

## Editor's Comments

Dr. Kavin Kelp



District 15 of the USA Section of the International College of Dentists continues to excel. Last year we saw Fellows from our District in the highest leadership positions in this prestigious organization which was founded in 1920. Again, thanks to our own Dr. Richard Smith for his outstanding leadership as Global President, Dr. Rise' Martin for her flawless service as USA Section President and Dr. Bob Frazer as ICD Foundation President. These pillars of ICD have completed their terms but I know each of them well enough to know that their hearts remain with the ICD and will continue to work for the college and the ideals of **Integrity, Leadership and Service**

In our District there are many changes. Dr. Jay Adkins was our Regent and served with distinction for several years and is succeeded by Dr. Roland Davies immediate past Vice-Regent. Dr. Adkins especially was influential in insuring that the business of District 15 continued throughout the pandemic. Dr. Gus Gates has tendered his resignation from the board effective at the end of 2023. His service as Deputy Regent and ICD board member is most appreciated. Gus was named Distinguished Deputy Regent in

the USA Section in 2020. He was most deserving of the award and we thank him for his service.

Our District continues to attract leaders dedicated to growing the College. Our current District 15 President, Dr. Larry Herwig, has a passion for service and the College. He immediately took it upon himself, spending numerous hours working to have a video produced to encourage others to aspire to become Fellows and to retain those who have been honored in the past.

Dr. Partha Mukherji has joined the Board and will become Deputy Regent at years end replacing outgoing Deputy Regent Dr. Gus Gates. Dr. Mukherji is a graduate of Texas A & M University with a degree in Biology with Chemistry and Psychology minors. He graduated from Baylor College of Dentistry in 2001 and completed a General Practice Residency at UTHealth School of Dentistry in Houston. He has served in numerous leadership positions including many



positions in the Texas Academy of General Dentistry including serving as Ft. Worth President 2017-2019 and Chairing the Lone Star Dental Conference in 2021. He has served on several TDA councils. His volunteer service and leadership experience is extensive and has authored and appeared in several professional publications. We are proud to have him on the Board of Directors.



Dr. Cindy Flannagan has accepted the position of President-Elect.

She will continue the excellence in leadership which we have always enjoyed in Texas. I have had the opportunity to serve with her on the Board of the

Texas Academy of General Dentistry in the past and know she is a natural born leader.

Dr. Karen Walters, Immediate Past President, will continue her service to the College assuming the position of Vice-Regent following Dr. Davies. Thanks to Karen for her continued leadership. We are especially proud of Dr. Rise' Martin and Dr. Kent Macaulay for their special recognition at the Texas Dental Association Meeting in San Antonio. Details follow.

I hope you enjoy reading about the happenings in our active District 15!

## President's Message

Dr. Larry Herwig



The motto of the ICD USA is “Serving Others” and I personally love the simplicity, yet completeness, of that statement for our college. Most of our ICD Fellows have selflessly taken the opportunity to serve others, either in their offices, in their local communities, around the state, and/or abroad in the world arena.

One of my favorite examples that many of us volunteer for are the Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) events, which are large dental charity events and similar MOMs are seen in many other states also. It is amazing how many dentists that have donated their time and services, feel the rewards of our charitable efforts are not only for the patients, but also for those of us delivering the care to them. I fully agree and there is no doubt that the sincere gratitude expressed by the underserved people we treat with vast dental needs, often supersedes the monetary compensation we typically get for our services on a daily basis.

Let's look closer for a minute at the ICD USA mission and highlights-

### **ICD USA Mission Statement**

**...recognizes and promotes excellence in leadership with an emphasis on service, provides support to our Fellows and respect for our peers, addresses oral health needs and education throughout the world, and fosters an atmosphere of collaboration with those who share our values**

The key words and phrases I see are- **leadership, service, provides support, respect, address oral health needs, education throughout the world, and collaboration...** all of which are important values within the entire dental profession.

I can now attest to the fact that the USA ICD does truly stand behind and provides support to both their mission statement and the motto, as seen above. Recently, I applied for a grant through the ICD Foundations' Global Visionary Fund, in collaboration with Henry Schein Cares, and my project was approved for \$13,000 in supplies for the Agape Hospital Dental Clinic on the campus of the Asian Christian Academy in southern India near Hosur, which I helped start. My initial trip to open the dental clinic was some 22 years ago and I will be returning again for the third time this July to serve these wonderful people again.

We all have stories to tell and projects we support in service to those in need and we would love to share them in our ICD Newsletter. You can contact Dr. Kelp, the editor, at [jk24k@yahoo.com](mailto:jk24k@yahoo.com) to share your story. I am aware of three different missionary groups that are either about to go, or have just returned from different points around the world to serve. That is most commendable. I hope to get their stories, just as I will share more about my efforts in India in an upcoming ICD publication.

The ICD has one universal motto of “Recognizing Service and the Opportunity to Serve”, which is certainly synergistic with the ICD USA motto of “Serving Others”. I am very proud to be a Fellow of the ICD whose members support the overall mission, while the organization supports its members' efforts, so let's all continue in this worthy journey together!

Larry D. Herwig, DDS, FICD, FACD, FADI, FAGD  
President Texas ICD USA District 15

## From your Regent

Dr. Roland Davies



More convinced than ever, I can assure you—the International College of Dentists is the leading honorary dental organization in the world. We are the leaders in recognizing excellence in dentistry and in championing philanthropic programs for underserved populations. We stay true to our ICD motto “Serving Others”.

My pride accelerates as I reflect on how District 15-ICD has evolved to where it is today and to where it is headed. The work of our district not only contributes to the USA-ICD but also provides Texas ICD Fellows with meaningful and rewarding opportunities.

### **About our District 15 Directors & Officers:**

It is with honor and humility that I serve as Regent. I strive to support the programs and traditions of leadership as earlier exemplified by **Drs. Jay Akins, Rise’ Martin, Bob Frazer, Paul Stubbs, and Leighton Wier**—to name but a few! My responsibilities involve overseeing district operations, serving as liaison between ICD-USA-Section and District 15, and implementing strategic programs. Yes, the tasks ahead are formidable but also attainable. Our current leaders are extraordinary.

**Dr. Larry Herwig**, our District 15 President, is exceptional both in his philanthropic endeavors and forward-thinking as evidenced with his guidance of our District 15 “Membership and Retention” video. **Dr. Cindy Flanagan**, who will follow as our next President, is well

armed with years of leadership especially at the TDA/ADA levels.

Our esteemed Deputy Regent, **Dr. Gus Gates**, needs little introduction. Though stepping away from this position after five years, Gus has energized and streamlined the process to nominate New Fellows. Gus will pass the torch of Deputy Regent to the very capable **Dr. Partha Mukherji** who already has accomplished many leadership roles for TDA and Texas AGD.

Vice Regent **Dr. Karen Walters** promotes membership opportunities and readies herself to step into the role of Regent when necessary. **Dr. Audrey Stansbury** effectively serves as both Secretary and Treasurer. Her expertise and tenacity are valuable assets to our Board. Such was our fortune since Dr. Stansbury organized the February BOD, 2023, meeting in Frisco, Texas at the Dallas Cowboys Headquarters. A good time was had by all!

Much deserved thanks goes to our Editor, **Dr. Kavin Kelp**. Our District 15 Newsletter is considered the best E-Newsletter of any district. After many years serving as editor with the Capital Area Dental Society, he accepted the editorship on our BOD. It is easy to extol his many attributes and talents.

State-wide Counselors also provide valuable advice within the New Member process. This year two additional Counselors, drawn from recent New Fellows classes, will be appointed to further expand contacts throughout the

state. These positions will add vibrancy and help to grow leadership.

**Our ICD Business & Philanthropic Projects:**

- In February, at our District 15 BOD meeting at Dallas Cowboys Headquarters, we enjoyed business, pleasure, and a tour of the grand facilities. With much pride we approved the “Membership & Retention” video produced by Larry Herwig. Since then, we’ve shared the video with the USA-ICD Regents and will soon make it available to all Texas Fellows.
- In May, ICD Texas partnered with the **American College of Dentists** and the **Pierre Fauchard Academy** to host a Tri-Society Breakfast at the TDA meeting in San Antonio. Over 100 guests attended, including all ADA Presidential candidates and Deans from the Dental Schools in Texas. We concluded the breakfast by recognizing our 25-year ICD Fellows.
- In May, at the USA Section of ICD Board of Regents Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, the Regents continued fulfilling the Applied Strategic Plan (ASP) that was first launched under the watchful eye of **Dr. Bob Frazer** ten years ago. Notable programs that ICD supports include the *Student Dental Mission Trips*; the *ADA Give Veterans a Smile*; and the *Dental Exams for Peace Corp Volunteers*. Our newest proposal (now in the development stage) will provide *Dental Screenings for Special Olympics* participants.



Drs. Bob Frazer and Roland Davies

Engagement in these ICD programs not only attracts new Fellows but also increases member retention. Proudly, ICD is giving back to our communities.

After attending the USA-ICD Regents Meeting in Scottsdale, I’m positive our dedicated Texas ICD leaders are as innovative and progressive as any across the USA. Our future shines brightly. Thank you everyone and please “Pass the Honor Forward” by nominating worthy candidates for ICD Fellowship.

Respectfully, Roland S. Davies, DDS  
Regent, Texas District 15, USA-ICD



## Vice- Regent Report

Dr. Karen Walters



Student Awards are presented at each Texas dental school. Outstanding students are recognized by the College. One student at each school is awarded the **ICD Leadership Award** and one with the **ICD Humanitarian Award**.

### UT Health Houston School of Dentistry

Dr. Karen Walters, District 15 Vice-Regent (left) joined Dr. Kathy Gibson and Dr. Steve Laman to present the UT Health Houston School of Dentistry Senior Awards. Both are faculty members of the Dental School and mentors in the Great Expectations program.

Clara M. Kohlmetz was presented with the International College of Dentists Leadership Award and Andrew D. Phillips was the recipient of the Humanitarian Award.



### Texas A&M (formerly Baylor) College of Dentistry

Dean Lily Garcia and ICD President Dr. Larry Herwig present the awards to outstanding Senior students.

Marzia Montgomery Zendali received the ICD Humanitarian Award



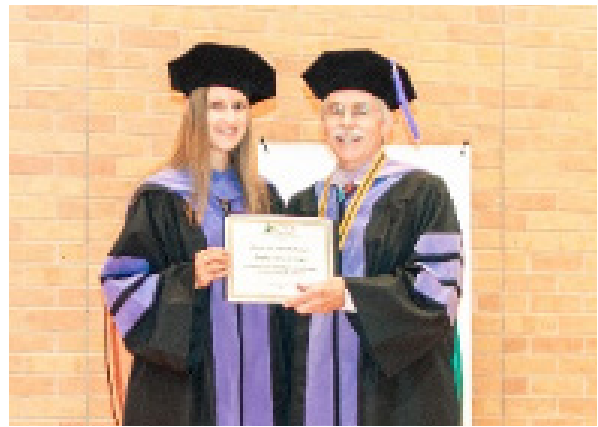


Mark Thomas Ashby was presented with the ICD Student Leadership Award (Dean Lily Garcia)

### **University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio**

Presented by Dr. Fred Phillips. Andrea Stager received the Leadership Award.

Maryam Razaviasfali was given the Humanitarian Award.



## From your Deputy Regent

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Dr. Gustav Gates



Congratulations! We have an outstanding class of over thirty nominees for Fellowship in the International College of Dentists. We have an exceptional class because of you recognizing fellow colleagues for their Integrity, Leadership, and Service to the community. The deadline to turn these nominees into candidates is May 31, 2023 so let's not break out the champagne just yet. Some of our applicants need second nominating letters from another ICD Fellow while others need the important Candidate Information Form submitted by the nominee. This form is used by ICD to determine if the applicants meet all the criteria to become a Fellow.

If you have submitted a nominee for Fellowship and the application is missing one

of the three crucial items, your nominating letter, a second nominating letter by another ICD Fellow, or the Candidate Information Form, you have probably already been contacted by National USA-ICD or one of the District Officers. If you are concerned that something may be missing, you can always call National USA-ICD at 301 2521-8861.

So keep the champagne in the refrigerator until it's time to celebrate another excellent group of outstanding Candidates!

Cheers!

Gus Gates, D.D.S.  
Deputy Regent  
District 15



# Secretary-Treasurer Report

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Dr. Audrey Stansbury



January 01, 2022 through May 5, 2023

**Beginning Balance** \$27,582.31

**Income** \$15,124.24

- State Dues
- ICD Breakfast Fee
- Sponsors
- Donations

**Expenses** \$17,391.93

- Breakfast meetings
- Great Expectations
- Student Scholarships
- Speaker Honorarium
- Video Production
- Directors Dinner

**Ending Balance** \$25,314.62

I will be happy to provide a detailed version of this summary if you prefer.

[audreystansbury@gmail.com](mailto:audreystansbury@gmail.com)

# International College Of Dentists USA Section Foundation

## Hygiene Packs for Ukraine

**Gaithersburg, MD – August 31, 2022:** The International College of Dentists USA Section Foundation in partnership with Henry Schein Cares and the ICD Global Visionary Fund donated over \$70,000 to provide hygiene packs for those affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. This would not have been made possible without the generosity and compassion of our Fellows. Thank you to all who participated in the fundraiser. Because of your kindness, we were able to help over 7,000 people.

Thank you for "Serving Others."



Thanks to our own Dr. Bob Frazer for his service as President of the ICD Foundation. He led the Leadership Matching Fund Drive which raised \$48,346. Bob stated that, "the largest percentage of dollars raised came from our District 15 Fellows led by the generous

contribution of then President Rise' Martin." He continued to say that he, "was proud and humbled by the outstanding District 15 support of the Foundation during my Foundation Presidential year!"

February 24th

### Board meeting at Frisco/ Dallas Cowboys Headquarters

ICD Board members Donna Miller, Audrey Stansbury, Karen Walters, Jay Adkins, Gus Gates, Kavin Kelp, Larry Herwig, Roland Davies and Partha Mukherji met at the Dallas Cowboys Headquarters and Training Facility. The meeting was spirited and very productive and a fascinating tour of the facility was given. Thanks to Dr. Stansbury for making the arrangements.



### American College of Dentists, the Pierre Fauchard Academy and the International College of Dentist Breakfast Meeting

Held in San Antonio in conjunction with the Texas Meeting, of the Texas Dental Association on May 5, 2023, the meeting was well attended by leaders in dentistry throughout the state and nationally. There was a very informative and inspirational presentation.

Mr. Andrew McAllister, founder of the Believe It Foundation spoke at the breakfast and as you can see, everyone was enthralled with his motivational message.

Born premature with cerebral palsy and legally blind, Andrew went to school in San Antonio, graduating from Alamo Heights High School and attended college at Trinity University and the University of Texas at Austin. Amazing feat for someone that his parents were told he would never talk. Turns out, not only can he talk but is a gifted speaker.

Naturally, he wanted to be included in activities. He founded the Believe It Foundation





education and devices to allow for more participation with peers. Andrew says, "It's a calling for us, me and Ross, to advocate for inclusion. When someone has your back you can succeed."



to find ways to help others with disabilities to enjoy being more inclusive with their peers. He is a shining example of proving that people with disabilities can grow and be productive. It all began for Andrew when he made a special bike which allowed him to "feel freedom and empowerment with joy." His best friend Ross suggested that they run a marathon together and they developed a special trolley for the race. Now they have run marathons throughout the world. The foundation is based on adaptive physical



## Dr. Kent Macaulay is given the TDA Service Recognition Award

Dr. Kent Macaulay was honored in the Texas Dental Association House of Delegates on Saturday May 6th by President Dr. Duc Ho with the **Service Recognition Award**. Dr. Macaulay is a man of great integrity, willingness to listen and a giving heart. He was the Capital Area Dentist of the Year in 2006 and is involved in numerous service organizations as well as professional organizations. He is a Fellow of the International College of Dentists as well as the American College of Dentists. Kent is active in his church and Special Olympics. He has been honored by the Greater Round Rock Community Foundation for his work in the community. He is a member of Round Rock Kiwanis. He is a Charter Founder of the Round Rock Sertoma and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. Kent organized the Bone Marrow Drive Benefit Golf Tournament



and has raised money for the Hope Alliance and the Central Texas Blood & Tissue Center's Leukemia Golf Tournament. He is Board Chair Emeritus of the Breast Cancer Resource Center of Central Texas. These are just a few highlights of Dr. Macaulay's' service.

Dr. Macaulay has served on the Access to Care Committee of the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation for the past 22 years. This committee establish policy and plans events for the care programs of TDASF. He has been the primary doctor for prescreening as well as triage at TMOM events around the state since the inception of TMOM in 2001. There have now been 87 events and he has been at 82 of them. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation. He has been one of the bedrock providers of care through another long-time program of the Foundation known as Healthy Smiles for Texans (formerly known as Donated Dental Services) In this program, those citizens that qualify for care receive complete start-to-finish dental rehabilitation entirely at the time and expense of the provider. He is almost always at Smart Smiles screenings and treatment for children in the hill country.

Fifteen years ago, the Capital Area Dental Foundation was established as the philanthropic arm of the Capital Area Dental Society. Kent was a founding board member and has served as Chairman of the Access Committee since its inception.

Dr. Macaulay is retired from active practice but continues to maintain a license and devoted most of his time to his intense passion for helping others.

Kent loves fly-fishing and is known for the following quote, "Trout don't live in ugly places".

Dr. Kent Macaulay is truly a great man and dentist with a sincere passion for service to others.



## Dr. Rise' Martin Awarded the Prestigious TDA Gold Medal Award

Rise' Martin was seated in the guest section of the House of Delegates awaiting (or so she thought!) to deliver an update on the International College of Dentists to the House. She was moved to tears when it was announced that she was named the recipient of the Gold Medal Award in San Antonio. The request for her presence to report was a successful ruse.

The Texas Dental Association Gold Medal Award is the most prestigious award conferred by TDA and is not awarded each year- only when there is an individual deserving.



Highlights of her awards and a testament to her dedication to service and the profession of dentistry:

- Dr. Martin is the Immediate Past President of the ICD-USA Section
- Numerous positions in the College for the 15th District including Texas President, Deputy Regent and Regent
- Great Expectations Program- organized and directed this mentoring program in the San Antonio area
- Texas Dental Association Board of Directors- Director, Senior Director and Vice-President
- San Antonio District Dental Society President
- Past President of the American Association of Women Dentists



- Several Committees of the American Dental Association
- American Dental Association Annual Meeting Local Chair in San Antonio 2014 which also included a Texas Mission of Mercy Event
- Texas Academy of General Dentistry Dentist of the Year 2012
- University of Texas Health Sciences Center Dental School Part-time instructor in the General Dentistry Department
- Texas Mission of Mercy- numerous events around Texas since 2001
- American Dental Association Golden Apple Award for Leadership 2011
- American Association of Women Dentist Lucy Hobbs Taylor Award for 2014 for outstanding leadership and service
- San Antonio District Dental Society- four Distinguished Presidential Awards
- Christian Medical Dental Association member for 28 years taking dental students on mission trips around the world
- She and husband Sam fundraised and founded a local Girls and Boys Club in 2011
- Both are very active in their church leading Missions Team steering fundraising events and serving the community as Lay Servants.

Congratulations to Dr. Martin for this most deserved award and recognition.

### Texas Mission of Mercy

The Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation Texas Mission of Mercy events have been serving Texans in need since 2001. Almost all of our ICD Fellows have volunteered at TMOMs, SMART Smiles and Donated Dental Services through the years. These programs have helped over 50,000 patients and have provided \$35.6 million dollars in charitable care. The photos from the latest events show some of the ICD Fellows that participated.

### Marble Falls TMOM

Held February 24-25th, 2023. 515 patients were seen for 3,095 procedures for a value of \$588,697. ICD Fellows provide service to the public.



Dr. Susan Jollif, FICD



Dr. Todd Ayars, FICD



### Bonham TMOM

300 patients were treated in Bonham for a value of \$384,591 in charitable care. There were many volunteers including 53 dentists.



Happy Patient





Ms. Jane Evans, Honorary FICD  
Executive Director Dallas County Dental Society



Dr. Tommy Harrison, FICD  
Past TDA President

Pictured below are Drs. Cody Graves-  
President of Texas Dental Association, Rise'  
Martin Immediate-Past President I.C.D.  
U.S.A., Michael Rainwater T.D.A. Smiles  
Foundation board member and in the pink

jacket and shoe laces Sherri L. Sherri had  
broken teeth and received a dental cleaning,  
and a removable partial denture. After her  
dental team completed her care at TMOM,  
she was thrilled with her new smile.



## ICD Fellows work with CADF for Community Dental Day at two locations in Austin on March 25

Dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, administrative staff and community volunteers met at the Round Rock Dental Group offices and at Smiles Creations offices in South Austin to provide charitable care. The Community Dental Days is a signature program of the Capital Area Dental Foundation since 2018.

84 patients were seen for treatment valued at \$56,000. There were 66 volunteers. 53 dentists participated.





## Great Expectations



This mentoring program is designed to offer guidance and to introduce professional opportunities to dental students in the Texas dental schools. Numerous ICD Fellows volunteer their time and oftentimes their facilities to educate students about the importance of

service and professionalism. The benefits of belonging and participating in organized dentistry are emphasized.

### Dallas

Dr. Herwig, District 15 President, hosted “a great group of students that were highly interested and excited for our evening of Great Expectations mentoring program at my office tonight.” At the April 1st event pizza and cookies were served and in-depth discussions of about everything from high technology equipment to how to treat people like you want to be treated in your dental practice. Dr. Herwig stated that, “I think there were a number of potential ICD members for the future!”





## Southwest Dental Conference - ICD Breakfast

August 26, 2023 Hilton Anatole Dallas  
7:00-9:00 AM

“Is Your Bucket Empty?”

Becoming a professional requires the attainment of many degrees and special skills. One learns early that to achieve everything necessary to succeed, sacrifices and hard work are essential. The drive required to be successful becomes ingrained as we become employers, business owners and dental professionals. We are accustomed to always strive to be better. Suddenly, there comes a time when that chapter of life is complete, especially after the sale of our businesses or retirement. After years of being self-driven, suddenly one wonders ‘What’s next?’

Lieutenant Colonel Dale Vick will give a personal and warm message about the next stage of life and how to embrace the change.

Our speaker is Lieutenant Colonel Dale Vick. Colonel Vick has a wealth of varied experiences. He was a U.S. Navy SEAL. A police officer, and a private pilot. He was a regional manager for Raytheon Corp. in Latin America and Canada. He is fluent in English and Spanish. He graduated from Wichita State University with a degree in accounting followed by a B.S. in Aeronautical Administration from Park College of St. Louis University. He lived and worked in Mexico City for 3 years selling Beechcraft aircraft. He has implemented financial management principles in English and Spanish through Crown Financial Ministries resulting in training of more than 9 million people world-wide. Dale has certificates of Ordination and is Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Dallas. He has experience in various radio ministry ventures and is a successful business owner. Presently he is involved in several companies specializing in commercial



and industrial electrical services. Dale is Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) in the Texas National Guard and is a Dallas Police Chaplain volunteer.

Please register through the Southwest Dental Conference 2023 Registration Brochure or [swdentalconf.org](http://swdentalconf.org). If you are not registering for the conference, please submit \$45.00 to Audrey L. Stansbury, DDS 16 Fairway Dr. Frisco, TX 75034 or pay Venmo by contacting Dr. Stansbury at 972-824-4340.

## ICD Convocation

October 5-6, 2023 Orlando, Florida



## Food For Thought

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be a daunting thing. AI is a term describing machines or devices that are developed to perceive, synthesize and infer information. World leaders in technology companies are sounding the alarm that we must be very diligent in controlling what we create or it will control us. New York Times reported on May 4, 2023 that, “The Godfather of AI Leaves Google and Warns of Danger Ahead”.<sup>1</sup> “Dr. Geoffrey Hinton received a Ph.D. in artificial intelligence 45 years ago and is one of the most respected voices in the field”, according to a CNBC article recently published.<sup>2</sup>

General AI usually refers to devices that have been programmed to actually “think” independently and continue to increase their knowledge and abilities over time as they gather new data. In other words, the AI reaches a point where the input of programmers is no longer necessary for AI to continue to learn and act upon what is learned. We live in a world markedly further advanced than it was just twenty years ago and without the use of AI there it is not possible to keep up to date with the latest information.

There is AI in dentistry already. There are decay detection programs that objectively analyze radiographs as well as robotic implant placement abilities. There are programs that will alert a practitioner if a prescription is improper in a certain situation. Very soon, we will all likely depend upon AI to aid in diagnosis and treatment recommendations. A big difference is that these are examples of narrow AI. These are specific applications with parameters and controls built within the programs. Our problem in dentistry is that we know what works and what doesn't. We have all learned the hard way. Because of this, we are understandably resistant to change but without change, we can quickly get way behind the curve of the latest evidence-based treatments.

“In 1950, the time to double medical knowledge was considered to be 50 years; in

1980, 7 years; and in 2010, 3.5 years. Today, in 2020, it is projected to take just 73 days.”<sup>3</sup>

The American Clinical and Climatological Association (ACCA) is a society for the study of climatology, balneology, and the diseases of the respiratory and circulatory organs.

“Medical students would need to study >29h every weekday to keep up with the primary care literature. In fact, too much information drives clinical specialization.”<sup>4</sup>

“One way to deal with this medical data and information explosion is to use AI to help make better sense of it. For example, there is already proof that AI can assimilate medical knowledge required for clinical thinking.”<sup>5</sup> Last year, a company developed an AI system that outperformed doctors on a mock test of clinical reasoning.”<sup>6</sup>

There is just no way for a practitioner to keep up to date with the current and emerging knowledge without the aid of artificial intelligence. AI is even suggesting best treatments yet there remains the fact that every patient is unique and there is no one size fits all solution. The practitioner remains essential to make the best judgements possible for favorable outcomes but will have the latest information to consult as a result of artificial intelligence tools. So let's embrace narrow AI in dentistry to help us to better serve our patients and not allow the scary “general AI” to cloud our perceptions of how we can work smarter.

1. [www.nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com) The Godfather of A.I. Leaves Google and Warns of Danger Ahead, May 4, 2023

2. [www.cnbc.com](https://www.cnbc.com), May 1, 2023

3. Densen, Peter. Challenges and Opportunities Facing Medical Education. *Transactions of the American Clinical and Climatological Association* 122 (2011): 48-58 (1)

4. Alper, B. S. et al. How much effort is needed to keep up with the literature relevant for primary care? *J. Med. Libr. Assoc.* 92, 429 (2004).

5. Komorowski, M., Celi, L. A., Badawi, O., Gordon, A. C. & Faisal, A. A. The artificial intelligence clinician learns optimal treatment strategies for sepsis in intensive care. *Nat. Med.* 24, 1716–1720 (2018).

6. CloudMedx Inc. AI outperforms human doctors on a medical exam. [medium.com/cloudmedx/ai-outperforms-human-doctors-on-a-us-medical-exam-31b916666b3d](https://medium.com/cloudmedx/ai-outperforms-human-doctors-on-a-us-medical-exam-31b916666b3d) (2019).