

# *It's time to renew your 2018* **Membership**

**November 2017**

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for maintaining your investment in organized dentistry and your commitment to strengthening our profession. With your support, the American Dental Association (ADA) will remain the largest and oldest dental association in the world.

The Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA) and ADA are your legislative advocates, the voice for your practice in Harrisburg and Washington, DC. PDA and ADA are also your reliable source for information and communication of issues that affect your dental practice.

On September 15, the State Board of Dentistry (SBOD) voted 6-4 to proceed with regulations expanding Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner (PHDHP) practice site locations to include childcare settings, physician offices and residences of homebound and hospice patients. PDA communicated its opposition to the regulations a number of times, citing concerns about patient safety and the need to ensure that patients receive comprehensive diagnoses and treatment from dentists. PDA volunteer leaders attended several SBOD meetings and presented testimony urging the SBOD to carefully assess issues such as standards of care, infection control compliance and patient safety.

Prior to the SBOD meeting, PDA's lobbyist and staff met with House Professional Licensure Committee (HPLC) staff to discuss concerns about expanding practice locations for PHDHPs. HPLC staff noted PDA's concerns about the PHDHP referral process with dentists and the need for dentists to examine and diagnose patients. PDA will continue to lobby HPLC members and staff, as well as the SBOD, Governor's Policy Office and IRRC as the regulations move through the regulatory process.

It may take two or more years before regulations are enacted, so PDA will use every opportunity to amend the draft, with particular attention paid to the referral process, scope of practice in these settings, the role of physicians and liability. PDA's Government Relations Committee will also review the adequacy of current educational and training requirements for PHDHPs to determine whether additional requirements are needed to ensure patient safety and appropriate standards of care.

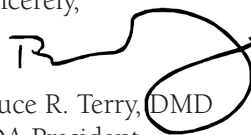
**Resources to help you manage your practice.** PDA's website features complimentary webinars on topics of interest for both new and established dentists. Topics include:

**Legal Aspects of Practice Transition  
eMarketing**

**Practice Management  
Hiring and Firing**

Thank you for continuing to be an important part of PDA. We deeply appreciate your support and welcome your active involvement. I look forward to serving you as together we protect and strengthen the profession in the months.

Sincerely,



Bruce R. Terry, DMD  
PDA President  
pullpulp@aol.com

*Look inside for*

important membership  
information, upcoming  
events and exciting news.

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# *We Advocate for Your Profession*

## **PDA's Legislative Priorities**

PDA is the premier dental organization at the forefront of legislative initiatives to improve the dental practice environment in Pennsylvania for both dentists and patients. The legislative session, which commenced in January 2017, allows PDA two years in which to advocate on members' behalf for important insurance reforms, and scope of practice and access to care initiatives. PDA's priorities for the 2017-18 legislative session include:

- Assignment of benefits
- Health practitioner student loan forgiveness and tangential loan mitigation issues.
- Increased funding in the Medical Assistance program for dental providers.



## **EPA Amalgam Separators Final Rule**

The Environmental Protection Agency issued a final rule requiring the use of amalgam separators in dental practices nationwide. The rule went into effect on July 14, 2017, but the compliance date for most dental offices will be July 14, 2020. There are exemptions for certain dental specialties, dentists who do not place amalgam (and only remove it in emergencies), mobile dental units and offices that do not discharge wastewater into a Publicly Owned Treatment Works. Offices that already have separators installed will be grandfathered in for up to 10 years.

PDAIS is in the final stages of acquiring a contract with a vendor that will provide discounted separators to PDA members. Look for an email announcement about the vendor in late November.

There will also be recordkeeping and other best management practice requirements; offices will be mandated to submit one-time reports noting compliance with the rule. Please contact Kathleen Bumpers at **kek@padental.org** with questions.



## **Join PADPAC!**

A political action committee (PAC) is an entity that combines contributions from members and contributes the funds to candidates who share their interests and helps advance their legislative agenda. By joining the Pennsylvania Dental Association Political Action Committee (PADPAC), your personal financial contribution is magnified and plays a pivotal role in elected state government while ensuring the practice of dentistry is represented by legislators who will fight for the profession and for high quality dental care.

As the legislature is back in session now is the time to mention that it is an unwritten rule of politics that you are at the table or on the menu. Your PAC contributions enable PDA to be legislative issue leaders. The insurance lobby knows this and wants an uneven playing field tipped in their favor. In order to be competitive we need your contributions to PADPAC. Contribute online by visiting **[www.padental.org/padpac](http://www.padental.org/padpac)**.

## **PDA Achieves Legislative Milestone: Assignment of Benefits Bill Takes First Step in Legislative Process**

PDA has lobbied for years for the passage of assignment of benefits legislation, which would require insurers, on patients' request, to assign benefits directly to dentists, even if they are non-participating providers. On October 24, PDA accomplished a monumental task while contending with intense opposition from insurance lobbyists. The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee passed SB 373, PDA's assignment of benefits legislation, with a vote of 9-6. SB 373 moves to the Appropriations Committee for consideration, then the full Senate for a vote. Your state legislators need to hear from you why Pennsylvania should pass assignment of benefits legislation. The voice of organized dentistry is thousands strong, and represents both dentists and patients. Please contact PDA's government relations staff for more information on contacting your senator and representative.

# Our Commitment to Your Continuing Education

## Continuing Dental Education

As an ADA CERP and AGD PACE recognized CE provider, PDA hosts full-day continuing dental education lectures throughout the Commonwealth in DuBois, St. Marys, Greensburg, Danville, Shippensburg, Philadelphia and Wellsboro. Course topics for 2018 include:

- Implants
- Esthetics
- Periodontics
- Restorative
- Oral and Systemic Health

Save time and money by attending a local CE course. Visit **[www.padental.org/calendar](http://www.padental.org/calendar)** to register for a PDA-sponsored program.



## Pennsylvania's Dental Meeting

April 27 – 28, 2018  
The Hotel Hershey® 100 Hotel Road, Hershey, PA

Network with colleagues from across the Commonwealth and participate in sessions relevant to today's dental practice and celebrate PDA's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

You will have the opportunity to fulfill some of your CE requirements in:

- Child abuse recognition & reporting (Act 31)
- Pain management, identification of addiction and practices of prescribing/dispensing opioids (Act 124 of 2016)
- Anesthesia

Attend valuable sessions on:

- A team approach to record keeping
- Understanding the current state of dentistry to create and maintain long-term success
- OSHA and infection control

**Registration is open at [www.padental.org/PDM](http://www.padental.org/PDM)**

## Act 124 Compliance Opioid Continuing Education

The General Assembly passed legislation that requires the following of health care providers:

- Dispensers and prescribers applying to **renew their licenses or certificates** must complete at least two hours of CE in pain management, identification of addiction or the practice of prescribing or dispensing of opioids as a portion of the total CE required for biennial renewal.
- Applicants for an **initial license** must obtain at least two hours of education in pain management or identification of addiction, and at least two hours of education in the practice of prescribing or dispensing opioids. They may complete this requirement as part of their professional degree educational program or from a continuing education (CE) program taken within 12 months of obtaining an initial license or certificate.

PDA has obtained clarification from the Department of State's Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) about exemptions in Act 124 for health care providers who do not prescribe controlled substances. BPOA confirmed that there are two **exemptions** for licensees:

- Licensees who are exempt from the federal Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) requirements for a registration number.
- Licensees who do not use the registration number of another person or entity, as permitted by law, to prescribe controlled substances in any manner.

The continuing education (CE) requirement applies to all licensees who have a current DEA registration or use another DEA number (as permitted by law) to prescribe controlled substances. ***The CE requirement is effective for 2019-2020 licensure renewal.***



PDA is offering a 4 hour course that will meet the requirements for initial licensees and those seeking renewal on Friday, April 27, 2018, as part of Pennsylvania's Dental Meeting in Hershey. PDA will announce dates and locations as more courses are scheduled for 2018.

# Our Member Benefits Save You Time and Money

## ADA Credentialing Service

Tired of completing credentialing applications?

ADA has teamed up with the non-profit CAQH to help streamline the credentialing process for dentists. The benefits of ADA's credential service are:

- After entering your information just once, you can share it with the participating organizations of your choice.
- Powered by CAQH's ProView platform, which is already used by more than 1.4 million health care providers, the service offers a protected place to house and update all of your credentialing information.
- Includes a number of payers already participating in the ADA credentialing service.
- The system also sends out quarterly attestation reminders, alerting you to update and confirm timely and accurate information in your profile.

You can learn more and update your information at [www.ADA.org/Credentialing](http://www.ADA.org/Credentialing).

**ADA** American Dental Association®  
America's leading advocate for oral health

## 2018 New Dentist Receptions

PDA's New Dentist Committee will host two receptions in 2018. One reception will be held in **Second District** the other will be held in **Tenth District** (Pittsburgh area). More information will be announced soon, so stay tuned to PDA's online calendar ([www.padental.org/calendar](http://www.padental.org/calendar)) and Facebook page for details. These events are a great opportunity to meet colleagues and discuss issues important to you as a new dentist! Contact Michelle Rozman at [mlr@padental.org](mailto:mlr@padental.org) with questions about these events.

## PDA Endorsed Vendor Program

To increase the value of your PDA membership while reducing reliance on dues income, the Endorsed Vendor Program, managed by PDAIS, offers members carefully selected products and services at competitive rates. Our vendors include Mercedes-Benz, UPS, CareCredit, Lands' End and U.S. Bank. For more information about the Endorsed Vendor Program, please visit [www.pdais.com/vendors](http://www.pdais.com/vendors).

## ADA Directory – Find a Dentist

The ADA is investing \$18 million in a three-year digital advertising campaign to direct consumers to make an appointment with an ADA dentist. The focus of the campaign is a new **ADA Find-a-Dentist tool**, which provides consumers with additional search fields and a user-friendly experience. Completing your profile takes only five minutes and will put you near the top of the search results. Complete your profile at [www.ADA.org/FAD5](http://www.ADA.org/FAD5). For assistance with updating your profile, call the ADA Member Service Center at (800) 621-8099.



## Stay Connected with PDA Social Media

Get the latest news by liking and following PDA on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.



## Business and Insurance Discounts that Help You Control Overhead Costs

Visit [www.pdais.com](http://www.pdais.com) to learn how you can save premium dollars and recoup the many other benefits of being a PDAIS client.



"I had been with the same insurance company for 20 years and thought I was getting good rates, but I decided to get a quote from PDAIS for my auto, homeowners and umbrella policies. I discovered that by switching to PDAIS, I was able to save more than 55 percent on these three policies! That was more than enough money to cover PDA/ADA dues for both my wife and me for a year. The coverage is identical, and the friendly and professional PDAIS staff made the process quick and easy. I advise every PDA member to take a moment to contact PDAIS to find out if you could also save money with their competitive rates."

~**Brian D. Christian, DMD**, Immediate Past President  
7<sup>th</sup> District Dental Society

# Our Commitment to Public Health



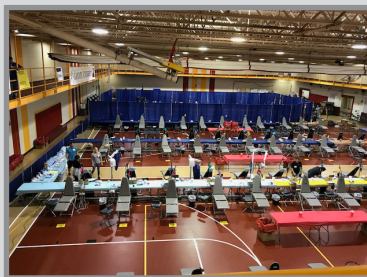
The MOM-n-PA free dental missions continue to make a great impact on underserved patients in all regions of our state. **Be a part of the sixth annual mission, to be held on Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19, 2018, at the Santander Arena in Reading.**

Registration for volunteers will open on February 1, 2018 at **[www.MOM-n-PA.com](http://www.MOM-n-PA.com)**.

The first five years of the mission have reached people in a variety of regions – Philadelphia, Allentown, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and Erie. The generosity of so many of our members has helped more than 7,200 patients in five years, with a total value of more than \$4.1 million in donated dental care.

Get involved in 2018! There will once again be a great need for volunteers in Reading – dentists, assistants, hygienists and lay volunteers. Go to **[www.mom-n-pa.com](http://www.mom-n-pa.com)** to learn more about this rewarding cause.

The 2017 mission in Erie provided 736 underserved patients with \$590,798 worth of dental care.



The gymnasium (left) at Gannon University in Erie was transformed into the patient clinic that you see on the right.



Volunteers in Erie (June 16-17, 2017)  
(left) Past PDA Presidents  
(right) Temple University dental students

## Waste Management Guidelines

PDA's Waste Management Guidelines were recently revised to reflect changes made to Pennsylvania regulations for regulated medical and chemotherapeutic wastes. Most notably, the changes include a change in terminology from "infectious waste" to "regulated medical waste" and increased storage time for regulated medical waste. The Guidelines can be found at **[www.padental.org/wmg](http://www.padental.org/wmg)**. If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Bumpers at **[kek@padental.org](mailto:kek@padental.org)** with questions.

## Online Public Dental Clinic Directory

In response to frequent requests from the public and member dentists, PDA's website, **[www.padental.org](http://www.padental.org)** includes a comprehensive directory of low-cost dental clinics located in Pennsylvania. The resource, organized alphabetically by county, offers the public, elected officials and member dentists an easily accessible guide to low-cost dental centers. The directory is a popular stop for the public receiving a total of 962 unique visits from January through September 2017. PDA members are encouraged to volunteer and/or contribute supplies to the dental clinics. To view the directory, please visit: **[www.padental.org/clinicdirectory](http://www.padental.org/clinicdirectory)**.

## Website Toolkits – Community Water Fluoridation and Take Five

PDA's website offers a wealth of information and great resources for members on a variety of topics. You can access the Community Water Fluoridation page at **[www.padental.org/fluoride](http://www.padental.org/fluoride)**. This toolkit includes quick facts, talking points and other media resources, including a sample letter to the editor.

The Take Five initiative encourages our members to become Medical Assistance providers. You can find details about Take Five and helpful links at **[www.padental.org/take5](http://www.padental.org/take5)**.



# Our Commitment to Organizational Excellence

## Be a Part of PDA's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

We are planning to celebrate PDA's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018 in a variety of ways.

The March/April 2018 issue of the *Pennsylvania Dental Journal* will be a commemorative issue to celebrate this milestone, a scrapbook of memories spanning the life of our organization. We would like to hear from members all over the state and hope to include contributions from as many people as possible. Please share any of your favorite stories, memories, experiences, photographs, or why you have valued being a part of PDA through the years by contacting Rob Pugliese at [rap@padental.org](mailto:rap@padental.org).



As part of Pennsylvania's Dental Meeting, April 27-28, 2018, at the Hotel Hershey, we are hosting a 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Saturday evening.

Come and celebrate with your friends and colleagues ([www.padental.org/pdm](http://www.padental.org/pdm)). There will be pieces of PDA history on display in small exhibit cases at the gala and we are asking you to send us any interesting or unique items from your district or local society. They could be anything ranging from old meeting invitations, pins from your district/local society, magnets, mugs – really any type of visual artifact that can be displayed; we would love to see it.

## Do you have a new email address?

To reduce printing and postage costs and increase efficiency PDA frequently communicates to members via email, keeping you informed about valuable member benefits and important information regarding the profession. Unfortunately, if we don't have your email address, you will miss out on these vital updates.

Please allow us to serve you better by taking a moment to forward your email address to Maria Tommasini at [met@padental.org](mailto:met@padental.org).

## PDJ Available Electronically in 2018



PDA offers our members the option of an electronic version of the *Pennsylvania Dental Journal*. If you are interested in receiving the Journal electronically instead of a printed copy of the magazine, email Maria Tommasini at [met@padental.org](mailto:met@padental.org).

PDA uses a digital publishing platform to offer members this high quality online version of the magazine. Upon each issue's publication, we will send an email to members who have opted to receive the electronic PDJ rather than mailing you a copy of the magazine.

## PDA Program Assistance – Supporting District and Local Societies

PDA's Component Resources Program Assistance launched last year. Using this resource, district and local dental society leaders can work with PDA staff to promote and coordinate social or continuing education (CE) programs. There are a variety of assistance options available: mass email promotion, online registration through PDA's website and CE course materials. Program Assistance is a great way for dental societies to provide a local member benefit, without a heavy workload.

The Sixth District Dental Society recently utilized Program Assistance for their OSHA and Radiology CE course. PDA provided course promotion with mass emails, online registration and CE course materials. Approximately one month prior to the course, more than 190 dentists and dental team members were registered to attend.

Does your society want to host a social or CE program, but doesn't know where to start? Contact Andrea Hoover at [ach@padental.org](mailto:ach@padental.org).

☞ Program Assistance is a great way for dental societies to provide a local member benefit, without a heavy workload. ☞

Texting in 2018!



## Text Message Service for PDA Members

To provide an additional tool for member communication, PDA is in the process of implementing texting software. The software is fully integrated with our membership database and offers PDA the ability to notify members of upcoming deadlines, regulatory notices or legislative alerts. The text will drive members to the respective section of [www.padental.org](http://www.padental.org) for details. To receive text messages from PDA please complete the below authorization form.



### Authorization for Text Message Service

By signing this form I authorize Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA) to send text messages to my cell phone.

- I understand that text messaging rates will apply to any messages received from PDA.
- I also understand that I or PDA may revoke this permission **in writing** at any time.
- I agree to not hold PDA liable for any electronic messaging charges or fees generated by this service.
- I further agree that in the event my contact/cell phone number changes that I will inform PDA or be liable for any fees or charges incurred.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

This authorization form will remain in effect until revoked in writing by me or PDA.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Privacy Disclaimer:** Text messaging is provided as a service to members. Your information will not be shared or distributed in any way.

Please **scan** and **email** this authorization to [met@padental.org](mailto:met@padental.org) or **fax** the form to PDA at (717) 232-7169.

June 2017

**For a free quote, visit [www.pdais.com/groupDI](http://www.pdais.com/groupDI)**



**A disability can happen to any one of us.**

**That's why we've used the strength of our membership to bring you disability income coverage.**

**Now Pennsylvania Dental Association members can apply for competitive group rates on Disability Income Insurance.**

A disability can happen to anyone – but only 22% of Americans say they have enough savings to pay for six months of expenses.<sup>1</sup> That's why it's so important to help protect your paycheck with Disability Income Insurance – especially since we have competitive group rates.

**Apply for coverage for up to \$8,000 a month.**

Tailor your protection to your needs, with coverage available at 60% of your salary, up to a maximum of \$8,000. It's an important and affordable way to help protect your lifestyle if you can't work due to a covered disability.

**Don't miss out on competitive group rates.**

**Visit [PDais.com](http://PDais.com) or call 1-877-732-4748.**

**Own a business?**

**Ask about Business Overhead Expense Insurance.**

Find out how to apply for up to \$20,000 a month to help pay rent, salaries and other business expenses when you can't work due to a covered disability.



**MetLife**

<sup>1</sup><http://www.bankrate.com/finance/consumer-index/americans-still-lack-savings-despite-wage-growth.aspx>

Like most insurance policies, insurance policies offered by MetLife and its affiliates contain certain exclusions, exceptions, waiting periods, reductions, limitations, and terms for keeping them in force. Please contact MetLife or your plan administrator for complete details. Insurance underwritten by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York, NY (MetLife).