

# DENTISTS' QUARTERLY

September 2024

[WWW.NYCDENTALSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.NYCDENTALSOCIETY.ORG)

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(left to right) Members Irina Reyzelman, Karina Zaygermakher, Janet Youn, Community Outreach Chair Anna Viron, Board Member Whitney Mostafiz-Levinson, NYCDS President Suchie Chawla, past ADA President Maxine Feinberg, member Yassmin Parsaei, past NYCDS President Ioanna Mentzelopoulou, past NYCDS President Mina Kim, member Jacqueline Dikansky, Board Member Gail Schupak, and member Haemin Chin pose for a photo after the General Membership Meeting.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**“WISDOM COMES NOT FROM AGE, BUT FROM EDUCATION AND LEARNING.” ~ ANTON CHEKOV**

Suchie Chawla, DMD, MD

One thing that I hope that we can all agree on is that our profession should never stop learning. And so, I'm excited to share information about two new initiatives that can enhance your professional life. We all know how challenging it can be to keep track of our continuing education credits. The ability to access your CE transcript and certificates whenever and wherever you need it, ensuring records are always up-to-date, is essential to our practice. Fortunately, the New York State Dental Association has launched a new members-only online system called CE Navigator, which helps members stay on top of their CE requirements and activity. The new format enables you to effortlessly submit, track and access CE credits in one easy location and receive personalized reminders before deadlines for mandated courses, license renewal and other important requirements. CE Navigator provides instant access to your CE transcript and certificates.

This new program provides total control over organizing and managing CE credits. It is a wonderful members-only benefit! Of course, NYSDA always supports members who are contacted by the NYS Education Department. This is a special program solely for NYSDA/NYCDS members to take control of their continuing education credits. I encourage everyone to enroll at [nysdentalnavigator.com](http://nysdentalnavigator.com).

(continued on page 6)

# Continuing Education

## Introducing the NYCDS Study Club!

**Irvind Khurana, DDS**  
Education Director



“The purpose of learning is growth, and our mind, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live.” ~ Mortimer Adler, American philosopher, educator, and education advocate.

I hope you all had a great, fun summer with your loved ones. We are looking forward to exciting end-of-the-year events, including the 100th year anniversary of the **Greater New York Dental Meeting**. We look forward to your participation in volunteering, taking educational courses and taking advantage of year-end special savings on office supplies and equipment to make this meeting a great success. We are also very excited about introducing the NYCDS Study Club for 2025. Your annual membership to the **NYCDS Study Club** will allow you to take an **unlimited** number of in-person and virtual courses covering a wide-range of topics to broaden your knowledge (and earn plenty of CE hours, in addition to saving you thousands of dollars as well!) It also allows you to get a 10% discount on all hands-on workshops and CPR courses for additional savings. We already have scheduled over 35 courses for 2025, including well-known speakers like Drs. Ron Kaminer, Joyce Bassett, Erin Elliott, Anne Koch, Susan MacMahon, Peter Auster and we plan on adding more periodically in the next few months.

We are offering an early bird special (until the end of this year) which will save you another \$200 off the regular membership fee. I urge you to take advantage of this offer and reap all the benefits the NYCDS Study Club has to offer.

NEW YORK COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

ALL-NEW CE OPPORTUNITY!  
NYCDS IS EXCITED TO INTRODUCE...  
THE NEW YORK COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY STUDY CLUB

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Purchase an annual membership and you can take an UNLIMITED number of continuing education courses in 2025 at NYCDS! For more information and to see how much you can save, check out our [study club flyer](#).

[Register Here!](#)

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## A Slice of Fun and Connection



NYCDS President Suchie Chawla (2nd from the left) enjoying a slice of pizza with new dentists on August 19th. (left to right) Members Haemin Chin, President Suchie Chawla, Nahyun Lee, Yujun Want and Oksana Nad.

Back by popular demand, new dentists turned out in large numbers on August 19<sup>th</sup> to sample a variety of delicious pizzas and refreshments at a local “old school” pizza restaurant. This “al fresco” event in late summer is a great way for members to reconnect with colleagues and recap summer vacations and more. We were glad to welcome many new members too!

In fact, a non-member contacted NYCDS after the event and had this to say: “Thank you so much for last night's event of the new dentist pizza party. I had a great time! I forgot how rejuvenating it is to have a strong, friendly dental community and I appreciate all your efforts to create this.” She went on to ask for details about applying for membership. That’s the power of our dental community! Much appreciation to MLMIC Insurance Company for their sponsorship of this event that has become a beloved tradition.



New Dentist Committee Chair Greg Shank catching-up with members Lauren Lubowitz and Kendra Irizarry at the Society's popular pizza party event.



Members mingling in the outdoor space of Garlic Bar & Restaurant over pizza and drinks.

## Roof Top Outing for a Cause

Do good while having fun? That’s exactly what took place on July 18<sup>th</sup> at a roof top fundraiser for Camp Bronx, an organization with a mission to help underprivileged children in the Bronx enjoy the many valuable experiences of sleep-away camp. New Dentists and others enjoyed a beautiful night featuring hibachi chefs, drinks, and music ... all in support of making a difference in the lives of low-income Bronx children.



Left to right: New Dentist Committee Member Haemin Chin, Treasurer Jaskaren Randhawa, President Suchie Chawla, and New Dentist Committee Chair Greg Shank enjoying the roof top fundraiser for Camp Bronx on July 17.

**MEDICATION-RELATED OSTEONECROSIS OF THE JAW: HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?**  
 HOSTED BY THE NYCDS NEW DENTIST COMMITTEE

WITH DALAL ALHAJJI, DMD, MSD

🕒 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 AT 7:00PM - 9:00PM  
 📍 622 3RD AVE 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10017  
 🎓 1 CE CREDIT AWARDED

NFN NATIONAL FINANCIAL NETWORK

September 19, 2024 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
 Address: 622 3rd Ave 9th floor, New York

Visit our website under ‘Continuing Education’ to learn more about this informative lecture that will include time for socializing. You’ll gain valuable insights into Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw from one of our own new dentists.

1 CE Credit Awarded /  
 NYCDS members attend  
 at no cost!

\$30 for Non-Members



# SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

## Lecture Offers a Glimpse into Dentistry's Future



*Leadership gathering at the General Membership Meeting -- (left to right) Board Member Gary Nord, Treasurer Jaskaren Randhawa, past President and current Membership Committee Chair David Shipper, President Suchie Chawla, and NYSDA President-Elect Maurice Edwards.*

Members were eager to reconnect at the September 9th General Membership Meeting. The evening's lecture, "Dental AI: It's Here Like It or Not!" led by Maxine Feinberg, DDS, held their attention and stimulated their imaginations about how dentistry will look in the future. It's a topic of great interest to Dr. Feinberg, a New Jersey periodontist and chief strategy officer with Velmeni, an artificial intelligence software company. Dr. Feinberg is well-known to members as a past president of the American Dental Association, the first woman to serve as president of the New Jersey Dental Association, and past president of the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry.

In her lecture, Dr. Feinberg outlined the many ways artificial intelligence and machine learning are transforming dentistry and medicine. She noted that AI's diagnostic tools provide an ever-increasing degree of accuracy and speed in diagnosis (currently 93% in dentistry and rapidly rising). AI allows for earlier detection of pathologies, improved workflow and patient communication, surgical assistance and robotics, and more. It can be utilized as an immediate second opinion, as well as provide access to care through AI virtual visits to remote sites and offer emergency care. Dr. Feinberg was quick to note that we have yet to think of all the possibilities AI can achieve.

Any AI software that directly impacts patients is viewed as a medical device and needs FDA approval. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) plans to establish an advisory panel of experts to take a deep dive into artificial intelligence and machine learning in healthcare in 2024. Some regulatory considerations include whether state boards of medicine and dentistry will allow in-state and out-of-state consultations and if there will be reimbursement for Medicaid and Medicare AI visits.

As AI/ML usage accelerates, safeguards and best practices need to be established to ensure positive patient outcomes. See the "On The Legal Side" column on Page 10, which highlights the legal implications and best practices of AI. Dr. Feinberg gave members a greater understanding of how AI will be incorporated into dentistry in the years ahead and highlighted some of the concerns that need to be addressed so that it can be used to its highest capabilities for patients.

During the business portion of the meeting President Suchie Chawla announced the proposed slate of officers to serve alongside President Vera W. L. Tang: President-Elect Andrew S. Deutch, Vice President Egidio A. Farone, Secretary Jaskaren Randhawa, and Treasurer Ada S. Cooper. A vote will be held at the November 4th General Membership Meeting to confirm the officers. In addition, Drs. JoAnna Pufnock and Gregory Shank were nominated to serve as Board members.



*(left to right) Peer Review leaders...past and present. NYCDS Peer Review Chair James Jacobs, past Chair of NYSDA's Council on Peer Review and Quality Assurance Barry Sporer and NYCDS Secretary and past Chair of NYSDA's Council on Peer Review and Quality Assurance Egidio Farone.*

*Guest Speaker Dr. Maxine Feinberg (left) with ADA President-Elect Candidate Maria Maranga and NYCDS President Suchie Chawla.*



*Board Member Whitney Mostafiz-Levinson, members Dianna Malkin and Rosalie Braun, and New Dentist Committee Member Shariss Ostrager catch up at the September 9th meeting.*

# SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Dr. James E. Jacobs was nominated from the floor to serve as NYSDA Trustee, effective June 2025. Special thanks to the Nominating Committee for their role in selecting the slate to serve: Kenneth Cooperman, Maurice Edwards, James Jacobs, Mina Kim, Irvind Khurana, Gabriela Lee, Ioanna Mentzelopoulou, Whitney Mostafiz-Levinson, Gary Nord, and Robert Sorin.

Dr. Chawla encouraged everyone to attend and volunteer for the Greater New York Dental Meeting taking place November 29 – December 4, 2024. She also announced the dates of two upcoming volunteer events, Special Olympics on December 7, 2024 and Give Kids A Smile on February 7, 2025. Registration information for both events will be sent in the coming weeks.

**November General Membership Meeting  
Save The Date!  
November 4th, 2024**

Dr. Chawla announced three special programs members can attend at no cost -- the New Dentist Committee is holding a lecture open to all members on September 19th on “Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw,” the Ethics Committee is holding a Zoom lecture on “Ethical Quandaries & Dentistry” on September 26 and lastly, on October 9th, the Membership Committee is hosting a program geared towards mid-career dentists on “Thinking About Selling Your Practice and Retirement?” Continuing Education Chair Irvind Khurana came to the podium to announce the start of the NYCDS Study Club, which offers dentists the opportunity to pay one price and take an unlimited number of courses through NYCDS in 2025. You can learn more about the study club on page 2 of this newsletter.

Special thanks to the evening’s sponsors: Hudson Cloud Systems, MLMIC Insurance Company and Torch Dental.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**10th Annual GKAS NYC 2025  
Save the date!**

**February 7, 2025**

[Preliminary Sign-Up](#)



The 10th Anniversary of GKAS NYC is just around the corner, and we are gearing up for an amazing day! If you're eager to show your interest and be the first to know when volunteer sign-ups open, this is your chance. Add your info to the [Pre-Registration](#) volunteer sheet and join the GKAS NYC 2025 mailing list to get ready for the big day on February 7, 2025!



**Special Olympics  
Save the Date**

**December 7, 2024**



Make a difference this holiday season! Bring healthy smiles to Special Olympics athletes Saturday, December 7, 2024, at the Jacob Javits Center. It's easy (and rewarding) to volunteer at the dental clinic at the Special Olympics on December 7! Help screen, provide fluoride varnish, and promote good oral hygiene habits to the amazing athletes.

*President's Message continued from page 1*

On the subject of Continuing Education, I want to highlight a new initiative of our Continuing Education Chair, Dr. Irvind Khurana, who is seeking to enhance the way we offer our programs. This fall we are launching the NYCDS Study Club, which allows members to pay a flat-fee to take an unlimited number of courses through NYCDS in 2025. This is a unique opportunity and one that can provide significant savings. I hope you'll take advantage of the member-savings and discount for signing up before the end of the year. You'll find more details on this new approach to learning on page 2 of this newsletter.

I'm happy to say that NYCDS committees work year-round to create programs and opportunities for members. In addition to our core educational programming, we are offering several important lectures at no cost to members. I applaud the work of our New Dentist Committee which is holding a lecture on September 19<sup>th</sup> on "Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw," and our Ethics Committee which is holding a Zoom lecture on "Ethical Quandaries & Dentistry" on September 26. Also, on October 9<sup>th</sup> the Membership Committee is hosting a program geared towards mid-career dentists on "Thinking About Selling Your Practice and Retirement?" It will offer key insights so you can enhance your practice/career now, while planning for your future.

NYCDS is working to provide courses that enhance your professional life so that you and your patients benefit from the latest research and information available. I look forward to attending many of these programs along with you!

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## THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR PRACTICE AND RETIREMENT? IDEAS FOR THE MID-CAREER DENTIST

Wednesday, October 9th, 2024 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

with **Mark Epstein**, Epstein Practice Brokerage, LLC,  
**David J. Goodman**, CPA, MST, PKF O'Connor Davies,  
& **Mitchell Brill**, JD, MSFS, CFP, CAP,  
Altium Wealth Management

This is a FREE program for all members and non-members. It will focus on the needs of the mid-career dentist who has been in practice 20-30 years and should be beginning to think about his/her exit strategy from the profession. It's never too early to plan for this extremely important aspect of your career - and enjoy your post-dental life to the max.

[\*\*Register Here!\*\*](#)

# Trustee's Corner

## A letter from the ADA Trustee to the NYSDA Components

**Brendan Dowd, DDS**

ADA Trustee, Second District



*Dr. Dowd is assistant dean of clinical operations at State University of New York at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine and a former president of NYSDA. He practices general dentistry in Buffalo, NY.*

Greetings New York State Dental Association members. Thank you for continuing to support our great profession of dentistry, as well as organized dentistry. I hope everyone and their families enjoyed this past summer. As many of you have heard, the American Dental Association has sold the building at 211 E Chicago Avenue in Chicago, Illinois.

Our new headquarters will be located at 401 N Michigan, approximately a half mile from our previous location. Ultimately, the ADA is rightsizing to the exact amount of space needed at this point in time. All our scientific laboratories will be in Boston, Massachusetts and many of our employees work from home or on a hybrid schedule. The ADA needed to right size its headquarters and these deals provided the perfect avenue for it.

Incidentally, the leased premises for our ADA Forsyth Institute (AFI) will be completed by the spring of 2025. We are occupying approximately 76,000 square feet in a beautiful building in Somerville, a suburb of Boston. We have increased our grant amounts for 2024 to \$36 million dollars, with \$10 million of that coming from NIH grants. The synergy from this merger between the ADA and the Forsyth Institute has been incredible. Plans are in the works to take the capacity of the ADA Seal Program to another level. The demand is there for more consumer products looking for the Seal approval and the new labs will give us the means to achieve it. The AFI Certification Program, recently approved by the ADA Board of Trustees, will be introduced in the beginning of next year to approve specific dental products that dentists use in their office. The AFI feels there will be a strong demand for this certification program for dental manufacturing companies to meet the test of the program. Our members need to know which dental products on the market have been certified to do the things they profess.

On another note, the ADA just completed filing an amicus brief with the US Supreme Court concerning the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). We are hoping this contributes to solving the confusion that certain dental insurance companies can claim they are under ERISA instead of state law and regulations. In general, some insurance companies, especially self-funded ones, proclaim they are immune from state insurance laws and regulations due to ERISA exemptions. Two different circuit courts, the Eighth and the Tenth, have given conflicted rulings on this very important issue. The ADA and several other health associations feel the Supreme Court needs to settle this area of law. We are hoping they decide in our favor sometime early next year.

It is really an exciting time for the ADA. With brand new headquarters and a new science laboratory location, it is indeed a time of change and implementation at the American Dental Association. As your Second District trustee, I am humbled and proud to be part of the decision-making process in these historic times. I know I will see some of you at our annual meeting in New Orleans this October. We will be deciding critical issues as part of the House of Delegates. SmileCon will be celebrated right before our deliberations, and I hope many of you can come to NOLA to participate in some wonderful continuing education and meet up with many of your colleagues. As always, I would be happy to share more details with all the new ADA developments at the meeting or you can contact me by phone (716-510-3217) or email ([dowdb@ada.org](mailto:dowdb@ada.org)). Thanks again for being part of organized dentistry.



### Buy a Bundle and Save with GNYDM'S CE PASSPORT

REGISTRATION FOR ALL COURSES IS REQUIRED

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>INDIVIDUAL SEMINARS ONLY</b><br>\$895.00<br>*unlimited seminars     | <b>(1) DENTIST &amp; STAFF SEMINARS ONLY</b><br>\$1,195.00<br>*unlimited seminars           |
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# Of Professional Interest

## Cloudy, With a Chance of Ransomware

Mitchell Rubinstein, DMD



*Mitchell Rubinstein, DMD, chairs the Technology Committee for the New York State Dental Association, and also serves on the Standards Committee on Informatics for the American Dental Association. He was a co-creator of the first official New York State course on HIPAA compliance for dentists, "Avoiding the Million Dollar Mistake." Dr. Rubinstein served as Education Director for the New York County Dental Society from 2018-2023.*

Cyberattacks targeting the dental profession have increased steadily in recent years, including attacks specifically aimed at small dental practices and dental IT providers. Our profession is also now suffering the effects of security breaches at major health care corporations such as Change Healthcare and Henry Schein.

As the threat of a cyberattack and subsequent ransomware demands continue to grow, our individual dental practices are in a uniquely vulnerable position. We generally do not have the cybersecurity resources of large corporations, nor do we have the proper level of expertise. The requirements HIPAA places on us to protect our patients' data adds yet another layer of concern. Our resources can't approach those of a large hospital corporation or medical group, yet we have the same responsibility to protect the private information our patients entrust to us.

It is becoming increasingly clear to me that most dentists should no longer be storing critical information on servers in our office closet or under our desks. Even when backed up regularly, the risks have become too great, and the alternatives have become much more attractive. When I teach groups of dentists and their teams about information security and HIPAA, I strongly encourage them to consider cloud-based practice management solutions and off-site backup of practice data. One of the many reasons I switched my own practice management platform to the cloud was the potential for superior data access and security. When properly implemented, cloud-based practice management services bring tremendous potential for safety and security, along with efficiency and cost savings. Additionally, the ability to have secure 24/7 access to our data has become the expectation rather than the exception. I get a large amount of pushback on this from dentists, because the "Cloud" can seem terrifying to those accustomed to having their data on their server in *their* office.

We often forget that the servers we maintain ourselves may be sitting in an unlocked closet, or under a desk, covered with dust. The fact that we can see them and touch them somehow fills us with confidence. In most cases this confidence is misplaced. Older servers frequently fall victim to hardware failures, outages, and disasters, risking data loss and prolonged downtime. Recovering data from physical servers is very expensive and time-consuming. Cloud-based providers, with multiple redundant servers and automated backups, offer far better data security and much less downtime.

*"...that server under your desk is far more vulnerable than you think it is."*

There is a common fear that a cloud-based service provider might get hacked or compromised in some way, resulting in a crippling, expensive loss of data. There is a perception that the data in such a situation is out of our control, and dentists (as we all know) like being in control. It is true that could happen.

In reality however, that server under your desk is far more vulnerable than you think it is. Certainly more vulnerable than a robust cloud-based practice management service. Security audits of dental practices with in-house servers routinely show many of these systems are running outdated, vulnerable software and they do not have properly configured firewalls and other security measures in place. When we depend on an on an outside IT company to manage these things (as many of us do), it behooves us to make certain we're dealing with a reputable company with a track record of success.

Another objection I often hear to the cloud is that any disruption in internet service would cripple the practice and they would be unable to function. This fear is based on some serious misconceptions, primarily the misconception that your practice is not already dependent on the internet. It is. I've been practicing long enough to remember a time when our practices were totally unconnected to the outside world, except through a telephone line. Those days are long gone. Regardless of whether your server is in your office or up in the cloud, your practice is already dependent on the internet for management of day-to-day operations. If you process credit card payments and insurance transactions, you are doing it over the internet.



## OF PROFESSIONAL INTEREST

If your patients receive automated text messages and recall reminders, those are processed and sent over the internet also. If you use a billing service that prints and mails statements for you, yep, an internet connection is required. Oh... and how many e-mails flow in/out of your office on a given day?

Many of us have also exchanged our traditional office telephones for one of the “voice over IP” internet phone providers. These systems have literally exploded in popularity and with good reason. They have superior functionality and lower costs than traditional phone systems. But they require (you guessed it) internet access as well. This is not to say that migrating your practice entirely to the cloud is the right decision for you. But I do want you to consider it realistically, and with an open mind. Don't be limited by preconceptions based on an outdated vision of technology. It may help you to understand that “the cloud” isn't really some wispy, abstract concept. It's just somebody else's computer; somebody who has the resources, the knowledge and the expertise to keep it safer, more secure, and more available when you, your staff and your patients really need it. Once you consider moving your practice to the cloud there are a few basic principles to keep in mind. As with any other kind of service, there are many cloud-based practice management systems to choose from, and their strengths and capabilities vary greatly. Personally, I tend to favor cloud providers with the longest track record in dentistry. The more years they've been in service, the better you can evaluate their suitability.

On the technical side, one feature I consider absolutely non-negotiable is multi-factor authentication. Many cloud-based systems do not yet offer this, and for me that is an absolute non-starter. When your system can be accessed from any internet connection, it's critical that access be protected by a second factor beyond just your password. Whether it's an authenticator app on your phone, SMS text message, email, or even a physical token, access to your system must be protected by more than just a password.

It's official. Dentistry and information technology have become inseparable. Nearly every interaction we have with our patients and our colleagues involves computers, and produces information that's recorded electronically, and we have both a legal and an ethical responsibility to protect it. As we move forward towards the middle of the 21st century we can be cautiously optimistic and avail ourselves of the resources needed to keep our practices functioning optimally and also securely.

### Save The Date

Would you like to learn more about protecting your practice from cyber-threats, and safely take maximal advantage of Information Technology?

Attend Dr. Rubinstein's half day course on **Dental Cybersecurity and HIPAA Compliance**, January 27th 2025, at New York County Dental Society.



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## Integrating Artificial Intelligence in Dental Healthcare: Legal Implications and Best Practices

**William Barrett, Esq.**

CEO, Mandelbaum Barrett PC



*Bill Barrett is the CEO of the full-service law firm Mandelbaum Barrett PC, co-chair of the firm's National Dental Law Group, and a dental dealmaker who has successfully closed hundreds of transactions nationwide. He has co-authored two best-selling books on dental industry transactions, showcasing his expertise. Bill is also a nationally recognized speaker at industry events across the country. Mandelbaum Barrett PC is a Corporate Friend of NYCDS.*

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in dentistry promises to revolutionize diagnostics, treatment planning, patient management, and administrative tasks. As AI advances, dental professionals must understand the legal implications and implement best practices to protect themselves and their patients.

### 1. Diagnostic Imaging and Interpretation

AI-powered diagnostic tools can analyze dental images with remarkable accuracy, identifying cavities, periodontal disease, and early signs of oral cancers.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Liability:** Dentists remain liable for AI-based misdiagnoses.
- **Informed Consent:** Patients must be informed about AI's role in diagnostics, including benefits and risks.

#### Best Practices:

- **Early Detection:** Regularly update AI systems with the latest datasets.
- **Consistency and Accuracy:** Double-check AI diagnostics with human expertise.
- **Time Efficiency:** Validate AI results with professional judgment.

### 2. Treatment Planning and Personalization

AI assists in creating personalized treatment plans by analyzing patient data and predicting outcomes.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Data Privacy:** Ensure AI systems comply with privacy laws like HIPAA.
- **Algorithm Bias:** Be aware of biases that might affect treatment recommendations.

#### Best Practices:

- **Predictive Analytics:** Validate AI predictions with clinical outcomes.
- **Customized Treatment Plans:** Use AI as an aid, not a substitute.
- **Simulations:** Ensure patients understand AI-generated simulations and obtain informed consent.

### 3. Robotic-Assisted Dentistry

AI-guided robotic technology enhances precision in dental procedures.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Malpractice:** Thoroughly document procedures and obtain informed consent.
- **Equipment Malfunction:** Have protocols for handling equipment failures.

#### Best Practices:

- **Surgical Procedures:** Train staff on robotic systems and conduct regular equipment checks.
- **Supervise AI-guided procedures to ensure alignment with best practices and patient safety standards.**

### 4. Patient Management and Communication

AI can streamline patient management, enhancing efficiency.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Patient Confidentiality:** Ensure compliance with data protection laws.
- **Accuracy of Information:** Incorrect AI responses can lead to legal repercussions.

#### Best Practices:

- **Appointment Scheduling:** Verify AI-managed scheduling data.
- **Virtual Assistants and Tele-dentistry:** Ensure compliance with telehealth regulations.
- **Patient Monitoring:** Use AI to enhance patient compliance and ensure data security.

### 5. Research and Education

AI significantly contributes to dental research and education.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Intellectual Property:** Be aware of IP rights when using AI tools in research.
- **Data Integrity:** Ensure AI-generated research data is accurate and reliable.

#### Best Practices:

- **Data Analysis and Educational Tools:** Validate all AI-generated data.
- **Predictive Modeling:** Confirm AI predictions with empirical research.

### 6. Administrative Efficiency

AI optimizes administrative tasks, reducing the burden on dental staff.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Compliance:** Ensure AI tools comply with healthcare administrative regulations.
- **Data Breaches:** Implement robust cybersecurity measures.

#### Best Practices:

- **Billing and Insurance:** Regularly audit AI systems for accuracy.
- **Inventory and Patient Records Management:** Ensure data is secure and compliant with legal standards.

### 7. Enhancing Patient Experience

AI improves the overall patient experience by providing personalized and efficient care.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Patient Satisfaction:** Address patient concerns regarding AI use.
- **Real-Time Feedback:** Ensure AI devices providing feedback are accurate.

#### Best Practices:

- **Personalized Patient Education and Virtual Reality:** Obtain informed consent for AI-driven tools.
- **Real-Time Feedback:** Verify the accuracy of AI feedback regularly.

### 8. Challenges and Considerations

While AI offers substantial benefits, several challenges must be addressed.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Data Privacy:** Ensure compliance with data privacy laws.
- **Regulation:** Stay updated on AI use regulations in dentistry.

#### Best Practices:

- **Integration:** Plan for the integration of AI systems with existing software.
- **Training:** Provide ongoing training for effective AI tool use.
- **Cost:** Evaluate the cost-benefit ratio and plan for long-term investments.

#### Future Directions

The future of AI in dentistry is promising, with ongoing advancements likely to bring more sophisticated applications.

#### Legal Implications:

- **Continued Compliance:** Stay vigilant about new regulations.
- **Patient Safety:** Prioritize patient safety and care quality.

#### Best Practices:

- **AI-Driven Diagnostics and Wearable Technology:** Continuously update AI systems.
- **Advanced Robotics and Predictive Models:** Use advanced AI tools while maintaining rigorous validation protocols.

By understanding and addressing the legal implications of AI in dentistry, dental professionals can leverage this technology to enhance patient care while protecting themselves and their practices. Staying informed and proactive in legal compliance and best practices is crucial for realizing AI's full potential in dentistry.

*Mandelbaum Barrett, PC, is pleased to offer NYCDS members a 30-minute complimentary consultation and 10% off their regular legal services hourly rates, as well as access to their continuing education content and recent industry publications. You can view the full suite of services offered by the firm at [www.mblawfirm.com](http://www.mblawfirm.com).*

## Special Interactive Ethics Program Coming Up – Register Today!

**Steven H. Cho, DDS**

Ethics Committee Chair



On September 26th, the New York County Dental Society will be hosting an exciting Zoom presentation titled “Ethical Quandaries & Dentistry: Get Expert Guidance on Situations That Can or Have Occurred.” It’s going to be a great opportunity to learn and engage with some amazing speakers.

The presentation will feature two wonderful speakers who bring a wealth of experience and knowledge. Lance Plunkett, General Counsel for the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA), will provide his legal expertise, drawing from his extensive career. Dr. Paul Teplitsky, the Chair of the NYSDA Ethics Council, is a recognized authority on ethical practices within dentistry.

The discussion will center around ethical and legal scenarios posed by the Ethics Committee of the New York County Dental Society. These scenarios will cover a range of topics essential to the practice of dentistry, making this event a must for dental professionals looking to enhance their understanding of ethical and legal issues. Some of the topics to be covered will include:

- **Competence:** Ensuring that dental professionals maintain the highest levels of knowledge and skill in their field.
- **Professional Boundaries:** Managing relationships with patients, colleagues, and the public to avoid conflicts of interest and maintain professional decorum.
- **Professional Integrity and Accountability:** Upholding the values that define the dental profession and taking responsibility for actions and decisions.
- **Patient Trust and Safety:** Making decisions that prioritize patient welfare and foster trust in the patient-provider relationship.
- **Legal and Professional Ramifications:** Understanding the potential consequences of ethical breaches, including legal liabilities and professional discipline.

One of the best parts of this presentation is that it will be interactive. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage directly by posing their own questions and presenting scenarios for discussion. This interactive format is designed to ensure that participants leave with practical, actionable insights that can be directly applied to their practices.

Members of the New York County Dental Society are encouraged to register early for this important discussion. The Zoom link for the event will be provided upon registration, ensuring that all participants have easy access to the presentation.

In conclusion, “Ethical Quandaries & Dentistry: Get Expert Guidance on Situations That Can or Have Occurred” is an essential event for dental professionals seeking to enhance their understanding of the ethical and legal issues that define their practice. Don’t miss this opportunity to engage with two leading experts and ensure that your practice aligns with the best ethical and legal practices in dentistry.




NEW YORK COUNTY  
DENTAL SOCIETY

**ETHICAL QUANDARIES & DENTISTRY  
GET EXPERT GUIDANCE ON  
SITUATIONS THAT CAN OR HAVE  
OCCURRED! (ZOOM)**

*With Paul Teplitsky, DMD, Lance Plunkett, Esq.  
& Steven Cho, DDS*

**September 26, 2024  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**



[\*\*Register Here!\*\*](#)

# CONTINUING EDUCATION

## Upcoming Continuing Education Courses

Henry Spenadel Continuing Education Program

\*The ADA is currently transitioning to a new system. If you are having any issues registering for courses or have any other questions, email [info@nycdentalsociety.org](mailto:info@nycdentalsociety.org).\*

### FALL 2024

|                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 9/18 6:00 PM-7:00 PM   | <a href="#">ACD Mentoring Lecture Program:</a><br><a href="#">Dental Adhesives and Materials</a> *                                    | James Kaplan   |
| 9/19 7:00 PM-9:00 PM   | <a href="#">Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw:</a><br><a href="#">How Far Have We Come?</a>                                 | Dr. Dalal Alhajji, DMD, MSD  |
| 9/25 6:30 PM-9:30 PM   | <a href="#">Mandatory Prescriber DEA Education Renewal</a> *  | Dr. Gottlieb, DDS  |
| 9/26 7:00 PM-8:00 PM   | <a href="#">Ethical Quandaries &amp; Dentistry:</a><br><a href="#">Get expert guidance on situations that can or have occurred!</a> * | Dr. Paul Teplitsky, DMD, Lance<br>Plunkett, Esq., & Dr. Steven Cho, DDS  |
| 9/30 9:30 AM-12:30 PM  | <a href="#">Effective Management of TMJ Disorders</a>   | Dr. Nojan Bakhtiari, DDS   |
| 10/9 9:00 AM-1:00PM    | <a href="#">Infection Control for the Dental Practice</a>   | Dr. Peter A. Mychajliw, DDS  |
| 10/9 6:00 PM-9:00 PM   | <a href="#">Thinking About Selling Your Practice and Retirement?</a><br><a href="#">Ideas For the Mid-Career Dentist</a>              | Mitchell Brill, JD, MSFS, CFP, CAP,<br>David J. Goodman, CPA, MST, PKF<br>O'Connor Davies, & Mark Epstein<br>Practice Brokerage, LLC |
| 10/16 9:30 PM-1:30 PM  | <a href="#">Basic Life Support/CPR Certification Course</a>   | Marc Reilly, Rescue Resuscitation Inc.   |
| 10/16 6:00 PM-7:00 PM  | ACD Lecture Program * (more info. coming soon)  |  |
| 10/18 9:30 AM-12:30 PM | <a href="#">Lecture 1: Workflows for Conservative Cosmetic Dentistry</a>  | Dr. Priya Tirumalasetty, DDS   |
| 10/18 1:30 PM-4:30 PM  | <a href="#">Lecture 2: Smile Design Simplified</a>  | Dr. Priya Tirumalasetty, DDS   |
| 10/23 7:00 PM-9:00 PM  | <a href="#">OSHA-Mandated Update for Dentists and Staff</a> *   | Dr. Peter A. Mychajliw   |
| 10/30 8:30 AM-4:30 PM  | Speed Learning (more info. coming soon)   |  |

### WINTER 2024

|                       |  |  |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| 11/1 9:30 AM-4:30 PM  | <a href="#">Innovations in Aesthetic Dentistry:</a><br><a href="#">Everything You Need to Know About Veneers</a> | Dr. K. Michael M. Ghalili, DMD, MSD    |
| 11/20 6:00 PM-7:00 PM | ACD Lecture Program * (more info. coming soon)   |  |
| 12/11 9:30 PM-1:30 PM | <a href="#">Basic Life Support/CPR Certification Course</a>  | Marc Reilly, Rescue Resuscitation Inc. |
| 12/18 6:00 PM-7:00 PM | ACD Lecture Program * (more info. coming soon)   |  |

\* = *virtual course*

## 2024 Life Members

Congratulations to the following NYCDS members who have achieved Life Membership in the American Dental Association reflecting 30 years of continued membership.

**Babick, Peter**  
**Borrell, Luisa**  
**Chass, Sharon**  
**Cherches, Barbara**  
**Goldstein, Dalia**  
**Jankowski, Peter**  
**Jutkowitz, Steven**  
**Lanzetta, John**  
**Levine, Lawrence**

**Li, Xiang-Long**  
**Marin-Rojas, Nancy**  
**Muzzi, James**  
**Pacis, Carlo**  
**Rubin, Esther**  
**Sanchez, Sonia**  
**Tai, Jung-Kuan**  
**Vokshoor, Moe**  
**Wang, Bobby**