



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

Ensuring Continued Trust

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

6 Crescent Road
Toronto, ON Canada M4W 1T1
T: 416.961.6555 F: 416.961.5814
Toll Free: 800.565.4591 www.rcdso.org

TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

Council Meeting - November 12, 2009

This publication is posted online on the College's website within two working days after each Council meeting. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions about any of these items, please contact RCDSO Registrar Irwin Fefergrad by phone at 416-934-5625, toll-free at 1-800-565-4591, or by e-mail at ifefergrad@rcdso.org.

INFORMED CONSENT EDUCATIONAL CD

The latest addition to the College's LifeLong Learning program is now in the mail to every dentist in the province. This new CD is full of useful and practical advice that moves the theoretical concepts into real life situations. This production was done in association with the Ontario Dental Association. As usual with our CD learning packages, dentists have the option of taking the self-test and paying a \$250 administrative fee to collect 15 CE points.

INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES

The new Guidelines on Infection Prevention and Control were passed at the Council meeting. It was emphasized that these Guidelines are really a manual of best practices. Council confirmed that these Guidelines are not standards, regulations or by-laws.

This step-by-step manual will help dentists to reflect on their own practice and consider what changes might be warranted in their own offices. The Guidelines are available on the College's website. In addition, every dentist will receive a paper copy of the new Guidelines as an insert with the February/March 2010 issue of Dispatch magazine. That same issue will have a series of articles spotlighting the highlights of the new recommendations.

CONE BEAM GUIDELINES

Council has approved, in principle, Guidelines on Cone Beam Computed Tomography. These draft Guidelines acknowledge that this technology represents a significant addition to the imaging armamentarium available for the investigation of patients, while taking into consideration the need to ensure patients are not exposed to unnecessary amounts of radiation. This matter is now with the government staff of Healing Arts Radiation Protection to develop a regulation for approval by the College and the Ministry of Health. That is likely not to happen until sometime in the new year.

FLUORIDATION

Council agreed to consider working with government, if approached, to commission an independent feasibility study on the long range financial implications for municipalities of providing fluoridation. This is a similar strategy as used with dental amalgam that, with the cooperation of a number of provincial government ministries, resulted in consistent approach to the disposal of dental amalgam waste across Ontario.

ETHICS PROGRAM

Council has agreed in principle to the development of a multi-faceted program to educate practising dentists and students about the principles and core values of ethical behaviour. The Executive Committee will make recommendations to the next Council meeting in March 2010 on the membership of the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee, a budget and working objectives.

IMPLANT DENTISTRY GUIDELINES

Council agreed to set up a working group to review the existing Guidelines and to make recommendations for any necessary changes in the areas of educational requirements, treatment planning, informed consent and management of failures.

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CHRONIC PAIN

Little is understood about chronic pain with the result that prescription drug misuse is a serious and growing problem of concern to health care professionals and also to government, police, hospitals and academics across the country. Council has approved, in principle, that the College organize a national symposium on the appropriate use of opioids in the management of chronic pain for sometime in 2010. The College will explore working with the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation and the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry on this project.

USE OF BOTOX

Look for the PEAK article in the November/December issue of Dispatch on the use of botox in dentistry. The article was commissioned by the Quality Assurance Committee and written by Dr. David Mock, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto and the Associate Director of the Wasser Pain Management Centre at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto.

WEB-BASED EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The College will launch a pilot project of three web-based educational seminars later in 2010 as a new educational venture to support members. The topics would feature top quality speakers on topics like restorations, sedation, infection control and implants. The sessions would be about an hour in length and include a live question and answer session.

SOURCE GUIDE DISTRIBUTION

Now that all the information contained in the Source Guide is available online in the Dentist Search function on the College website, and, unlike the Source Guide, this information is current and accurate in real time, it was decided to discontinue the printing and distribution of the Source Guide as of 2010.

LABOUR MOBILITY

With Council's agreement, our College now has agreed to a Mutual Recognition Agreement for the profession of dentistry that deals with a set of common requirements for licensure of internationally trained general dentists and specialists. This MOU meets the legal requirements to comply with the federal/provincial Agreement on Internal Trade.