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QCDS Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR THE DENTISTS OF QUEENS COUNTY

Volume 66 Number 4

July/August 2025

Annual QCDS World's Fair of Dentistry Will Feature Noted Speakers on September 13-14

By Dr. Pratix Shroff, QCDS Past President

Queens County Dental Society's annual World's Fair of Dentistry—one of the largest gatherings of the dental community anywhere—will be held Saturday and Sunday, September 13-14, at Terrace on the Park, Flushing.

The two-day educational weekend will feature informative presentations, scores of exhibitors, a wide range of raffle prizes, and an opportunity to meet and socialize with fellow dental professionals.

QCDS invites all in the dental field to the World's Fair of Dentistry, which it promises to be an engaging continuing education seminar designed specifically for dental professionals, offering a valuable opportunity to refresh clinical knowledge and explore the latest advancements in dentistry. Participants can connect with vendors and colleagues in an inspiring learning environment.

The program is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at Terrace on the Park, located at 52-11 111 Street. Registration—going on now—allows for attendees to enroll for either Saturday or Sunday meetings, or both. There are discounted rates for ADA members, although non-ADA members are welcome as well. Registration can be made for the programs at the website <https://www.TheWorldsFairOfDentistry.com/register/> or call QCDS at 718-454-1020.

"This year's program features a dynamic lineup of expert speakers covering a wide range of topics at the forefront of dentistry, spanning cutting-edge technology, clinical innovations, business strategies, risk management, and patient communication," said QCDS Executive Director Dr. Chad Gehani.

—Continued on page 9

Among the many featured speakers are:



Dr. Danielle Brown, who will explore "**Future-Ready Dentistry**" highlighting how AI, 3D printing, digital smile design, and chairside milling can streamline diagnostics and workflows while enhancing patient outcomes.



Dr. Richard A. Young will present "**Anterior Composite Restorations with Clear Matrix Systems**" offering minimally invasive techniques for anterior restorations using proven adhesion protocols and hands-on guidance for long-term clinical success.



Dr. Howard Ochs, a leader in digital implant workflows, will discuss "**Digital Workflow in Implant Dentistry and Same Day 3D Printing**." He emphasizes same-day restorations, socket sealing abutments, crestal bone stability, and the use of ExoCad software for full-arch treatments.

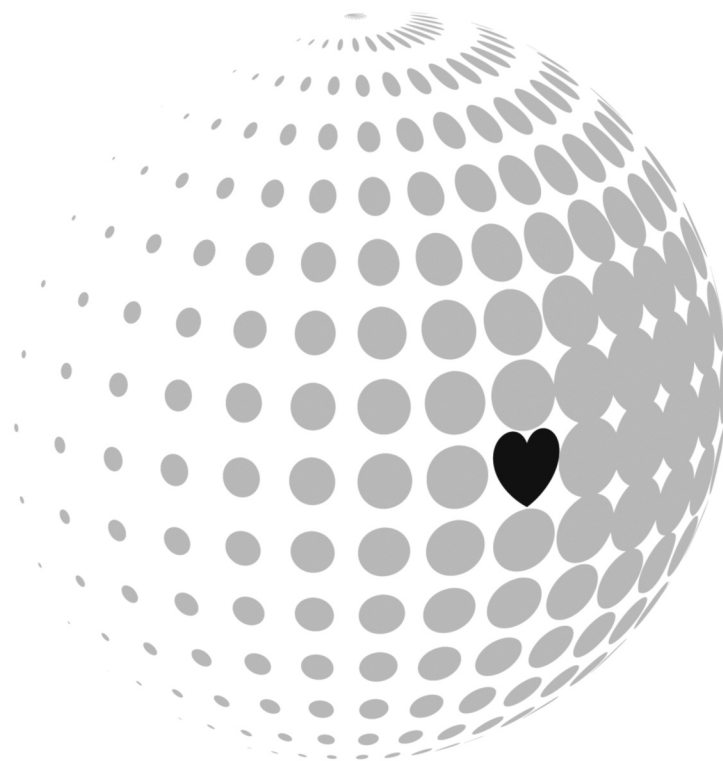


Dr. Pilseong Kim simplifies immediate implant placement in his lecture, "**Immediate Implant Placement Made Easy**," covering guided implant surgery through static and dynamic navigation techniques to increase clinical confidence and precision.



Dr. Marcus Johnson shares case-based insights in his presentation "**Endodontic Technology and Trends Update**," demonstrating how digital tools and academic research enhance diagnostics, treatment, and workflow in modern endodontics.

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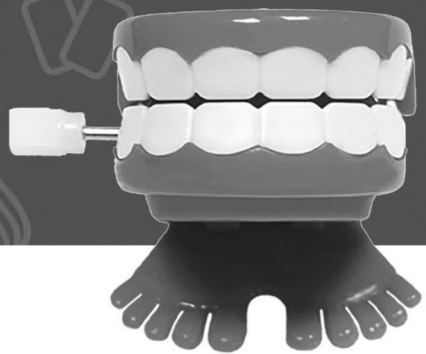
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Deadlines for manuscripts is six weeks prior to the date of publication. For example, the deadline for March/April issue is January 10th. All Submissions must be typed as a word document and emailed to QCDSBulletin@gmail.com.

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Subscription is included in the annual membership dues of the Queens County Dental Society. The Subscription rate for non-members is \$30 per year, or \$5 per issue.

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From the President

reddydentalpc@gmail.com



Where We're Heading

By Dr. Savitha Reddy

I hope this message find you well and that you are enjoying the start of summer.

As we reach the midpoint of my presidency, I want to take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments we have achieved together and the path that lies ahead for the Queens County Dental Society.

Serving as your president has been both a tremendous honor and a responsibility that I take deeply to heart. One of our core commitments at QCDS has always been to support our members with meaningful high quality continuing education programs. So far this year we have hosted a robust calendar of CE events that reflect the evolving needs and interests of our members. We have been proud to welcome both local experts and nationally recognized speakers and many of our events have been offered in a hybrid format to accommodate busy schedules while maintaining accessibility.

It was an honor to represent QCDS at the recent NYSDA House of Delegates, which was held at the Uniondale Marriott this past May 29-31. Highlight of the event was QCDS reception, which brought together delegates, alternates and leaders from across the state. The energy in the room was unmistakable as we reconnected with friends and reaffirmed our shared commitment to the future of dentistry. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a success.

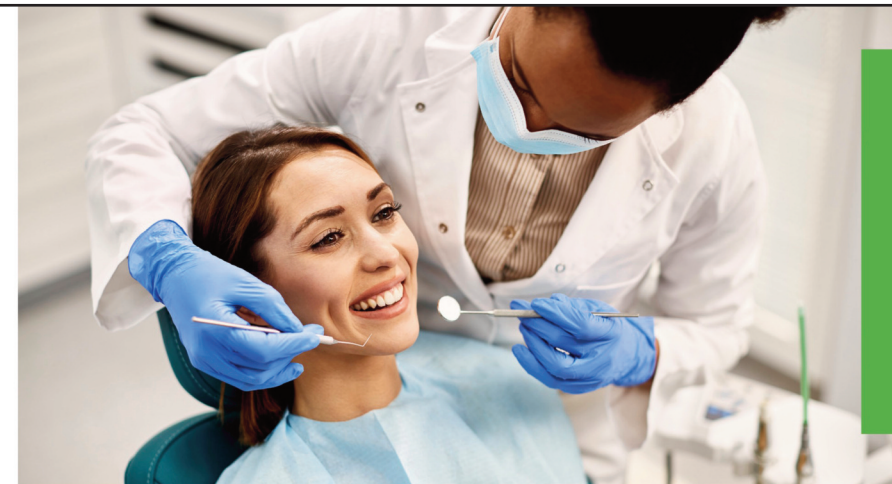
Looking Ahead

In the months to come we are planning even more dynamic CE opportunities, including expanded interdisciplinary lectures.

Also making waves was our announcement of the upcoming World's Fair of Dentistry, scheduled for this September 13-14 at The Terrace on

—Continued on page 10

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Queens County Dental Society Plays Host to Busy NYSDA House of Delegates Meeting

Representatives of the Queens County Dental Society played a prominent role at the recently completed New York State Dental Association's annual House of Delegates meeting, which it hosted at the Long Island Marriott. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Prabha Krishnan, whose term as president of the organization concluded at the meeting. She had previously served as president of QCDS.

More than 100 delegates from throughout the state were welcomed by NYSDA delegate Dr. Rekha Gehani, the chair of the meeting. She recognized two past presidents of the American Dental Association, the late Dr. Richard Mascola, and Dr. Chad Gehani, the current QCDS executive di-

rector and past president of NYSDA and the ADA.

The conference took up a number of critical issues facing the dental community, including requiring a one-year residency following graduation, which did not come to the floor for a vote. Instead, the House passed another resolution allowing multi-year specialty residents to be eligible for a New York license after one year upon passing the ADEX exam, rather than having to wait for completion of a full post graduate program.

Another resolution approved by the House allows for on-the-job training for the licensure of dental assistants, to help the current staff shortage in New York. Also approved

was an increase in NYSDA membership dues by \$19 effective next year and a change in NYSDA bylaws changing the term of the Ethics Council from three terms of three years each to four terms.

The conference was marked by a number of cocktail parties, receptions, luncheons, and dinners, as well as dancing and shopping expeditions for the spouses of delegates and alternates. A cocktail party immediately following the House of Delegates meeting was sponsored by

QCDS, featuring many guests, lots of networking, and delicious food.

Sponsors of the gathering included dinner gala sponsor MLMIC, Lanyard Sponsor Altvest Wealth Management, Coffee Break Sponsor NYSSOMS, and well as the Feldman Kieffer Law Firm, NYSDA Support Services, the Mandelbaum Barrett Law Firm, DDS Match, and PKF O'Connor Davies Accountants. The Indian Dental Association USA also contributed generously to the event.



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Noted Speakers at World's Fair of Dentistry

Continued from page 1

Dr. Gehani said that “World’s Fair attendance has grown significantly every year recently because of the improved quality of the speakers. We pay close attention to securing great speakers and the dental community has responded positively.” He said this year’s advance registration is considerably ahead of that of previous years.

Drs. Doron Kalman and Pratix Shroff are co-chairing the event, along with Dr. Mitch Greenberg.

“We have many noted speakers this year that we did not have last year,” Dr. Greenberg said. “We surveyed our membership and past attendees as to the types of speakers they would like to hear. Then we responded and sought out presenters that filled those needs.”

Dr. Greenberg said those in attendance can earn 18 CE credits in just one weekend. “It is a painless way to get almost a full year of required CE credits, enjoy breakfast and lunch, and meet colleagues who share your profession and interests.”

The well-rounded curriculum being presented equips dental professionals with the tools to enhance clinical skills, leverage new technologies, protect their practices, and communicate more effectively, ensuring success in a rapidly evolving dental landscape, according to the conference planners.



Dr. Len Tau brings his marketing expertise to “**Raving Patients: Get Visible, Get Credible, Get More New Patients!**” His talk will focus on on-line reviews and digital reputation management to drive search rankings and patient acquisition.



Michael P. Webb from Legally Mine presents “**Safeguarding Wealth: Asset Protection and Tax Strategies,**” outlining methods to protect assets, reduce liability and improve tax efficiency through smart practice structuring.



Michele Gabriel guides dental professionals through “**Transition Planning for Dental Practice Success,**” helping attendees understand the timing, valuation and strategic considerations necessary for successful ownership transitions.



Deanna Mirro Altmann, R.N.C., with legal and clinical expertise, co-presents “**Managing Patient Expectations,**” focusing on communication strategies and documentation practices to reduce liability and malpractice claims.



Dr. Gangwani, a recognized oral surgeon and educator, delivers “**Management of Odontogenic Infections of the Head and Neck.**” She outlines proper diagnosis, antibiotic use, and treatment of complications in complex head and neck infections.

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Another Installment in the QCDS Series Providing A Guide to Retirement Planning

By Peter Klein, CFA®, CRPS®, CAP®, CSRIC®
Editor's Note: The following article is part of a QCDS Bulletin installment series on retirement planning by financial advisor Peter Klein, a principal of Aline Wealth.

Delay Collecting Social Security, If Possible

With the very real possibility that you could collect Social Security for more than 30 years, it is important to make an informed decision about when to begin collecting it, even if you don't plan on using it as a major source of retirement income.

While you can begin receiving Social Security as early as age 62, full retirement age (FRA) varies from age 65 to 67, depending on your birth year. If you begin to collect before FRA, your monthly benefits will be permanently reduced. Conversely, if you start after FRA, your monthly benefits will be increased. Therefore, you may want to consider waiting until as long as age 70 to begin collecting in order to maximize your monthly benefit.

into your retirement plan. This includes: Understanding the different parts of Medicare.

- Part A (Hospital Insurance)**
- Free for people age 65 and older who paid payroll tax for 40+ quarters (about 10 years)
 - Helps cover in-patient hospital care, skilled nursing facility care, hospice care and home health care
 - Part B (Medical Insurance)
 - Anyone eligible for Part A is eligible to enroll in Part B and pay a monthly premium
 - Helps cover physician services, outpatient care, home health care, therapy services, ambulance services, preventive services and durable medical equipment
 - Part C (Medicare Advantage)
 - The private health insurance alternative to "Original Medicare" (i.e., Parts A and B), which might also include Part D coverage
 - If enrolling in Medicare Advantage, must still enroll in Parts A and B and pay the Part B premium; also need to sign up

•Once total drug costs (between what you and the plan have spent) reach \$2,000 (2025 limit), you enter catastrophic coverage and no longer have to pay anything for covered prescriptions for the rest of the year

Factoring In Out-of-Pocket Expenses

Part of knowing if you have saved enough for retirement is being able to estimate your health care expenses, which are inherently uncertain. However, there are variables to consider based on research:

- In 2022, health spending was twice as large among Medicare households than non-Medicare households. Medicare households spent an average of \$7,000 on health care, accounting for 13.6 percent of their total household spending (\$51,800), while non-Medicare households spent \$4,900 on their health care, accounting for 6.5 percent of their total household spending (\$74,100). About 80 percent of individuals ages 65+ will require some LTC, with nearly 20 percent requiring high-intensity care for more than three years.

- The average retired couple at age 65 can expect to spend around \$315,000 on health care expenses in retirement.
- The annual cost of a semi-private room in a nursing home is \$110,360 and \$123,913 for a private room in 2025.
- Nursing homes and long-term care drive high total out-of-pocket expenses so aging adults should consider long-term care insurance. However, long-term care insurance premiums rise as you get older.

Taking advantage of triple-tax HSA savings

You can use a health savings account (HSA) not only to cover healthcare costs while you work but also as a tax-efficient savings vehicle to cover costs during your retirement. HSAs offer triple-tax savings: You contribute pre-tax dollars, pay no taxes on earnings, and pay no taxes when you make withdrawals for qualified medical expenses. Unlike flexible spending accounts

(FSAs), you can keep money you don't use in your HSA account from year to year. You can also invest it, and after age 65, use the money to pay for non-medical expenses without incurring penalties. However, if not used for qualified medical expenses, withdrawals are taxed at ordinary income rates, just as they would be from traditional IRAs or 401(k)s.

Review Your Plan with Your Advisor at Least Once a Year

As you encounter both expected and unexpected life changes, your retirement plan doesn't necessarily update automatically to reflect those changes. For this reason, meeting with your financial advisor at least once annually, not only for a regular update on your investments but also to perform a more holistic review of your financial plan, can help you avoid planning mistakes and uncover new opportunities to accomplish more with your savings.

Evaluate Wealth Transfer and Asset Protection Strategies

Depending on the size and complexity of your assets—and what you'd like to accomplish with—you may want to consider advanced estate and tax planning strategies well in advance of your retirement. This is particularly the case now, given the impending December 31 expiration date of provisions from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, including the roughly doubling of estate tax exemptions.

Examples of strategies to consider with your advisors include:

- Grantor retained annuity trusts
- Charitable remainder trusts and/or donor-advised funds
- Irrevocable life insurance trusts
- Qualified personal residence trusts
- Intrafamily loans

Talk to Your Financial Advisor

No two retirement plans should look the same. Assets, life journeys and goals

are simply too unique to fit into a boilerplate framework. That is why working with a financial advisor who knows and appreciates you—while also benefiting from the experience of helping hundreds of other individuals and families—can pay dividends in retirement and beyond.

Peter Klein is a financial advisor with ALINE Wealth, a group of investment professionals registered with Hightower Securities, LLC, member FINRA and SIPC, and with Hightower Advisors, LLC, a registered investment advisor with the SEC. Securities are offered through Hightower Securities, LLC; advisory services are offered through Hightower Advisors, LLC. He can be reached at aline@alinewealth.com or their website, alinewealth.com.

SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS LIMIT as of 2025

Prior to FRA, you can earn income of up to \$23,400 before benefits are reduced.
In the year of FRA, you can earn up to \$62,160 before benefits are reduced.
After FRA, you are not subject to any earnings limit

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You are no longer working and find it difficult to cover annual expenses.	You are still working and make enough to impact the taxability of your benefits.
You are in poor health and do not expect the surviving member of the household to make it to average life expectancy.	You are in good health and expect to exceed average life expectancy.
You are the lower-earning spouse, and your higher-earning spouse can wait to file for a higher benefit.	You are the higher-earning spouse and want to be sure your surviving spouse receives the highest possible benefit.

Prepare for Medicare and Additional Health Care Expenses

Well before you reach age 65, the age of eligibility to enroll in Medicare, you should begin to educate yourself on your options so that you can more accurately factor health care cost estimates

and pay for the chosen Medicare Advantage plan Part D (Prescription Drug Coverage)

- Run by private insurance companies that follow rules set by Medicare
- Helps cover the cost of prescription drugs

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From the President

Continued from page 5
the Park, Corona. This event will showcase technology, continuing education, and professional networking, all set against the rich cultural backdrop of Queens. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or early in your career, this will be an opportunity not to be missed; an opportunity to engage with the best our profession has to offer.

I encourage you to take full advantage of these offerings, not to just fulfill licensure requirements, but to grow as clinicians and colleagues. The exchange of knowledge is one of the most powerful ways we can elevate the standard of care we provide.

As always, I welcome your ideas, input and involvement. The strength of our society lies in its members. Let's continue building a vibrant, inclusive and forward-looking community that supports every stage of the dental journey.

Thank you for your continued trust and Partnership. I look forward to serving alongside you for the remainder of this term and beyond.

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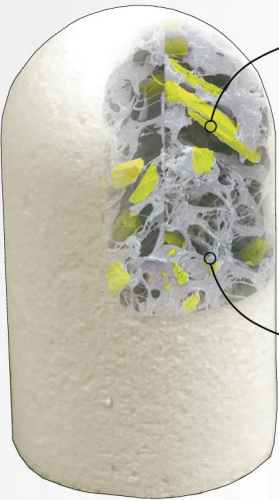
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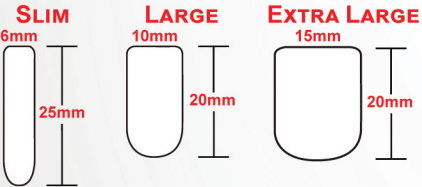
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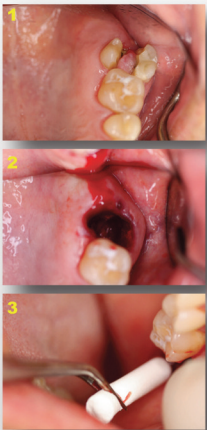
1. Spivak, J Biomed. Mater Research, 1990; 2. Ricci, J Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, 1992; 3. Valen, J Oral Implantology, 2002.

Clinical Case Example
Clinical images courtesy of German Murias DDS, ABO/ID

Tooth #15, set to be extracted.

Remove the entire pathologic periodontal ligament and flush socket twice. Use #6 carbide bur, make holes through the Lamina Dura to trabecular bone and establish Regional Acceleratory Phenomenon.

Insert Large or Slim sized OsteoGen® Bone Grafting Plugs and allow blood to absorb.



Two Slim OsteoGen® Plugs are in place. Suture over top of socket to contain Plug. Do not suture through Plug. No membrane is required.

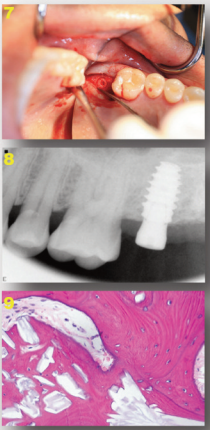
OsteoGen® is a low density bone graft and the OsteoGen® Plugs will show radiolucent on the day of placement.

As the OsteoGen® crystals are resorbed and replaced by host bone, the site will become radiopaque.



The collagen promotes keratinized soft tissue coverage while the OsteoGen® crystals resorb to form solid bone. In this image, a core sample was retrieved.

Implant is placed. Note the histology showing mature osteocytes in lamellar bone formation. Some of the larger OsteoGen® crystals and clusters are slowly resorbing. Bioactivity is demonstrated by the high bone to crystal contact, absent of any fibrous tissue encapsulation.



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