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Network Security and HIPAA Compliance

This will be a two part presentation touching on basic computer network security precautions that every practice should take. As we hear on the news all the time, computer system breaches are part of our connected world, and making sure we have the necessary “locks” in place is very important. The second part will have to do with HIPAA Compliance, specifically the security rule and how it applies to your computer network. We will go over some of what is required, some of the recommendations, and steps to implement the changes on your network.



Mr. Stephen Mueller

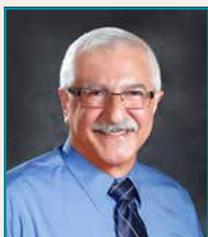
Stephen Mueller has been implementing computer networks for small to medium sized dental practices for over fifteen years, and has over twenty years in the IT Industry. He founded Coastal Networks, a Tampa based company in 2004 to specifically work with independent medical and dental practices. He offers a wide range of dental related technology products from many of the popular vendors.

The Club at TI – 400 Treasure Island Causeway, Treasure Island 33706

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Social begins at 6:00 pm / Business begins at 7:00 pm

Attendees are required to RSVP with Kelsey Bulnes at smilepinellas@gmail.com or (727) 342-0374 by October 2, 2015.



Dr. Johnny Johnson will also be speaking on *Community Water Fluoridation - What's happening in Pinellas and Why.*

Dr. Johnny Johnson

Mark Your Calendar 2015-2016

October 7, 2015

Network Security and HIPAA Compliance, Mr. Stephen Mueller
 The Club at TI

November 11, 2015

Innovative Periodontal Management, Dr. Sam Low
 Joint meeting with Upper Pinellas County Dental Association
 The Hilton at Carillon Park

December 2, 2015

Medical Errors, Dr. William Robinson
 The Club at TI
Hygienists invited!

January 6, 2016

How Occult Dental Problems Can Cause Systemic Illness, Dr. David Minkoff
 The Club at TI

February 2016

Legislative Reception
 Location TBD

March 2, 2016

HPV, Dr. Donald Cohen
 The Club at TI
Hygienists invited!

April 6, 2016

Vendor Fair, Sponsored by Henry Schein
 The Club at TI
Staff invited!

[View the online PCDA Master Calendar here](#)



“El Presidente” Letter



Dr. Alberto Bird

I am excited that our 2015-2016 PCDA year started on such a high note. The “Surreal Dentist” at the Dali Museum was epic. I cannot think of a better way to spend an evening at such a beautiful location overlooking Tampa Bay, and admiring the fine architecture and amazing collection of Salvador Dali. The Flamenco music and spanish food complemented this wonderful night. We should all be proud to have this famous museum in our back yard.

The Smile Pinellas event at the Health Department facilities was well attended, with 31 dentists, hygienists, dental assistants and staff volunteering for this event. We treated 75-80 patients with approximately 90-95 procedures and finished by 4:00 pm. Wow!

During the Smile Pinellas event, my first patient, Rocco was in need of three extractions. I proceeded to the waiting room, called his name, and brought him to the dental chair. Rocco was very friendly but was very nervous. He indicated his mouth was in poor condition because he never liked visiting the dentist but that he tries hard to brush his teeth every day. The time came to numb Rocco and I noticed he started to get more nervous. I tried to calm him down but realized he was unable to control his nervousness. I responded that if he thought that he was unable to proceed with the procedure, he could go home and return at another date. His response was unexpected. Rocco said to me that he is not able to go home because he does not have a home. At that moment, I realized just how lucky I am to have a profession that I love and a home to call my own. I used everything in my power to calm him down and extract the teeth. Rocco left the dental chair very thankful that we had taken a Saturday morning to treat him. That experience really made my day and weekend. This is one reason why volunteering and giving back to the community is so important.

Thanks to **Dr. Susan Hudak Boss**, **Dr. Amy Anderson** and **Dr. Rita Hurst** for stepping up to the task of organizing this event. I would also like to thank Claudia Rosas from PCDA Mission; Susan Easter, Director of St. Petersburg Free Clinic; PCDA Member, **Dr. Haychell Sarydar**; Christina Vongsyprasom, Dental Services Manager of DOH and Dr. Yelena Gatons, Dental Director of DOH. Special thanks to all the volunteers who gave their precious time to make this event a success.

The PCDA board has committed to continue offering excellent educational programs at the luxurious and centrally located venue: The Club at Treasure Island. **Dr. Rita Hurst** has carefully selected lectures that will enhance our continuing education knowledge. Please continue to support and visit our vendors at each meeting.

The increased risk of Cybercrime is a regular occurrence in the daily news. It is not rare to see hackers breaking into big corporations like Target, Home Depot and government departments. Dentists and the health care industry are not immune. Last year Cybercrime cost the American economy billions of dollars. Fifty one percent of all cyber breaches happened in the health care industry. HIPPA laws are evolving and it is imperative to protect our records and patient personal information. In this digital era, criminals might find it easy to infiltrate a dental office computer and collect patient data. Dental practices often fall behind updating their systems. It is important to stay informed and protected and at the same time avoid HIPPA violations that could cost \$50,000 + in fines. Our first lecture with Stephen Mueller, “Network Security and HIPPA Compliance” will help us understand how we can protect our patient information and offices. Dr. Johnny Johnson will also provide an update on the world of fluoride and dentistry.

In June 2015 the American Dental Association recognized the efforts of PCDA in an article titled *Florida Dental Coalition Treats Needy Through Public, Private Partnership*. The article focused on the importance of an association developing a partnership with local non-profit organizations to provide basic dental care to the underserved citizens of Pinellas County. This partnership is done through the access-to-care coalition lead by Florida dentists. All this recognition is great for PCDA and proof of why dentists should continue to support organized dentistry through the ADA, FDA and WCDDA. Together we can give back and show how lucky we are to practice in such a cohesive community.

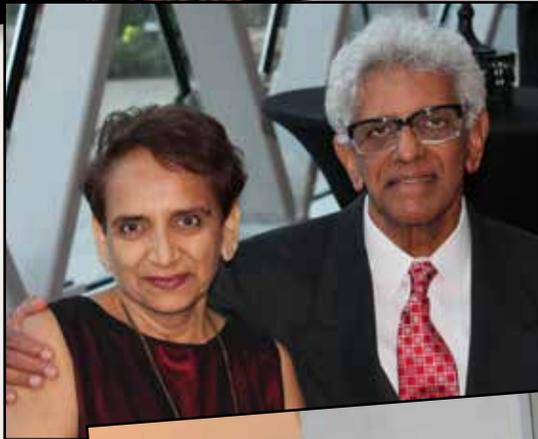
See you all at our first meeting October 7th at The Club at TI.

Sincerely,

AMBird

PCDA President

Surreal Dentists at the Dali



Smile Pinellas Event

On Saturday September 19, 2015 the Pinellas County Dental Association held a "Smile Pinellas" event to serve the adult population of St. Petersburg. Other events were held at other dental clinics in the area as well.

In collaboration with Smile Pinellas, St. Petersburg Free Clinic and The Florida Department of Health of Pinellas County, about 50 patients were served at the St. Petersburg clinic alone. Services consisted of cleanings, fillings and extractions.

Volunteers comprised of twenty-one doctors, hygienists, dental assistants, clerks from private dental offices and Free Clinic of St. Petersburg and Health Department staff all contributed to the events success. Other screening events were held at the St. Petersburg Health Department in conjunction with the Dental Mission. The appreciation of the patients accompanied by the eagerness of the volunteers made a difference in every patient's life and made for a very touching experience.

Dr. Haychell Saraydar



St. Petersburg Health Department Statistics

- 51 total patients treated
- 11 patients for dental hygiene
- 10 patients for fillings; 13 total fillings
- 21 patients for extractions; 41 total extractions
- 1 consultation

A BIG THANK YOU to all who volunteered and made this event a huge success! Stay tuned for PCDA's October Newsletter for additional statistics from the Mid-County Health Department location.



PCDA Volunteers

- Dr. Amy Anderson
- Dr. Monika Aneja
- Dr. Alberto Bird
- Dr. Steve Bloom
- Dr. Amira Djuric
- Dr. Michael Fernandez
- Ms. Dina Friedrich
- Dr. Ken Grundset
- Dr. Susan Hudak Boss
- Dr. Rita Hurst
- Dr. Glen Jones
- Dr. David Kailing
- Dr. Deborah Lowry
- Dr. Gordon Norton
- Dr. Rafael Palaganas
- Dr. Jennifer Paulmino
- Dr. Mary Ann Pittman
- Ms. Amanda Richie
- Dr. Ty Schweiger
- Dr. Goldie Smith
- Ms. Jennifer Smith
- Dr. Elizabeth Staves
- Ms. Samantha Stratton
- Dr. Ana Marai Vales
- Dr. Sandy Worman



Small Bites

Study Links Local Anesthetic Use and the Development of Children's Teeth

A study led by Dr. Bing Hu at Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry suggests for the first time that the use of local anesthetic may affect tooth cell growth and the development of children's teeth.

The study was published in 2015, and comes at a time when more children than ever before are subjected to dental surgery and local anesthetic because of tooth decay or other orthodontic conditions. Using pig teeth and young human permanent tooth pulp cells, the research has identified that local anesthetics commonly used in clinics can affect the proliferation of tooth cells. It is the first time that evidence has been found to suggest that local anesthetic could affect tooth cell growth and potentially impact upon tooth development.

According to the research team, dental treatment involves more frequent use of local anesthetic than any other clinical area. Although the maximum dosage of various local anesthetics is established, their side effects on dental tissue have not been fully investigated until now.

The research team investigated the majority of local anesthetics currently used in dental clinics in the UK, Switzerland and China. The study found that the longer duration of exposure to high concentrations of local anesthetic was most harmful because it interferes with the function of mitochondria, the 'batteries' of the cell, and induce a cell death mechanism named *autophagy*.

While the study has identified a potential harmful effect of local anesthetic on developing teeth, the research team is keen to emphasize that further clinical studies are required before there is enough data to change clinical guidelines and that parents should not be alarmed or withdraw their children from treatment if they need it. Dr. Bing Hu, who led this research said, "Our study has shown for the first time the evidence that local anesthetic may affect the development of children's teeth in cellular and molecular levels. We accept that we need to carry out further clinical studies and we do not wish for our findings to alarm parents unnecessarily, but we do expect, in time, to improve clinical guidelines through our research to minimize the dosage of local anesthetic drugs." He added, "Our findings emphasize the need for parents to help their children to avoid the need for dental surgery, such as tooth extractions, in the first place by paying attention to diet and good oral hygiene, and regular visits to the dentist."

Dr. Sandy Worman
PCDA President-Elect



Dr. Sandy Worman

Federal Laws May Prohibit Dentists from Texting, Calling Patients

The [ADA News](#) (9/8) reports that the ADA Center for Professional Success provides [tips](#) for dentists on texting and calling patients while also offering information on federal laws, like the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, that may prohibit such acts. According to the article, "Dentists may need to obtain written consent and take other steps to avoid liability and penalties under federal laws," which were created to allow consumers to avoid unwanted communications, but may also "prevent dentists from using traditional methods to contact their patients." The article adds that some dental practices have already been sued for violating the laws.

ADA Announces Exclusive Student Loan Refinancing Offer with Darien Rowayton Bank (DRB)

Student debt is a serious concern for many ADA member dentists. Together with the Board of Trustees, New Dentist Committee, Council on Membership and students, we sought out a way to help members manage their debt, resulting in an exclusive deal with DRB (Darien Rowayton Bank), an industry leader in debt consolidation. The ADA's exclusive endorsement allows ADA member dentists the opportunity to save tens of thousands of dollars, on average, by refinancing existing federal and private undergraduate and graduate school loans at a lower interest rate. Qualifying members can refinance existing federal and private undergraduate and graduate school loans at a rate 0.25% lower than DRB's already low rates. Learn more at student.drbank.com/ADA.

Proposal Seeks To Help Dentists in Underserved Areas

A House Republican recently proposed creation of a program that would offer financial help to dentists who practice in underserved areas. The bill (HB 139), filed by Rep. Travis Cummings, R-Orange Park, will be considered during the 2016 legislative session and follows years of discussion about a lack of dentists in some low-income parts of the state. Cummings' bill would lead to the creation of "dental care access accounts," which would include state and local funds. Dentists who agree to practice in underserved areas could use money from the accounts for such expenses as repayment of dental-school student loans and investment in dental-office facilities and equipment. "The Legislature recognizes that maintaining good oral health is integral to overall health status and that the good health of residents of this state is an important contributing factor in economic development," the bill says. "Better health, including better oral health, enables workers to be more productive, reduces the burden of health care costs, and improves the cognitive development of children." [View article](#).

E-FORCSE®, Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

The Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), known as E-FORCSE® (Electronic-Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substance Evaluation Program), was created by the 2009 Florida Legislature in an initiative to encourage safer prescribing of controlled substances and to reduce drug abuse and diversion within the state of Florida. E-FORCSE® has selected Health Information Designs, LLC, to develop a database that collects and stores prescribing and dispensing data for controlled substances in Schedules II, III, and IV. The purpose of the PDMP is to provide the information that is collected in the database to health care practitioners to guide their decisions in prescribing and dispensing these highly abused prescription drugs. Section 893.055, Florida Statutes, requires health care practitioners to report to the PDMP each time a controlled substance is dispensed to an individual. The information is reported through the electronic system as soon as possible but not more than 7 days after dispensing. This reporting timeframe ensures that health care practitioners have the most up-to-date information available. E-FORCSE® complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) as it pertains to protected health information (PHI), electronic protected health information (EPHI), and all other relevant state and federal privacy and security laws and regulations. The information collected in the system will be used by the PDMP to encourage safer prescribing of controlled substances and to reduce drug abuse and diversion within the state of Florida. [Learn more about E-FORCSE](#).

Other Important Dates

ADA Annual Session, Washington DC	November 5-8, 2015
Dentists' Day on the Hill, Tallahassee	February 2, 2016
WCDDA Annual Meeting, CAMLS, Tampa	February 19, 2016
End of Biennium	February 28, 2016
FLA-MOMS, Jacksonville	April 22-23, 2016
Florida Dental Convention (FDC), Orlando	June 16-18, 2016

Endo Post

FOR SALE:

RVG 6100 2015 CARESTREAM KODAK Digital Dental X-Ray Sensor #2 with warranty information. New in box, never used RVG 6100 Size 2 sensor. Warranty until January 16, 2016. Includes all accessories. No software included. Contact Randy Griffin at (727) 787-4005 for additional information.

DENTAL ASSISTANT NEEDED:

Looking for a pediatric dental assistant with expanded functions and some clinical experience. We are a new practice with a general dentist and a pediatric dentist in the office. Part-time available (Tuesdays and Thursdays) or a full-time position is available with the ability to help our front desk. Please call Dr. Karen Burns at (727) 201-9950.

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

If anyone is selling dental supplies or lab equipment, please call Dr. Karen Burns at (727) 201-9950.

Direct all classified and ad inquiries to:

PCDA/Kelsey Bulnes: smilepinellas@gmail.com

or (727) 342-0374

Remote Area Medical Volunteer Corps



Many people live in fear of sickness and injury simply because they have little or no access to basic medical care. RAM responds to this need by providing free, quality dental, vision, and medical care to those who cannot afford it. RAM is committed to providing all services and support at no charge to the patient. RAM provides the equipment and organization coupled with community medical, dental and vision providers, along with general support volunteers to serve those in need. The video link below, aired by **60 minutes**, which gives a wonderful orientation to the scope of service RAM provides: <https://vimeo.com/753559>.

RAM has been invited to host a clinic at Manatee Technical College on East SR 70 in Bradenton on November 21-22, 2015. For more information please visit the RAM web site www.ramusa.org or contact the Volunteer Chair, at ramflvolunteer@gmail.com.

Congratulations to the following PCDA Members on attaining their membership milestone with the ADA, FDA and WCDDA! Thank you for your continued commitment to organized dentistry.

Life Membership
Dr. John Penny

25 Year
Dr. Neil Brodsky
Dr. Haychell Sarydar
Dr. Jeff Scott

35 Year
Dr. Charles Ford

50 Year
Dr. Gerald Francati

Congratulations!

PCDA Membership

Reminder: Membership Dues are Past Due!

Membership dues are past due. To avoid a lapse in membership, please remit your dues payment by bringing a check to the October 7th meeting, mail a check/credit card to: P.O. Box 1833, Brandon, FL 33509 or contact (727) 342-0374. For those who have already paid, thank you for your continued membership and support!

Invite a Colleague!

Have you met a new dentist in the area? Invite them to our upcoming general membership meeting on October 7, 2015 at The Club at TI. They will quickly learn the benefits of strong organized dentistry! It is important to keep our voices strong and loud so that our politicians have our best interests at heart.

Become a Member

Please contact Kelsey at smilepinellas@gmail.com or PCDA Membership Chairman, **Dr. Mike Insoft** at minsoft@tampabay.rr.com for more information about attending a meeting or becoming a member. Membership applications may also be located online at www.smilepinellas.org.

Sponsor a Potential Member

As a member of PCDA, do you have an interest in sponsoring a potential new member's dinner at a PCDA general membership meeting? If so, please contact Kelsey at smilepinellas@gmail.com to be placed on a list of members who are willing to sponsor a potential new members' meal. One "free" general meeting will be sure to get them hooked on our organization!