Virtual Conference
September 16-18, 2020

Convenient Program Schedule

Award Winning Speakers

Vermont’s Largest Dental Conference
Greetings from the VSDS President!

I am pleased to invite you to the first ever Virtual Vermont Dental Conference! Spanning two and a half days, September 16 through September 18. I encourage the entire dental team to participate and obtain contemporary continuing education as well as learn valuable information about the ongoing business of the Vermont State Dental Society and the Vermont Dental Assistants’ Association. Whether you may be hungering for new information about nutrition and dental health or whether the reopening of dental offices in light of the Covid-19 pandemic has left you with a stiff neck and ergonomics is your desire, this Conference is for you! The Vermont Dental Conference has a long legacy of being one of the premier New England meetings, and our staff and continuing education committee are working hard to ensure that this continues, even in these unprecedented times.

We are excited to have our current ADA President, Dr. Chad Gehani, address us in virtual form during our Thursday evening 144th VSDS Annual Business Meeting. He plans to share how our members have been supported nationally during this pandemic and give us a look toward the future issues facing our membership in 2020 and 2021. I trust that the information to be shared by our president, in combination with our regular VSDS updates thus far, and the new material to be shared at the business meetings, will encourage all of you to participate as much as possible in supporting our annual Conference. In addition to the continuing education that supports the VSDS, there will also be a virtual exhibit hall where vendors will be available to help keep us informed of continuing products and services to help sustain our delivery of dental care.

The program times have been re-designed for more flexibility so that offices can as much as possible, maintain their current schedule of treating patients. The conference schedule will feature more evening programs, including our Thursday evening business meetings of the VSDS and VDAA, thereby enabling us to see patients during the day and allowing staff participation in the evenings as well. Although the shared in person contacts we are accustomed to enjoying during the Conference will not be available this year, our chance to support this great profession continues through participation in the ongoing work of the VSDS and VDAA. I look forward to our time together in September!

Thomas L. Opsahl, DMD
President, Vermont State Dental Society

DENTAL ASSISTANTS

“During this outrageous time in history, we are striving for normalcy. I encourage you all to participate in our virtual business meeting. Now more than ever it is important to connect as we strive for personal excellence in dental care for our patients. The Conference Planning committee has an exceptional roster of speakers and course selection. Join me to support our conference. I look forward to interacting with all of you.”

-Munira Qosimova, VDAA President, CDA

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

“The conference includes several choices for dental hygienists each day. I can always find a “hot” topic while fulfilling my continuing education credits. The speakers are always responsive to my questions.”

-Cyndee Trahan, RDH, BA

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

“The Vermont Dental Conference always revitalizes and provides me with valuable information to improve operations. This year’s Virtual Event will easily allow the entire staff to participate, which leads to a stronger team.”

-Patty Santoro, Practice Manager
REGISTRATION

- All registration is ONLINE ONLY. No paper registration. Go to www.vsds.org and click on Vermont Dental Conference https://www.vsds.org/vermont-dental-conference/participants. Payment by check or MC/Visa/Discover accepted. Check payable to VSDS and send to Delaney Meeting & Event Management at address below, must be received before conference.
- Fees: Avoid higher fees by registering on or before September 4th. New rates effective Sept. 5th. DEADLINE to register is Sept. 12th. Program fees apply to CEU designated courses, priced per 2 CEUs. Member rates apply to all ADA and VSDS, members and their staff. (VDAA members included).
- Confirmation: Will be sent electronically and valid, individual emails will be necessary for each unique registration.
- Format: All course programs are presented in lecture format on a virtual platform. Personal interaction is incorporated and encouraged.
- Handouts: Information on obtaining handouts will be provided at a later date.
- Refunds: A 50% refund policy is applicable for the CE program prices. The registration fee portion is non-refundable. This policy is applicable on or before September 1st. Any cancellations after that date will be reviewed by VSDS. Refund processing will occur post conference.

Contact for Registration Information:
Delaney Meeting & Event Management
46 Main Street, 4th Floor
Winooski, VT  05404
802-865-5202
info@delaneymeetingevent.com

FEES

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<td>2 CEUs – ADA/VSDS/VDAA Member &amp; Staff</td>
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$25 REGISTRATION FEE APPLIES TO EACH REGISTRANT

VIRTUAL EXHIBITS

VIRTUAL VENDOR SHOWCASE HOURS

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* Virtual Exhibit Hall Only pass available ($25 Reg. Fee)
** 3-Day Virtual Exhibit Hall access is included with all CE program registrations. Static Displays always open.
***Live representative chats will be available: Thurs. 9am-11am & Fri. 9am-11am and 1:30pm-2:30pm

DISCLAIMER

The Vermont State Dental Society and its Annual Conference Committee make every effort to provide high caliber speakers in their respective areas of expertise. The presentations of the speakers in no way imply endorsement of any product, technique, or service discussed during these programs.

* Unless noted. The speakers have indicated that they do not have any conflicts of interest.
6:00pm-8:30pm  **Program #3  What's New with OSHA and Infection Prevention?**  
Mary Govoni CDA, RDH, MBA  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  
Reference: OSHA

Is every member of the office team 100 percent clear on what is required and expected right now, this year in terms of safety and compliance? In just a few hours, every team member can minimize confusion or doubt about the latest regulations or requirements regarding: CDC guidelines and OSHA standards, Safety and infection prevention training, Instrument sterilization protocols, Infection prevention protocols including product selection, and OSHA-required documentation and record keeping. Patients need to know that they can expect safe dental care. Because each year brings new issues and requirements, it is essential for dental teams to stay up to date with employee and patient safety training.

**Program Objectives:**
- Identify key compliance issues for infection prevention and hazard communication in the dental practice
- Receive and discuss compliance checklist as well as practical tips to meet the requirements
- Learn how to implement effective compliance strategies
- Evaluate required documentation for OSHA compliance

6:00pm-8:30pm  **Program #4  The Escalating Problem of Pediatric Substance Abuse: What Every Dental Professional Needs to Know**  
Ann Spolarich, RDH, PhD, FSCDH  
Sponsored in Part by: Colgate  
Audience Code: D, H, A  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Reference: SUBSTANCES

The purpose of this course is to discuss the impact of substance abuse on oral and general health, and to assess the risks associated with providing dental treatment to pediatric patients who have a current history of substance abuse. Topics include CNS depressants, including alcohol; stimulants including caffeine and amphetamines: marijuana, and predatory drugs. Trends in drug use for children will be presented in detail. Risk assessment strategies, including physical assessment and risk behavior identification, will be described.

**Program Objectives:**
- Identify substances that are commonly abused by children and adolescents
- Discuss normal physiologic considerations among children and the impact on drug pharmacokinetics
- Identify factors that contribute to recreational drug use in children
- Discuss cardiovascular considerations for treating children who abuse inhalants
- Identify consequences of IV drug abuse
- Discuss dental considerations associated with amphetamine use
- Identify drugs that are used for predatory behavior

**ADA CERP**  
Continuing Education Recognition Program  
The VSDS is proud to be recognized as an ADA CERP provider #02395013. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to VSDS or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at ADA.org/CERP.

**Audience Code:**  
D-Dentist  
H-Hygienist  
A-Assistant  
O-Office Team  
Programs are open to all
Program #5  Antibiotic Stewardship: What Every Dental Professional Needs to Know  
Ann Spolarich, RDH, PhD, FSCDH  
Sponsored in Part By: Colgate  
Audience Code: D, H, A  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Reference: ANTIBIOTICS

Increased awareness about the growing problem of microbial resistance with related challenges of treating infections caused by resistant organisms has resulted in a global initiative to improve the appropriate and safe use of antibiotics. Antibiotic stewardship refers to a set of recommendations for clinicians to follow, to guide decision-making and management of infections with antibiotics. Proper use of antibiotics, including antibiotic use for pre-medication in at-risk individuals will be reviewed based upon current scientific literature.

Program Objectives:
- Discuss the implications of widespread antibiotic use and the development of resistant organisms
- Describe several mechanisms by which bacteria can develop resistance to antibiotics
- Identify pathogens which have developed antibiotic resistance with resultant health implications
- Discuss strategies to reduce risk for promoting further development of resistant organisms
- Discuss current recommendations for reducing risk for infective endocarditis and prosthetic joint infection
- Discuss the significance of good oral hygiene in at-risk patient populations.

Program #6  Microbiology Re-Imagined in Oral Health  
Professor John Thomas  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H  
Reference: MICROBIOLOGY

Professor Thomas presents an enhanced theme from his past presentation “We Live in a Microbial World”. This time he will present “Microbiology Re-Imagined”, (www.globalbugs.com) linking the two via the remarkable, recent information provided while unmasking the contribution of our microbiota as ‘Dual Citizens’ to our health and disease. The focus will magnify the central theme of oral microbiota as a potential signature and modulator of disease, possibly aging and dementia, while acting as a reservoir of distal tumors, particularly CRC, triggering a destructive inflammatory cascade or immune senescence, “Ying/Yang”.

Program Objectives:
- Recognize a new Microbial vocabulary while providing significant take home messages: Critical Thinking
- Recognize the contribution of the Migrating oral microbiota to distal sites and potential in rectal cancers: Ying/Yang
- Recognize emerging strategies to harness the genetic strength of beneficial biofilms to oral health via probiotics: Herbal Microbes
- Recognize the significance of oral fungi as microbial architects: Universal Co Aggregates
THURSDAY PROGRAM—SEPT 17, 2020

6:00pm-8:30pm Meeting #1 The 144th Vermont State Dental Society Annual Business Meeting
6:00pm-8:30pm Meeting #2 Vermont Dental Assistants’ Association Annual Business Meeting

6:00pm-8:30pm Program #7 Ergonomics: How to Work All Day and Go Home without Aching All Over
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA  2 CEUs/Clinical
Audience Code:  D, H, A, O  Reference: ERGONOMICS

Are you sacrificing your body to care for your patients? Pain, numbness, and the eventual physical toll of working chairside can end careers prematurely—but it doesn't have to be this way. Putting ergonomic principles into practice can protect your body today and your livelihood tomorrow.

This course offers the entire dental team an introduction to ergonomics and the risk factors that may cause work-related musculoskeletal injuries. From the front desk to treatment rooms, the program focuses on creating a healthy work environment for the team through posture, workplace design, equipment selection, positioning and increased visibility within the oral cavity. When the team is able to work in their most comfortable environment, they are able to deliver optimal care to their patients.

Program Objectives:
• Identify ergonomic hazards that may lead to musculoskeletal disorders, including back, neck and shoulder pain.
• Describe how ergonomic improvements can reduce stress through greater efficiency and patient comfort during treatment
• Identify equipment and design issues that cause ergonomic hazards
• Evaluate work spaces in the dental practices for design and hazard identification most effective with each generational group

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Visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall/Tradeshow
Hours: Thursday 9AM - 11AM  Friday 9AM - 11AM & 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Audience Code:  D-Dentist  H-Hygienist  A-Assistant  O-Office Team  Programs are open to all
Program #8  Immunity 101: What the Dental Team Should Know
Tieraona Low Dog, MD  2 CEUs/Clinical

The immune system is perfectly designed to help protect our bodies from infections, both minor and potentially life-threatening. We have witnessed the devastating effects SARS-CoV2 has had on our health, physically and psychologically; our economy, and our businesses. There are numerous practices and habits that can support the immune system, as well as those that can impair its ability to function at its best. This highly relevant and engaging lecture will help provide the dental team with the facts they need to know to keep their patients and staff safe.

Learning Objectives:
- Participants will be able to describe the function of the innate and adaptive immune system.
- Participants will be able to discuss past pandemics and the role of vaccinations.
- Participants will be able to discuss the use and misuse of antibiotics and the growing problem of antibiotic resistance.
- Participants will be able to identify the relationship between chronic stress and impaired immune function.
- Participants will be able to identify key micronutrients that are necessary for optimal immune function.

Program #9  HIPAA Compliance: Are You Confident That Patients and Practice Are Protected?
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA  2 CEUs/Clinical
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  Reference: HIPAA

Are you sure--really sure-- that your practice and your patients' information and records are secure and that you are in compliance with all the requirements of HIPAA?
If your practice is out of compliance with HIPAA regulations, whether intentionally or not, it can be costly to your practice's bottom line and reputation. This comprehensive and engaging course meets the Dept. of Health and Human Services requirement for annual training for the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules, protects your practice from potential liability and your patients from privacy and security breaches.

Program Objectives:
- Identify key compliance requirements for the latest HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules
- Learn how to implement effective strategies for meeting compliance protocols
- Access the potential for security breaches of patient information
- Determine the required documentation for compliance with the HIPAA Privacy and Security Rules

Audience Code:  D-Dentist  H-Hygienist  A-Assistant  O-Office Team  Programs are open to all
Program #10  **Function, Parafunction & What the Function: Forces that Threaten Our Success**  
Dr. Michael Melkers, MAGD, FCOI  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H, A  
Reference: SUCCESS

Failure visits our practices in many forms and on many materials. In this program, we will explore the forces that threaten our success and what options we have to address them. Occlusion, it can be one of the driest & most confusing of subjects. It is however one of the most, if not THE most critical aspect of diagnosis and treatment planning when it comes to the longevity of the restorative dentistry that we provide for our patients. During this interactive lecture, Dr. Melkers will guide an exploration and discussion of where we have been as a profession, where we are in our understanding and what mysteries still need to be solved.

**Program Objectives:**
- Learn to recognize critical parafunctional red flags and why they matter
- Appreciate the balance between function, parafunction & aesthetics
- Learn realistic management of destructive forces in restorative dentistry

Program #11  **Nutrition for the Dental Team (In counseling patients)**  
Tieraona Low Dog, MD  
2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  
Reference: NUTRITION

A growing body of evidence now shows the direct link between nutrition and oral health, however, many dental professionals feel inadequately prepared to effectively counsel patients on healthy eating. This information and fact-filled lecture will explore how macronutrients, micronutrients, glycemic index/load, dietary patterns and sugar substitutes impact oral health, periodontal disease and overall health. Learn the cutting-edge science behind the recommendations.

**Program Objectives:**
- Understand the role of macronutrients in health and chronic disease
- Understand how poor glycemic control exacerbates periodontal disease
- Be able to identify the key components of glycemic index and glycemic load
- Understand the relationship between cardiovascular and periodontal disease
- Be able to discuss the role of chronic inflammation and adverse health outcomes
- Be familiar with the dietary inflammatory index and how to use it in the health setting
- Be able to counsel patients about sugar and sugar substitutes
- Be able to describe the signs and symptoms of celiac disease and understand difference between celiac, wheat allergy and gluten sensitivity to better counsel dental patients

**Visit Virtual Exhibit Hall**  
Virtual Exhibit Hall/Tradeshow with Live Chat  
Thursday: 9am-11am  
Friday: 9am-11am & 1:30pm-2:30pm  
Exhibitor Informational Pages/Static Displays are accessible anytime to view vendors and request more information.

**Audience Code:** D-Dentist  H-Hygienist  A-Assistant  O-Office Team  Programs are open to all
**FRIDAY PROGRAM—SEPT 18, 2020**

2:30pm-5:00pm  **Program #12**  Treatment Planning & Application for the Everyday Practice  
Dr. Michael Melkers, MAGD, FCOI  2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H, A  Reference: TREATMENT

Treatment planning & occlusion seem to get relegated & put on hold for those 'special' cases and perfect patients. In this program we will explore and discuss the application of communication, treatment planning & occlusion in everyday dentistry and beyond. Dr. Melkers will take you on a guided tour of application of these principles on a variety of cases from single tooth, quadrant and full mouth, multidisciplinary care. Our goal is to help you implement these skills in your practice.

**Program Objectives:**
- Upon completion, the participant shall be able to appreciate purpose vs process treatment planning as it applies to outcome based treatment planning
- The participant will have a thorough understanding of the benefits of patient centered, doctor facilitated approach to case planning and acceptance
- Learn when, why & how phasing treatment can be done safely

6:00pm-8:30pm  **Program #13**  Conquering Conflict on the Dental Team - Ending the War between the "Front and the Back"  
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA  2 CEUs/Clinical  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  Reference: CONFLICT

Have you ever heard members of your team say things like "if only the back office understood that our job is much more than just answering the phone"? Or "we wish the front office appreciated how hard we work back here"? Do you frequently hear the team members say: "it's not my job"? These are common signs of unresolved conflicts can negatively impact team morale, patient satisfaction, productivity, profitability and the overall success of the practice.

In this course participants will learn to recognize potential areas of conflict, what causes it, and how to implement a system for conflict resolution based on shared responsibilities and accountability. Participants will also learn the importance of developing and following consistent protocols for enhancing the patient care experience and creating a team environment with less tension and stress.

**Program Objectives:**
- Define conflict in the context of the workplace
- Learn techniques for conflict resolution
- Identify common causes of miscommunication and conflict between the clinical and business teams in dental practices
- Implement strategies for creating a seamless treatment experience for patients

**Photography Disclaimer**
The Vermont State Dental Society (VSDS) reserves the right to use any photographs taken at any course or event during the Vermont Dental Conference without the expressed and/or written permission of those included in the photographs. The VSDS may utilize the photo in any publications or other materials produced including but not limited to: next year’s Vermont Dental Conference brochure, invitations, newsletters and the VSDS website

**Audience Code:**  
D-Dentist  H-Hygienist  A-Assistant  O-Office Team  Programs are open to all
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA
Mary Govoni is an internationally recognized speaker, author and consultant on clinical efficiency, ergonomics, OSHA & HIPAA compliance, and team communication.

Mary is a past president and life member of the American Dental Assistants Association, a member of the American Dental Hygienists Association, a member of the Organization for Safety Asepsis and Prevention, the Academy of Dental Management Consultants and the Speaking and Consulting Network and the National Speakers Association.

Ann Eshenaur Spolarich, RDH, PhD, FSCDH
Ann Eshenaur Spolarich in an internationally recognized author and speaker on pharmacology and the care of medically complex patients. She has presented over 950 lectures and has over 125 professional publications. She is Professor, Course Director of Clinical Medicine and Pharmacology, and Director of Research at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, where she also teaches part-time in the Special Care Clinic. Ann also serves as Associate Director of the National Center for Dental Hygiene Research & Practice. Ann practices part-time, specializing in geriatrics.

Tieraona Low Dog, MD
Tieraona (tier-oh-nay) Low Dog, MD is a physician, author and educator. She practiced herbal medicine, midwifery, massage therapy, and martial arts before earning her medical degree from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

Dr. Low Dog is one of the foremost experts in the United States on the safe and appropriate use of the botanical remedies and dietary supplements. She has overseen the evaluation panel for supplement/botanical safety at the United States Pharmacopeia, including joint reviews with the Department of Defense, for the past twenty years. Dr. Low Dog has published 54 research articles in medical/science journals and written 24 chapters for medical textbooks.

Tieraona brings an incredible wealth of knowledge and experience to all that she does, but it is her rare ability to take complex scientific and medical information and make it highly accessible to the everyday person. She has been invited to speak at more than 600 conferences, with her message of healthy nutrition, sensible dietary supplement use, integrative medicine, compassion care, and deep ecology. She has authored five books, including four with National Geographic; Fortify Your Life, Healthy at Home, Life is Your Best Medicine, and Guide to Medicinal Herbs.

John G. Thomas, PhD., Professor Emeritus
John G. Thomas, PhD, Professor Emeritus, is recognized as an “International Educator and Global Microbiologist” his lectures spanning 33 countries while a clinical microbiologist in pathology, dentistry and medicine for 54 years.

He was Director of Microbiology, Virology and Immunology at West Virginia University School of Medicine as Professor, and Clinical Professor in WVU School of Dentistry, receiving the highest teaching award by West Virginia University. He created The Center for Biofilm Research, funding Translational Research, emphasizing biofilms and medical devices and the connection between oral diseases, VAP and wound infections (“Intellectual Design”) with the recent integration of micro 3D bio Printing using bio-plastics and unique Prebiotics/Probiotics (Synbiotics) for intervention, paralleling dental implants.

Dr. Thomas is a native Vermonter, A Norwich University graduate and with his wife of 48 years, A UVM graduate.

Dr. Michael Melkers, MAGD, FCOI
Dr. Melkers is a 1994 graduate of Marquette University School of Dentistry & currently serves as Visiting Faculty at Riga Stradins University & The Pankey Institute. He is also an Ad hoc reviewer for the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry.

In the past, he has been Director of Occlusion & Aesthetic Dentistry at the Pacific Northwest AEGD Residency Program and Visiting Faculty at The Spear Institute. He just finished his tenure as Editor for American Equilibration Society and received the 2018 AES President’s Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Melkers is a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry & maintains a private clinical practice.
VERMONT DENTAL CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 16, 17, 18, 2020

Schedule at a Glance — Wednesday, September 16, 2020

6:00pm – 8:30pm
Program #3
What’s New with OSHA and Infection Prevention?  
Sponsored by Care Credit  
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  
Reference: OSHA

Program #4
The Escalating Problem of Pediatric Substance Abuse  
Sponsored by Colgate  
Ann Spolarich, RDH, PhD., FSCDH  
Audience Code: D, H, A  
Reference: SUBSTANCES

Schedule at a Glance — Thursday, September 17, 2020

11:00am – 1:30pm
Program #5
Antibiotic Stewardship: What Dental Professionals Need to Know  
Sponsored by Colgate  
Ann Spolarich, RDH, PhD., FSCDH  
Audience Code: D, H  
Reference: ANTIBIOTICS

Program #6
Microbiology Re-Imagined in Oral Health  
Professor John G. Thomas  
Audience Code: D, H  
Reference: MICROBIOLOGY

3:00pm – 5:00pm
Meeting #1
144th VSDDS Annual Business Meeting
Executive Board & VSDDS Membership

Meeting #2
VDAA Business Meeting
Executive Board & All Dental Assistants

Schedule at a Glance — Friday, September 18, 2020

11:00am – 1:30pm
Program #8
Immunity 101: What the Dental Team Should Know  
Tierona Low Dog, MD  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  
Reference: IMMUNITY

Program #9
HIPAA Compliance: Are You Confident That Patients and Practice Are Protected?  
Sponsored by Care Credit  
Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA  
Audience Code: D, H, A, O  
Reference: HIPAA

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Virtual Exhibit Hall/Tradeshow
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FRIDAY: 9AM - 11AM & 1:30PM - 2:30PM

Early Bird Registration Now Thru September 4th
Conference Registration Deadline: September 12th

Audience Code: D-Dentist  H-Hygienist  A-Assistant  O-Office Team  Please note that audience codes are suggestions. Programs are open to all.
Looking forward to seeing you in person next year at the DoubleTree By Hilton, South Burlington, VT!

SAVE the DATE
September 23-24, 2021