more information

To learn more about any of Designs for Vision’s products, stop by the booth, No. 1428, during the AAOMS Annual Meeting or contact the company to arrange a visit in your office by calling (800) 345-4009 or emailing info@dvimail.com.
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