

New Orleans Dental Association News

Volume 62 | Number 8

Article 1

2024

NODA News October 2024

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Recommended Citation

(2024) "NODA News October 2024," *New Orleans Dental Association News*: Vol. 62: No. 8, Article 1.
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NODA News

MISSION STATEMENT

To maintain a cohesive organization that serves its membership by promoting the art, science and professionalism of dentistry, and by communicating the value of optimal oral health to the community.

VOL. 62 OCTOBER '24 NO. 08

President's Message . . . by Linda T. Cao, D.D.S. – NODA President

Dear NODA members,



We had a wonderful turnout for our September 18th General Membership meeting with Dr. Peter Park, OMFS, presenting on Oral cancer diagnosis! We welcomed over seventy-five guests along with our esteemed Dean John Gallo and Vice Chancellor Dr. Janet Southerland from the LSU School

of Dentistry and LSU School of Health Science. Our meeting was well received and we look forward to welcoming more suggestions on topics our members like to hear about! Please let us know if there are any topics you would like us to explore and bring up at our future general membership meeting! ADA's annual meeting, SmileCon® is around the corner being held on October 17-19. Our local committee Chair, Dr. Glenn Dubroc, Jr., is open for volunteers to help welcome dentists across the nation to our city and host them. We hope to see our local dental community out to show support for our organization. Be on the lookout for emails and mailers for our New Orleans Dental Conference / Louisiana Dental Association's Annual Session. Open registration for our conference will begin on December 1, 2024. Please follow our social media on Facebook for updates as well and share with your dental colleagues. The NODC/LDA Annual Session

will be held on April 10-11, 2025 at the Astor Crowne Plaza French Quarter hotel during French Quarter Festival (April 10-13). Our next General Membership meeting with dinner and CE will be held on December 18, 2024. It will be at Jaeger's Seafood & Oyster House located at 901 South Clearview Parkway in Jefferson, LA and it will be a one (1) hour CE. The topic of discussion will be on Cybersecurity. This will be of great interest to all of us as we are aware of the potential implications of security breach on our practices. I look forward to seeing you all at the SmileCon®. Please come see us at our local booth for information on the 2025 NODC/LDA Annual Session located in the ADA exhibit hall. We welcome your feedback on topics for our meetings and what we as an organization can do for you! Thank you for your continually support of our local component!



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Oral Manifestations of the Dengue Virus

Submitted by: Griffin S. Eisele, pre dental student at Wofford College

Roman E. Brown, BS, 2023 Xavier University graduate in Biological Sciences



Roman E. Brown

It is common for mosquito populations to spike in the United States following summer months bearing intense heat.

Infected female mosquitoes of the *Aedes* genus are vectors, spreading the Dengue virus, which has five serotypes: DENV 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Dengue is the most common mosquito-borne disease, [1] infecting up to 400 million individuals annually worldwide[2].

In recent years, the virus has posed a significant risk to the human population[3]. Dengue Fever, the disease caused by the DENV (1-5) virus, threatens those living in arid environments where the virus is endemic. Of those infected, 100 million become ill with Dengue yearly[4]. If the rate of DENV (1-5) infection continues to increase, it may be classified by the World Health Organization as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, just as the Zika virus, another Flaviviridae virus similar to Dengue, was in 2016[5].

Although Dengue Fever affects many individuals, it remains an esoteric concern. Dengue vaccines are relatively novel, and many individuals in high-risk areas have not been protected from the sickness and symptoms associated with the disease[6]. Because of this, nearly half the world's population may be at risk and susceptible to contracting Dengue[2].

As the DENV virus spreads



Griffin S. Eisele

to previously Dengue-free areas of the United States, it is increasingly necessary for everyone, patients and doctors alike, to be cognizant of the symptoms of the disease and the dangers Dengue poses. In a recent Health Advisory from the Louisiana Department of Health, between the beginning of 2024 and late June of that same year, 9 million cases of Dengue have been reported across the country—more than twice the amount reported in the entirety of 2023[7]. This trend could continue to increase, as the disease is more likely to be seen in epidemic proportions during the post-monsoon period, from August to November, when the *Aedes* mosquitoes are most prevalent[8].

The Dengue disease caused by DENV has a variety of adverse health effects associated with it including: nausea, aches and pains, rashes, fever, and leukopenia. A more severe form of Dengue Fever, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF), results in severe and often fatal amounts of blood loss[9]. DHF occurs when the virus attacks the endothelial cells, weakening the walls of blood vessels. Coupled with thrombocytopenia, DHF can cause disastrous complications when performing surgery on an infected patient, such as uncontrollable bleeding[10].

Dengue presents many symptoms localized orally, especially during the early stages

of the disease. In a study of 200 subjects, 57% displayed at least one type of mucosal or cutaneous manifestation, the most common being a coated tongue followed closely by labial encrustation[11]. Oral symptoms presented by patients can go unrecognized or may be misidentified. It is critical for healthcare professionals, especially dentists, to identify the symptoms of Dengue for the safety of their patients and community[12]. It becomes even more challenging to treat a victim the later a diagnosis is recognized and assigned. Therefore, dental clinicians must be mindful of the common symptoms of the disease, most notably the oral manifestations of Dengue Fever, to provide an early and proper diagnosis[13].

Dental professionals who notice signs and symptoms associated with Dengue should be cautious about performing surgical procedures due to the chance of extreme blood loss. If surgery is necessary, special caution should be exercised to minimize bleeding[14]. Profuse bleeding may be mistaken purely as a hemorrhagic disorder, allowing the root cause of the problem to go unnoticed. This can lead to the worsening of the patient's condition[15]. Those infected with Dengue must avoid taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (NSAIDs) or any drugs that prevent platelets from forming clots, as these can worsen the hemorrhagic symptoms of Dengue, possibly resulting in fatal internal bleeding[16].

Patients with Dengue need
(Continued on page 4)

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Oral Manifestations of the Dengue Virus . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

to maintain the highest level of oral care possible. Plaque can cause inflammation and exacerbate acute gingival bleeding. Patients should be advised to use a soft-bristled toothbrush or oral foam swab to help mitigate bleeding from the gums[17]. If a patient recently exposed to a Dengue-endemic area within the last 14

days displays signs of the disease, including intense fever, persistent vomiting, or severe abdominal pain, as well as acute gingival bleeding or oral lesions[18], the individual should seek immediate care. Patients should delay non-essential medical procedures, to prevent severe blood loss during or after an operation[19]. With

early recognition and treatment, mortality significantly decreases. Identifying the oral symptoms of Dengue and advising the patient to receive proper treatment following a thorough clinical evaluation can be a lifesaving measure offered by the attending dental professional[20].

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WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, gained an elective or appointive office, written an article, delivered a paper, or rendered unusual public service, please let us know! info@nodental.org

New Orleans Dental Conference and LDA Annual Session

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September General Membership Meeting – *The Ridgeway of Old Metairie*

Photos courtesy of NODA Staff



Full house listening to Dr. Peter Park lecture on “Oral Oncology.”



Sponsor representative Joey Mollere @ Zimvie.



New member Dr. Oanh Le, NODA President-Elect Dr. Gregory Guerra, new member Dr. Christiana White.



Dr. Linda Cao, Dr. Brant Schmidt (NODE gift card winner).



Sponsor representative Patrick McKenna @ Hancock Whitney, Dr. Phoebe Fortenberry (NODE gift card winner).



Dr. David DeGenova (NODE gift card winner), Dr. Linda Cao.

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September General Membership Meeting – *The Ridgeway of Old Metairie*

Photos courtesy of NODA Staff

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NODA President Dr. Linda Cao, speaker Dr. Peter Park lecturing on “Oral Oncology.”



NODA President-Elect Dr. Gregory Guerra, Zimvie representative Joey Mollere.



Dr. Peter Park lecturing on “Oral Oncology.”

Nominating Committee Announcement

by Gregory Guerra, D.D.S. – 2024 NODA Nominating Committee Chair

The 2024 Nominating Committee has been formed. The Nominating Committee members are:

Dr. Gregory Guerra (President-Elect), Dr. Maria Burmaster (1st Vice President), Dr. Mark Chaney,

Dr. Vincent DiLeo, Jr. and Dr. Byron Ganuchau.

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Dentists attend LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation Board Meeting

Photos courtesy of Dr. Kristi Soileau



The Foundation provides support and academic fundraising to the six professional schools & eight Centers of Excellence that make up LSU Health New Orleans.

LSUHSC Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dr. Janet Sutherland, LSUHSC School of Dentistry Dean Dr. John Gallo, and New Orleans dentists Drs. Linda Cao, Brad Gottsegen, and Kristi Soileau attend the August LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation Board Meeting Downtown.

Seeking Nominations for NODA Honor Dentist

by David J. Hildebrandt, D.D.S. – NODA Honors & Awards Committee Chairman

The New Orleans Dental Association Honor Dentist award is presented annually “in recognition of outstanding contributions and exemplary conduct in the profession of dentistry.” You are encouraged to submit nominations of a member or members that you feel are deserving of NODA’s most prestigious honor. The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, November 20, 2024.

Your nomination should list some of the nominee’s professional and personal accomplishments and include a brief explanation why you believe he or she is deserving of the Honor Dentist award. Mail your nominations to the attention of Dr. David Hildebrandt, Honors & Awards Committee Chairman, c/o New Orleans Dental Association, 2121 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 153,

Metairie, LA 70001. You may also fax your nomination to 504/838-6909 or e-mail it to andrew@nodental.org. No nominations can be accepted after November 20, 2024. The recipient will be announced at the January 2025 General Membership meeting and in the February 2025 edition of NODA News.

NODA News is published every month with the exception of June and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Ads and news should be sent to: info@nodental.org

NODA News is a publication of the New Orleans Dental Assn., 2121 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 153, Metairie, LA 70001. Phone (504) 834-6449



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ENDO PRACTICE – NEW ORLEANS AREA (#9497)

Gross collections: \$1,266,252; 4 days a week, 3 operatories, 3,000 sq. ft. This exceptionally well-located and profitable jewel of a practice is now available for your purchase! The seller is willing to stay and assist with the practice transition if the buyer prefers. CBCT, X-NAV, Biolase Lasers, central Nitrous, and 3 treatment rooms fully equipped with Global Microscopes, intra-oral cameras, ultrasonics, and Endo handpieces provide unique treatment possibilities. Over 3,000 square feet allows for future expansion of up to 5 additional treatment rooms. If your vision is to own a quality focused, service-oriented practice where you can grow and thrive, inquire with Dr. Earl Douglas at 770/664-1982 or earl@adssouth.com.

GENERAL PRACTICE – WESTERN NEW ORLEANS AREA (#9498)

Gross Collections \$701,693, 3.5 days a week, 3 operatories, 1,900 sq. ft. This well-established thirty year plus standing practice is located west of New Orleans within easy driving distance of New Orleans. The practice is well-staffed and uses Dentrix management software. There were over 2,300 patients seen in the past eighteen months and the practice sees 16 new patients per month. The dentist is booked a week and a half in advance. The 1,900 sq ft office is available for purchase. Hygienists are responsible for 30% of practice income as many services are referred out. 2023 gross was \$674,000 and projected net income after payments is over \$200,000 from a purchaser production level of just \$480,000. That's 43% after all expenses and loan payments. If you don't mind a slower, easier, less stressful way of life, with a low overhead, be sure to look this opportunity over. For more information, contact Dr. Earl Douglas at earl@adssouth.com or 770/664-1982.

GENERAL PRACTICE – NEW ORLEANS (#9526)

Gross Collections - \$829,126, 6 equipped operatories, 4,000 sq. ft. This well-established, but modern eleven year plus standing practice is located in western New Orleans. The practice is well-staffed and uses Dentrix management software. There were over 2,500 patients seen in the past eighteen months and the practice sees 25 new patients per month. The dentist is booked two and a half weeks in advance. The 4,000 sq ft office with six equipped ops and four more plumbed but unequipped ops is available for purchase. This is an ideal base for merging more practices into this spacious office. Hygienists are responsible for 23% of practice income as many services are referred out. Projected 2024 gross

is \$800,000. For more information, contact Dr. Earl Douglas at 770/664-1982 or earl@adssouth.com.

That's 43% after all expenses and loan payments. If you don't mind a slower, easier, less stressful way of life, with a low overhead, be sure to look this opportunity over. For more information, contact Dr. Earl Douglas at earl@adssouth.com or 770/664-1982.

GENERAL DENTISTS NEEDED

Whether you are a recent dental school graduate or an established practitioner interested in pursuing new opportunities, Louisiana Dental Center offers dentists the ability to perform in an autonomous and collegial atmosphere without the burden of managing a practice. With numerous modern facilities scattered across South Louisiana, our practice is in a unique position to offer flexible and convenient scheduling options. If you're interested in joining our team of professionals, please contact Terry Ernst at 985/893-2240 or ternst@LaDentalCenter.com.

SATURDAY GENERAL DENTISTS

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