



The ORACLE

Published by the Southern Maryland Dental Society

May 2024

ORACLE

President's Farewell Message

Save the Dates

Jul 9-Aug 20

DA Radiology Course

Sept 9-21

Chesapeake Dental Conference

Sept 16

1st SMDS GMM (Virtual)
Dr. Brittany Bergeron on Biocompatible Dental Materials

Sept 19

MARPAC Golf Tournament



As I write my final president's message to you, I find myself this Memorial Day weekend relaxing with friends and family by our local pool. This setting, filled with remembrance and gratitude, seems fitting for my farewell.

I am filled with gratitude as my presidency concludes next month with SMDS. I am thankful to be part of a legacy of incredible leaders who represent an organization that reflects the diversity of our community. I am honored and privileged to have served you, and this year has been a transformative journey of personal and professional growth, a journey that wouldn't have been possible without your unwavering support. I've learned so much about myself and the art of leading during times of change. I am humbled by the trust you put in me. Looking forward, I am enthusiastic about the diversity of the incoming Executive Board and confident that our next President, Tuah Nhu, will continue to propel us forward.



May has always been an important and busy month. I attended the graduation of the Class of 2024 at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMDSOD) at the Hippodrome Theatre in Baltimore. While sharing the stage with my instructors and observing the students be hooded by family, mentors, or teachers, I was overcome with emotion. It reminded me of how grateful I was to graduate with my husband with me. It was a joyful occasion, and I was honored to celebrate this milestone, marking years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance of these new dentists.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to all the mothers who are also dedicated dentists. Your unwavering commitment to your family and profession is admirable and deserves recognition. Each day, you juggle the demands of your career and will provide love and support to your family. Your strength and selflessness have enriched our profession. Thank you for your endless sacrifices and for being phenomenal dentists and extraordinary mothers. As I embark on a new chapter beyond SMDS, it's not a farewell but a 'see you later.' I am thrilled to assume the Director and Clinical Instructor role at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry's Shady Grove Oral Health Clinic. This clinic is located on the campus of the Universities at Shady Grove in North Potomac. The facility is integral because fourth-year dental students and residents from the Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program rotate through it under faculty supervision. It is also home to the B.S./M.S. Dual Degree Clinical Dental Hygiene Leader track. This two-year program trains dental hygienists to work inter-professionally and assume leadership roles in various healthcare settings. If you're interested in touring or learning more about the facility, please don't hesitate to contact me directly or drop by.

In closing, thank you again for continuing to drive our profession forward as one voice and community. You should be proud of our accomplishments. This Memorial weekend, take a moment to reflect and appreciate those who have sacrificed for our country. I hope you and your loved ones have a great summer.

Sincerely,
Halima Karim
Halima Karim, DDS, FAGD
SMDS President (She/Her)





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The ORACLE is published eight times a year by the Southern Maryland Dental Society, 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 306, College Park MD and sent to all members of the Society.

The SMDS will publish signed articles relating to all phases of dentistry (space permitting), but assumes no responsibility for opinions expressed by the contributors.

Acceptance of advertising in no way constitutes professional approval or endorsement.

Deadlines for all materials is the 1st of the month preceding the issue. Publishing dates are September, October, November, December, January, March, May/June

Editor's Letter

Greetings Colleagues,

🌸 Spring Greetings: As flowers bloom, May brings a sense of renewal, growth, and transition.

🦷 National Dental Care Month: May is dedicated to National Dental Care Month, emphasizing the importance of oral health and hygiene. Let's celebrate by spreading awareness and promoting good dental habits!

🕒 Oral Cancer Awareness Month Recap: While April marked Oral Cancer Awareness Month, our community came together to raise awareness and support. A special thanks to all who participated in the Oral Cancer Walk held on April 27 at Wheaton Regional Park in Silver Spring, MD. Email Foundation@msda.com for more volunteer opportunities

🌟 Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new SMDS member this month:

- Dr. Addisalenm Teklu

🗣️ Advocate: In case you missed out on Dentist Day there is another great opportunity to advocate for our patients and profession alongside fellow dentists and dental students. The ADA/ASDA Lobby Day takes place April 7-9 at the Marriot Marquis in Washington, DC. Be sure to register: tinyurl.com/adalobbyday

♥️ Thank you: I am extending a heartfelt thank you to our SMDS President, Halima Karim, for her grace and dedication in leading our organization through an amazing year. I would also like to celebrate all mothers and honor those who have served our Country and are no longer with us.

I look forward to welcoming our incoming SMDS President, Tuan Nhu, and another exciting year as your SMDS Editor. Remember you can always visit our website for all CE events and member services at smdsdentists.org



Kind regards,
Dawn Clarke, DDS
smds.newsletter@gmail.com



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Southern Maryland Dental Society

Check out our updated website to stay current on all CEs & Trainings!

[Home](#) / [Education & Events](#) / [Member Services](#) / [Public Services](#) / [Contact Us](#) / [About Us](#)

Learn more about member services, continuing education and public services



SMDSDentists.Org

MARPAC



SAVE THE DATE



sponsored by:



Classic

September 19, 2024

Waverly Woods Golf Club

REGISTRATION OPEN SOON!



Summer RISE

Connecting Students to Careers

Calling all Businesses,
Government Agencies,
Educational Institutions,
and Nonprofit Organizations



Invest time now to grow your future dental work force - host a high school junior or senior student to learn about dentistry. You might have a future dental assistant, dentist or dental hygienist!

Become a Summer RISE 2024 Host!

Summer RISE (Reimagining an Innovative Student Experience) is an initiative led by the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Department of Partnerships to provide rising MCPS high school juniors and seniors with enriching summer career-based learning experiences.

PROGRAM DETAILS BENEFITS

- Flexible schedule | **5 weeks** | **50 hours** | **7AM- 6PM**
- No cost to hosts or students.
- Matching based on student-desired industry.
- In-person, virtual or hybrid opportunities.
- Hosts complete registration, orientation and training prior to working with students.
- Develop students for your talent pipeline to serve as interns, apprentices or future employees.
- Help impact student decision-making about their life after high school.
- Introduce students to career options, helping to prepare a future workforce.
- Teach students the importance of transferable professional skills.



Register Now

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Program Dates: **June 24-July 26**
Closing Ceremony: **Friday, July 26**
Register by: **Friday, March 15** at
<https://bit.ly/Host2024>

TO LEARN MORE

Visit: www.MCPS-SummerRISE.org
Contact: Davida_Gurstelle@mcpsmd.org
Phone: 240-740-5599

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential



MSDA FOUNDATION

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Interested?

Scan the QR below to register.
Question? Send us an email at
foundation@msda.com



WE NEED HELP WITH:

- Oral cancer screenings
- Dental screenings
- Oral health education
- Dental resources
- Set up and breakdown



ESMOM

EASTERN SHORE MISSION OF MERCY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2024



SCAN TO VOLUNTEER!!

- 500+ VOLUNTEER ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
- 900+ LAY VOLUNTEERS
- DONATIONS OF SUPPLIES AND FOOD
- FINANCIAL DONATIONS
- SUPPORT FROM THE EASTERN SHORE COMMUNITY & SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

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THE EASTERN SHORE DENTAL
SOCIETY

EVENT SUPPORTED BY



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Save the Date

2024

CHESAPEAKE DENTAL
CONFERENCE

9.19-9.21.2024

Maryland Live! Casino & Hotel

MSDA





Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this week, the Legislative Affairs Committee held our end of session meeting and debriefing for the 2024 Maryland General Assembly convening.

It was quite a lengthy discussion on the many bills that your legislative team worked on this year on behalf of dentists and our patients. Thanks to a lot of hard work, a very successful Dentist Day and the emails, calls and texts you sent to legislators, this year was a great success.

Last week, I wrote briefly about a few of the more major bills that we worked on. Please visit the MSDA website at msda.com/legislation and click on the "view key legislation" link on the right-hand side. This will take you to a list of the legislation that we know of that impacts dentistry. Over the next several months I will be providing additional information about many bills, but I encourage you to visit this legislation on your own. The legislation that passed addresses topics such as contracts, infection control and records management that you should get more details on and consult your practice legal counsel.

At our meeting, we also began discussing any resolutions we may want to bring to our MSDA House of Delegates regarding legislation to pursue next year. One item we have heard about from several people and has been a focus in other states across the country, is virtual credit cards. In 2016, the [Maryland General Assembly passed legislation](#) that, according to the ADA, allows insurers to pay a claim using a credit card or an electronic funds transfer payment method that imposes on the provider a fee or similar charge to process the payment if:

1. the insurer notifies the provider in advance of the payment that a fee will apply;
2. the insurer offers the provider an alternative payment method that does not impose a fee or similar charge on the provider; and
3. the provider elects to accept payment of the claim or a portion of the claim using the credit card or electronic funds transfer payment method.

With this discussion moving forward, we would appreciate any feedback from you about this and any other issues that you would like the Legislative Affairs Committee to consider bringing to the MSDA House of Delegates for consideration. Please take a few minutes to answer four short questions about virtual credit cards, as well as what you might like to see addressed.

[Provide Feedback](#)

Thank you for providing your feedback to the Legislative Affairs Committee as we look ahead to next year's Maryland General Assembly.



Good morning, colleagues.

The Maryland General Assembly adjourned sine die on Monday evening with a number of our bills passing, including our priority bill, insurance utilization review. Here is some brief information on some of the bills we've been discussing this session.

Health Insurance – Utilization Review – Modifications – SB 791/HB 932 – PASSED! Despite last minute shenanigans by CareFirst, the bill passed with major modifications for how insurance companies are required to respond to authorization requests in both emergency and non-emergency scenarios, including a dedicated phone number for practitioners to call about claims. The bill as passed can be [seen here](#).

Adult and Pediatric Dental Services – Reimbursement Rate – HB 767 As I mentioned a few weeks ago, this legislation was withdrawn to allow the Chair of the Health and Government Operations Committee to personally send a letter to the Department of Health asking for this very same Medicaid data. She has been assured that the data is available, and she will receive it from the department. The review would include all Maryland Healthy Smiles fee schedules including specialty services such as orthodontic procedures.

Health Occupations – Limited License to Practice Dentistry – Services for Adults – SB 799/HB 786 PASSED! This bill authorizes the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners to waive the requirements for licensure for a foreign trained dentist if a person has met several specific requirements which protect patient safety and ensure quality dental treatment. A similar program exists for foreign trained pediatric dentists. The bill as passed can be [seen here](#).

Public Schools – Student Health – Certificate of Dental Health – HB 167

FAILED. Unfortunately, despite being heavily amended, the bill died in the Senate. I hope we can work with Delegate Harrison in the future to help educate her colleagues on the importance of these screenings for children.

Maryland Healthy Smiles Coverage and Rate Study – SB 600/HB 103 PASSED! This bill will require the Department of Health to study the feasibility of adding full and partial dentures to the list of covered services in Medicaid. The bill also requires a feasibility study for covering on a per-patient basis visits to long-term care facilities and home visits. The bill as passed can be [seen here](#).

Maryland Dent-Care Program Eligibility – SB 334/HB 393 FAILED. Maryland Dent-Care is a critical program to getting dentists (and we hope hygienists soon) to areas of our state that need practitioners. However, this bill had major flaws and without full funding of the program, an expansion to part-time and internationally-trained dentists is not practical.

We will be updating the website with numerous bills that passed of importance to dentistry, such as legislation on contracts, so please go to <https://msda.com/legislation/> and click on "view key legislation" for a link to each of the bills that you may want to take a look at.

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Sincerely,

Charles Doring DDS MAGD
Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee

PS: Every Saturday be sure to read the AD MSDA Advocacy blog emailed to you.
You can catch up on past blogs by clicking on 'Blog Posts' at msda.com/legislation/

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it's what we do.

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For more information on the MSDA Member Referral Program visit
msda.com/msda-member-referral-program/

MSDA Member Referral Program

We are thrilled to introduce the Maryland State Dental Association's (MSDA) Member Referral Incentive Program—a fantastic opportunity for our valued members to earn rewards for their support and dedication to our association.

For every three (3) non-member dentists you refer, who successfully join the MSDA, you will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card as a token of our appreciation for your support and commitment.



ISSUES ALERT

FBI warns of credible cybersecurity threat to dental practices



The American Dental Association (ADA) urges all dental practices to remain vigilant after it was contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with information regarding a credible threat to the practices of oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

Read the full article on ada.org

SOUTHERN MARYLAND DENTAL SOCIETY
IS AN ADA CERP RECOGNIZED PROVIDER

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Tele:301-345-4196 Fax: 240-542-4774 Web site: www.smdsdentists.org E-mail: Janice@smdsdentists.org

***DENTAL ASSISTING RADIOLOGY
AND BASIC ANATOMY - UPDATE***
7 classes will be held in our classroom and 4 will be held virtual
July 9, - August 20, 2024

This course prepares the dental assistant who is employed in a dental office to sit for the Dental Assisting National Board Exam in Radiation Health & Safety Certification. All clinical practice takes place at the student's place of employment (including bringing in x-rays). A total of 11 classes which is 33 hours of class time. If you have any questions, please call 301-345-4196.

Course requirements: 18 years of age, high school grad or equivalency, 3 months experience and the signature of employing dentist on the application verifying employment & commitment of clinical supervision. ***Fluency in English is required.***

TUITION: Member/Staff \$565. or Non-Member \$625., Fee Includes Book Pkg.
DATES: July 9,16,18V,23,25V,30,Aug.1V,6,8V,13,20, 2024 Tuesday & Thursday
TIME: 6:00p.m.– 9:00p.m., LOCATION: College Park Classroom & 4 Zoom
Note: V indicates virtual classes.

APPLICATION – Please Print Clearly

COURSE TITLE: _____ DATE _____

LEGAL NAME: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

PHONE/CELL: _____ EMAIL _____

DENTIST'S NAME: _____ PHONE _____

OFFICE ADDRESS: _____ FAX _____

EMPLOYING DENTIST: This employee has been working for _____ months/years in this dental office and I agree to provide clinical experience under my direct in room supervision. I agree to evaluate the applicants' performance. Once the course is completed the assistant may NOT continue to perform these duties until the required boards are passed & state certification received. Dentist's Signature _____ Date _____

May 2024

Over

See Additional Information

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS

The provisions of this publication are not to be regarded as a contract between the student and the Southern Maryland Dental Society (SMDS). The SMDS reserves the right to change any provision or Requirements when such action will serve the interests of the SMDS and other applicants. The SMDS Further reserves the right to ask a student to withdraw when it considers such action in the best interest Of the SMDS. Class size is limited. **FLUENCY IN ENGLISH IS REQUIRED.**

SMDS is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons to the end that no person, on the Grounds of sex, race, age, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status or status as a qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the SMDS

TO REGISTER - Complete the information on the application and return it at least 10 days prior to the starting date along with payment to: Southern Maryland Dental Society, 4920 Niagara Road, Suite 306, College Park, Maryland 20740. **REFUNDS** can only be given if you withdraw 10 days prior to the first class. A \$30.00 administration fee will be charged for your refund or transfer. **BOOKS** can be picked Up during regular office hours once registration and payment is complete. Classes are held in Suite 300 At this same address unless otherwise indicated. **CHECKS** or Money Orders are to be made payable to the Southern Maryland Dental Society (SMDS). We do not take credit or debit cards. **Late Registration** Is possible based on availability. For additional information contact Janice Farber at 301-345-4196.

Other Location: Maryland State Dental Association, Columbia, MD., 410-964-2880.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS APPROVED PATHWAYS FOR CERTIFIED RADIATION TECHNICIAN ALL PATHWAYS REQUIRE A BOARD APPROVED RADIATION COURSE (SOURCE MSDA)

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Pathway I | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* 18 years of age* 3 months (300 hours full time in clinical setting in a dental office* Basic oral anatomy course* Must be working in a dental office for direct clinical supervision |
| Pathway II | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* 18 years of age* Pre-test for acceptance into radiology course (basic oral anatomy and dental terminology)* If student fails pre-test, must take basic dental assisting course* Must be working in a dental office for direct supervision |
| Pathway III | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Basic Dental Assisting Course prior to Board approved Radiology Course (18 years of age for Radiology)
Not taken concurrently.* Must be working in dental office for direct clinical supervision, unless classroom facility offers hands on clinical. |

Students are required to have the appropriate non-returnable books, workbook & handouts for each course.

The Classifieds

N/L Transitions

NEW LISTING – MONTGOMERY COUNTY –GP PRACTICE- excellent location - commercial hi-rise – free pkg. @2100 S/F, four (4) OP's, PPO/FFS. Refers all specialty procedures. Eaglesoft. 15-20 new patients/month. Contact Ellen Dorner – 410-935-4066 – www.nltransitions.com.

NEW LISTING – FREDERICK COUNTY –GP practice in free-standing building. Excellent location, abundant parking. 5 OP's, 1 addl plumbed. @21 new patients/month. Dentrax. Electronic charting. Digital radiography, digital scanner, digital pan, intra-oral camera. Ellen Dorner – 410-616-2042 – edorner@nltransitions.com.

NEW LISTING – FREDERICK COUNTY – GP practice in condo office – condo for sale. 3 OP's, 2 addl plumbed. Currently 4 days/week. Refers out specialty procedures. Softdent. Digital radiography, Panorex, Scanner, intra-oral camera. PPO's/FFS. Contact Ellen Dorner 410-935-4066 – edorner@nltransitions.com

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY - PRICE REDUCED – GP PRACTICE – 3 OP's. Digital Pan, electronic charts, digital radiographs. Currently 3 days/week - huge growth potential. PPO's. Curve Dental Software. Contact Ellen Dorner at 410-935-4066 edorner@nltransitions.com.

NEW LISTING – HARFORD COUNTY - ENDO PRACTICE – currently 1 day/week. Huge growth potential. PPO's. Softdent. New CBCT, 3 microscopes, digital x-rays, intra-oral cameras. Contact Ellen Dorner at 410-935-4066 edorner@nltransitions.com.

WASHINGTON, DC – GP practice- outstanding DC location. FFS. 3 ½ days/week. 3 OP's; low overhead; Easy Dental. Refers out all specialty procedures. Seller will consider [selling co-op](#). Contact Ellen Dorner – 410-935-4066-edorner@nltransitions.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY – GP practice in strip mall. Abundant parking. 1,350 S/F, 4 OP's. 3 days/week. @14-18 new patients/month. Refers specialty procedures. Eaglesoft. Digital radiography, Cerec 2, Laser, Thermo-filler. Contact Ellen Dorner – 410-935-4066 [-edorner@nltransitions.com](mailto:edorner@nltransitions.com)