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American Dental Association

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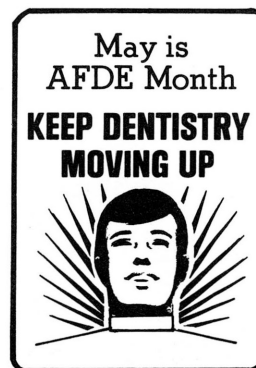
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NEWS letter

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ADA CHARGES HOSPITAL ACCREDITATION BULLETIN DEMEANS PROFESSION

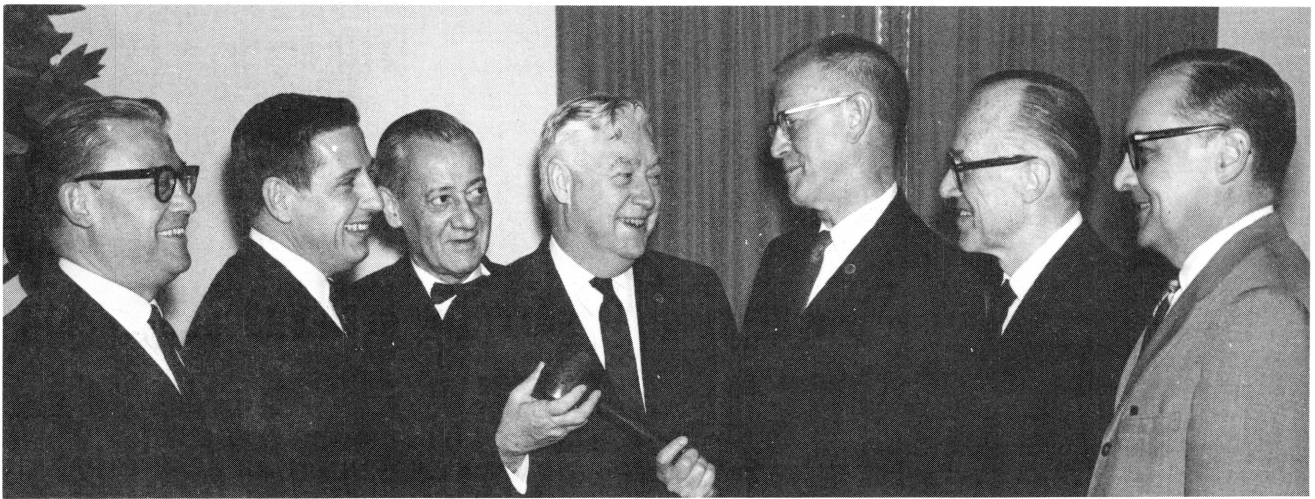
The ADA has charged that a recent publication of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals demeans the dental profession, "particularly the trained and highly competent dentist on the hospital oral surgery staff." The charge stems from a recently published JCAH bulletin which raises the question of a dentist's competency to perform surgery in a hospital without having a physician present to supervise the administration of general anesthetics and surgical procedures generally. "This not only is unnecessary, it would be impractical, wasteful of precious health manpower and costly," said Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, ADA secretary.

Dr. Hillenbrand said the dentist who performs oral surgery in a hospital should receive from that hospital the same privileges to practice in his field of competence as any other surgical specialist. He explained that this insistence upon the availability of appropriate hospital privileges for skilled oral surgeons is not a matter of dentistry's self-interest. "The patient who needs surgery for a serious oral condition should be attended by a surgeon equipped to do the best job," he said. "Where a patient has a complicated oral problem needing surgery, it is the specially trained dentist, the oral surgeon, who is called upon to do that surgery. It is in the patient's best interest that the oral surgeon be free to exercise his professional judgment and apply his skills in the same manner as a surgeon with an M.D. degree," said Dr. Hillenbrand.

The ADA chief claimed the reference in the JCAH bulletin to highly skilled oral surgeons as "limited practitioners" was degrading, to say the least. Dr. Hillenbrand called on the JCAH to publish as soon as possible a statement assuring the hospitals of this nation that oral surgeons on their staffs are fully competent to perform surgery involving oral tissues and structures and are fully capable of supervising the administration of anesthetic agents for their patients. "To do less is a disservice not only to dentistry but to those suffering from serious oral conditions that only the skilled oral surgeon can correct."

New Jersey Hearing On Fluoridation May 13

The public health council of the New Jersey State Department of Health will hold a hearing May 13 on a proposed amendment to the State Sanitary Code which would require adjustment of the fluoride content of public water supplies. If made effective, the new regulation would require public water supplies to maintain a fluoride level of between 0.8 ppm to 1.5 ppm. In addition, the New Jersey legislature will consider two bills on fluoridation; one proposes mandatory state-wide fluoridation, the other proposes free fluoride tablets for school children.



The American Association of Dental Schools installed new officers at its 45th annual session in San Francisco last month. Pictured from left are: Dr. Harry Blechman of New York City, dean of New York University dental school, member of Executive Council; Dr. Charles A. McCallum of Birmingham, Ala., dean of the University of Alabama dental school, president-elect; Dr. Marion W. McCrea of Philadelphia, of Temple University dental school, editor; Dr. Hamilton B.G. Robinson of Kansas City, acting chancellor of the University of Missouri at Kansas City dental school, outgoing president; Dr. John V. Olson of Houston, Tex., dean of the University of Texas dental school, president; Dr. William R. Mann of Ann Arbor, Mich., dean of the University of Michigan dental school, vice-president, and Ben F. Miller of Chicago, secretary-treasurer.

AADS Accepts Assistant, Laboratory Programs

The American Association of Dental Schools House of Delegates has amended the AADS bylaws to accept institutions with accredited dental assisting and dental laboratory technology programs for affiliate membership. This action was taken at the AADS 45th annual session in San Francisco, March 24-27. Previously, AADS limited its affiliate membership category for auxiliary programs to dental hygiene education. During the AADS session, Dr. Joseph F. Volker, vice-president for Birmingham affairs of the University of Alabama, received an honorary membership for his "outstanding contributions to the advancement of the art and science of dentistry."

The AADS House of Delegates also:

--Expressed concern about recent policies related to military service deferment of graduate students and urged the Selective Service System to receive such policies to avert severe shortages in basic science faculty manpower for the education of dental and other health professional students;

--Urged that facilities for dental education, research and practice

in hospitals be expanded to provide opportunity for increased utilization of hospital facilities for formal instruction at the undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate and continuing educational levels;

--Approved the principles expressed in the "Statement on Dental and Dental Hygiene Licensure" as revised by the Reference Committee on Dental Education and Hospitals of the ADA House of Delegates in 1967;

--Urged member institutions to consider the need to conduct experimental studies on the extended utilization and expansion of dental hygienist services,

--Approved the tooth numbering and x-ray mounting system established by the ADA Council on Dental Education and urged all dental schools to teach this system.

Albuquerque Council Fluoridation Vote

The Albuquerque, N.M., city council on April 18 unanimously approved a fluoridation ordinance calling for the fluoride level of the municipal water supply to be raised from 0.65 ppm to 1.0 ppm. Some 260,000 persons will be served by the fluoridated water when it is implemented in approximately nine months.

Proposed Rule Making

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Food and Drug Administration

[21 CFR Parts 3, 131]

OVER-THE-COUNTER DENTURE RELINERS, REPAIR KITS, PADS, AND CUSHIONS

Proposed Statement of Policy and Warning Statement

Under the authority vested in the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (secs. 502 (a), (f), (j), 701(a); 52 Stat. 1050, 1051, 1055; 21 U.S.C. 352 (a), (f), (j), 371(a)) and delegated by him to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs (21 CFR 2.120), it is proposed that Parts 3 and 131 be amended:

1. By adding to Part 3 a new statement of policy, as follows:

§ 3.----- Labeling of articles intended for lay use in the repairing and/or refitting of dentures.

(a) The American Dental Association and leading dental authorities have advised the Food and Drug Administration of their concern regarding the safety of denture reliners, repair kits, pads, cushions, and other articles marketed and labeled for lay use in the repairing, refitting or cushioning of ill-fitting, broken, or irritating dentures. It is the opinion of dental authorities and the Food and Drug Administration that to properly repair and properly refit dentures a person must have professional knowledge and specialized technical skill. Laymen cannot be expected to maintain the original vertical dimension of occlusion and the centric relation essential in the proper repairing or refitting of dentures. The continued wearing of improperly repaired or refitted dentures causes acceleration of bone resorption, soft tissue hyperplasia, and possibly other irreparable damage to the oral cavity. Such articles designed for lay use should be limited to emergency situations pending the services of a licensed dentist.

(b) The Food and Drug Administration therefore regards such articles as unsafe and misbranded under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, unless the labeling:

(1) Limits directions for use to temporary and emergency repairing or refitting pending unavoidable delay in obtaining professional reconstruction of the denture;

(2) Contains in a conspicuous manner the words "temporary and emergency" preceding and modifying each indication for use statement; and

(3) Includes a conspicuous warning statement to the effect "*Warning—For*

emergency use only. Prolonged use of home-repaired or refitted dentures may cause rapid bone loss, chronic irritation, ulcerations, and tumors. See your dentist promptly."

2. By alphabetically inserting in §§ 131.15 and 131.25 new warning statements, as follows:

§ 131.15 Drugs for human use; recommended warning and caution statements.

* * * * *

DENTURE RELINERS, REPAIR KITS, PADS, AND CUSHIONS.

Warning—For emergency use only. Prolonged use of home-repaired or refitted dentures may cause rapid bone loss, chronic irritation, ulcerations, and tumors. See your dentist promptly.

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§ 131.25 Devices; recommended warning and caution statements.

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DENTURE RELINERS, REPAIR KITS, PADS, AND CUSHIONS.

Warning—For emergency use only. Prolonged use of home-repaired or refitted dentures may cause rapid bone loss, chronic irritation, ulcerations, and tumors. See your dentist promptly.

* * * * *

Any interested person may, within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER, file with the Hearing Clerk, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Room 5440, 330 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, D.C. 20201, written comments, preferably in quintuplicate, on this proposal. Comments may be accompanied by a memorandum or brief in support thereof.

Dated: March 27, 1968.

WINTON B. RANKIN,
Deputy Commissioner
of Food and Drugs.

[F.R. Doc. 68-4061; Filed, Apr. 3, 1968; 8:50 a.m.]

ASSOCIATION TO ESTABLISH PERIODONTAL PATHOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER

The ADA will establish a Periodontal Pathology Research Center through a three-year grant from the Clark Gum Division of Philip Morris Inc., ADA Sec. Harold Hillenbrand has announced. Dr. Helmut R. Wakeham, vice-president of Corporate Research and Development for Philip Morris, presented Dr. Hillenbrand with a check for \$34,325 for first-year expenses. The company will also provide approximately \$20,000 annually for the facility's second and third year of operation. "Clark Gum and Philip Morris are pleased to join with the ADA in developing this Research Center. Such a facility has long been needed, and it is our hope that formation of the Center will result in an acceleration of the pace of periodontal research," Dr. Wakeham said. "The American Dental Association is pleased that Clark Gum is not only interested but also desires to assist the profession in its efforts to understand and eventually combat periodontal disease," Dr. Hillenbrand responded. He explained that the Association began planning for the establishment of the Center in 1964 upon recommendation of the American Academy of Periodontology. The Academy will also support the Center with a \$10,000 grant, he added. The facility's major function will be the accumulation, study and dissemination of clinical and laboratory research information on periodontal disease. Supervisory personnel and staff consultants for the facility will be provided by the Association and the American Academy of Periodontology. Dr. Richard W. Tiecke, director of scientific activities of the ADA Research Facility, will direct the Center which will be located in the ADA Headquarters Building. He will be assisted by a committee from the American Academy of Periodontology, headed by Dr. Irving Glickman, head of the department of periodontics, Tufts University dental school.

ADA Grants \$5,000 To Radiation Council

The ADA has transmitted a check for \$5,000 to the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements for the further support of the Council's program. The ADA Board of Trustees authorized the increased support at its March 1968 session.



Dr. Helmut R. Wakeham, left, vice-president of Corporate Research and Development for Philip Morris Inc., gives ADA Sec. Dr. Harold Hillenbrand a check for \$34,325 for the first installment of a three-year grant to support a Periodontal Pathology Research Center at ADA Headquarters. The company will provide \$20,000 annually for the facility's second and third year of operation.

AFDE Month Opens May 1

The American Fund for Dental Education opens its annual AFDE Month drive on May 1, according to Dr. Gerald D. Timmons of Scottsdale, Ariz., now in his fourth year as AFDE Month national chairman. He said that individual letters will be mailed in May to each of the nation's dentists and to all members of the American Dental Hygienists' Association and the American Dental Assistants Association. Dr. Timmons said that the largest average contribution in a single state last year was \$15 from Maine dentists. The highest percentage of increase in total contributions from a single state was a 145 per cent increase shown by Nevada.

Dentists For Medico Program

Positions are still open for dentists in the June CARE-Medico mission to Santa Rose de Capon, Honduras. Dentists may serve one month or longer with Medico, providing dental care to the underprivileged. Additional information on the Honduras mission may be obtained from the ADA Council on International Relations, ADA Headquarters.

New officers of the International Association for Dental Research were installed at the group's annual session in San Francisco last month. Seated from left are Dr. John B. MacDonald of Vancouver, British Columbia, president, and Dr. Clifton O. Dummett of Los Angeles, president-elect. Standing are from left: Dr. Frank Orland of Chicago, editor; Dr. Arthur R. Frechette of Chicago, secretary-treasurer; Dr. Gordon H. Rovelstad of Great Lakes, Ill., vice-president, and Dr. Harvey W. Lyon, assistant secretary-treasurer.



FDA Proposes Sharper Policy On Reliners

The Food and Drug Administration on April 4 proposed a new policy statement on the use of denture reliner kits. The FDA noted that the ADA and leading dental authorities had expressed concern about the safety of material labeled for lay use in the repairing, refitting or cushioning of ill-fitting, broken or irritating dentures. The FDA said it would regard such materials as unsafe and misbranded unless the denture reliners, repair kits, pads, and cushions are labeled "for emergency use only, prolonged use of home-repaired or refitted dentures may cause rapid bone loss, chronic irritation, ulcerations and tumors. See your dentist promptly."

Dr. John W. Stanford, secretary of the ADA Council on Dental Materials and Devices, welcomed the FDA action. He said that "an increasing number of prospective purchasers are being misled by such claims that self-administered relining and repair materials can permanently tighten ill-fitting dentures, that the materials are easy to use, and that they are harmless. The proposed rule is an appropriate warning to the patient regarding possible dangers of prolonged use of such items." The ADA Council on Dental Laboratory Relations, which has been concerned with the unregulated sale of home denture reliners, had been urging the FDA for

many years to adopt a strict policy either removing these products from the market or imposing strict labeling requirements. A copy of the FDA statement is carried in this issue of the News Letter.

Joseph Thiriot Named JCADL Head

Joseph P. Thiriot, formerly executive secretary of the Louisiana Dental Association, will become director-secretary of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Dental Laboratories on May 1, it was announced by Dr. Alvin H. Grunewald, JCADL chairman. Mr. Thiriot succeeds Mrs. Helen Pugh Bolton who resigned. He has served the Louisiana society since 1957. He was graduated from Northwestern University School of Commerce in 1947.

Dental School Enrollments At Record

Dental school enrollments for 1967-68 reached a record high of 14,955, according to the ADA Division of Educational Measurements. In addition, the largest freshman class in history -- 4,200 -- entered school in the fall of 1967. This was an increase of 258 over the 1966 entering class. Only eleven per cent of the 1967 freshmen had the minimum of two years pre-dental study, while some 56 per cent had baccalaureate degrees.