NATIONAL PROSTHODONTICS AWARENESS WEEK

April 6-12, 2014

Submitted Activities and Photos
**NPAW 2014- the largest celebration so far!**

This has been such a great year for National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW) that it makes a proud and fun experience to write this message! The NPAW has historically been very successful in the academic setting (largely due to the contributions of Prosthodontics Residency Programs) but lacked the same fervor amongst private practitioners. As such, we made a decision for this year’s NPAW, to channelize all resources to energize our private practice members! As such, we offered numerous exclusive tips and ideas for private practitioners to implement as part of NPAW. These ideas were disseminated through weekly emails as well as incorporated separately in the NPAW tool kit. The Wednesday morning weekly emails preceding NPAW helped to remind members and maintain a momentum of NPAW energy such that, we saw the maximum amount of media engagement by members this year for NPAW celebrations! As you can imagine, garnering media interest in dentistry is not easy compared to sports, politics or entertainment. However, we are fortunate that Prosthodontists and Prosthodontics lend themselves to major oral health transformations and life changing treatments, which can make it sensational enough to gather media’s attention!

While the purpose of NPAW is not only to gather media’s attention, but also to generate a greater level of recognition of Prosthodontics and Prosthodontists by dental students (read future dentists), as well as our fellow medical and dental colleagues. Like the public, most seasoned dentists (generalists and specialists) are not aware of the scope of modern Prosthodontics and what Prosthodontists do! Therefore, it is important to continue to raise awareness of Prosthodontics as a year round event and use NPAW simply as a week, where we can all synchronize our most exciting activities to celebrate prosthodontics together, nationally!

I would like to thank all ACP members for having dedicated your time and effort in raising the awareness of Prosthodontics once again this year and look forward to an even more successful NPAW 2015!

Thank you!

Avi Bidra, NPAW, National Chair

www.gotoapro.org/npaw
ACP Activities Summary:
2014 National Prosthodontics Awareness Week

Pro Bono Care/Oral Health and/or Cancer Screenings

- **New Jersey**: Dr. Michael Cortese donated 100% of the fees he collected from individuals who had their teeth whitened to Smiles for Life, a charitable initiative devoted to promoting oral health among the world’s under-served children. Half of the money collected goes to a local children’s non-profit organization, while the other half is earmarked for children’s charities throughout the world.
- **Massachusetts**: Boston University had free consultations for new patients and free oral cancer screenings.
- **Maryland**: Members of the Maryland Section attended the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Club and aided oral surgeons and student doctors from the University of Maryland, in oral health cancer screenings on April 26 at “Maryland Day” at the University of Maryland College Park Campus. 63 oral health cancer screenings were done along with providing oral health care education and toothbrushes and floss goodie bags.
  - Dr. Youssef Obeid held an oral cancer screening at a local senior center. 23 patients were screened needing no referrals.
- **North Carolina**: The NC section had “Denture Week” at the UNC graduate prosthodontic clinic this year to celebrate NPAW. Sixteen patients without means to get new teeth and in need were provided comprehensive complete dentures by the residents and a NC member prosthodontists.
- **Iowa**: Pros residents made dentures for 5 homeless patients. This outreach serves as the removable competency exam for third year residents and mock removable competency exam for second year residents.
- **Louisiana**: The Oral Cancer Foundation hosted Louisiana’s first Oral Cancer Walk/Run for Awareness on Saturday April 12, 2014 at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge. A team of pre-dental, hygiene, and dental students along with prosthodontic faculty and residents from the LSU School of Dentistry, participated in the event by offering free oral cancer screenings to participants and attendees. As a fitting celebration of NPAW, this team was able to raise awareness to the importance of oral health with regard to overall health, and the essential role that prosthodontists play towards that end.
- **Ohio**: Drs. Valerie Cooper and Oscar Suarez-Sanchez made free dentures for ten patients with complex treatment needs. They also worked with patients through the FAIR foundation.

Press Coverage

- **Connecticut**: Dr Bidra was featured on the UConn home webpage as part of an article on NPAW and missing teeth.
- **Massachusetts**: Dr. Steven Spitz appeared in a USA Today article regarding digital dentistry.
- **New York**: Dr. Marshall Fagin and the University of Buffalo Dental School created a video and discussed the importance of prosthodontics.
  - Dr. Fagin appeared on WK8BW Morning Buffalo to discuss NPAW, prosthodontists and the organizations in the Buffalo area that provide pro bono dental care to members of the public in need. He issued a call to action for local dentists and their staff to go to
local clinics and volunteer. He discussed services available from the dental school and how important oral health is to overall health.

- Dr. Frank Tuminelli was featured in an article in Inside Dental Technology.
- **New Jersey:** NPAW at Rutgers Dental School comprised of the visual monitor displaying the NPAW logo with its dates and how to contact a Prosthodontist at the University. The monitor displayed a few cases of before and after treatment cases showing the work done by Prosthodontists.
- **Florida:** Dr. Todd Barsky was quoted on health.com regarding not going for cheap on complex dental procedures.
- **Maryland:** Dr. Youssef Obeid and his patient were featured in a health minute report regarding digital technology and dentures.
- **Pennsylvania:** Dr. Robert Bentz discussed NPAW and the work that prosthodontists do on Talk Philly Live (TV).
- **Michigan:** Dr. Carl Pogoncheff promoted NPAW on his blog.
- **Idaho:** The Idaho State Dental Assn placed a small article in their quarterly paper speaking about NPAW and what a prosthodontist is and their role in the dental team.
- **California:** Dr. Nadim Baba gave a presentation to 12 of his referrals (oral surgeons, periodontists, orthodontists and endodontists) showing them many clinical cases and how cases are handled from beginning to end.
  - Dr. David Pfeifer published an article in the Rossmoor News regarding NPAW, prosthodontists and dental hygienists. He also provided a complimentary examination and oral cancer screening.
  - Drs. Saj Jiraj and Mamaly Reshad published a series of press releases about HPV, sleep apnea, bulimia and NPAW.
  - Dr. Ann Wei contributed to an article about bacteria and toothbrushes for Grandparents.com.
  - Dr. Ronald Koslowski wrote an article about NPAW for his patient newsletter (200 hardcopy); and he posted an article to his facebook page.
- **Army:** Maj. Gen. M. Ted Wong released a PSA video for NPAW from the U.S. Army Medical Command.
  - Capt. Brian Slighly was interviewed for an article in the Beauregard Daily regarding digital dentistry; specifically CAD-CAM and its effectiveness in Army readiness for soldiers.
- **Canada:** Dr. Berge Wazirian wrote an article about tooth loss, prosthodontists and NPAW for the Westmount Examiner.

**Open Houses**

- **Connecticut:** UCONN prosthodontics residents held a 2-hour Lab Open House for dental students called “Learn a Trick” workshop. Residents showed dental students “tricks of the trade” of laboratory skills such as waxing techniques, fabrication of a surgical guide, beautifying casts, and festooning dentures. Students and residents alike had a great time at this event.
- **Massachusetts:** Tufts held an open house for DMD students and the faculty gave presentations about prosthodontics.
- **Pennsylvania:** Dr. Balshi and Pi Dental had an open house for prospective and current patients, referring doctors, staff, vendors and the community. There were tours, food/drink and the sharing of patient stories. Goodie bags and treatment gift cards were given away.
Dr. Bentz and his staff celebrated NPAW with a themed cake, donuts and flowers.

Professional Presentations

- **Connecticut:** During NPAW week each weekday during the lunch hours, residents distributed brochures on prosthodontics and demonstrated prosthetic treatment models in the busy UConn cafeteria. On Friday, residents spread awareness of Prosthodontics by participating in the largely attended UConn Health Center ‘Health Expo’ reaching out to the public as well as hospital staff.

- **New Jersey:** At Rutgers, Dr. DiPede gave a 10 minute Presentation Lecture on what is Prosthodontics and what Prosthodontists do, showing some of the prosthetic work. The lectures were given to each class from freshman to seniors.

- **New York:** During Postgraduate week at NYU the Chair, Dr. Jahangiri and program director Dr. Choi invited all dental students to Q&A sessions to find out about the specialty and how to become a prosthodontist. Residents showed their cases and pros honor students talked about being in the program run by Dr. Vahidi. During the PG Week all students were invited to the clinic to shadow and talk to the faculty and residents.

- **North Carolina:** Dr. Scruggs staff delivered donuts, marketing items and pros fact sheet to 40 referring practices.

- **Ohio:** The Department of Comprehensive Care at Case Western Reserve University, School of Dental Medicine (Department chair Dr. Lisa Lang) organized a lecture, followed by Q&A. Prosthodontists presented some complex clinical cases and the specialty was explained to the students. The event was very successful and they had great feedback and interest from the students.

- **Texas:** The Baylor prosthodontic program also co-hosted the Bullard Lectureship in Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry as part of National Prosthodontics Awareness Week. Dr. Dean Morton was the featured speaker. Table clinics were also presented by the residents.

- **Wisconsin:** Marquette University School of Dentistry, Postgraduate Program on Prosthodontics presented a 4 hour CE course to about 25 attendees. The program was entitled, “Teeth in a Day, and More than a Day”. Very positive responses by everyone involved.

- **Colorado:** Drs. Emily Batson and Todd Pickle gave a two-day course on restoring dental implants.
  - Dr. Batson discussed CAD/CAM advancements with the U.S. Army Ft. Carson AEGD residents.

- **Idaho:** Drs. Linda Ruppel and Lynn Gurney had the privilege of sponsoring dinner for the May 7, 2014 meeting of the High Desert Hygiene Study Club-part of the local Seattle Perio study club. Dr. Ruppel had the opportunity to speak to the study club and thank them for their important role in preparing and maintaining patients before, during and after their dental treatments. Dr. Ruppel also explained the role of a prosthodontist in a dental team and what treatments they provide.

- **Nevada:** The Nevada Section provided a free 2 CE course with the Las Vegas Dental Association for NPAW. Dr. Sue Hoffeef presented “Alternate Causes of pain and problems in the Cranium”

- **California:** The UCLA Prosthodontics Study Club organized a series of lectures during lunch periods April 7-10.
Lunch & Learns

- **Connecticut**: post-graduate residents collaborated with the pre-doctoral Prosthodontics Interest Group to sponsor a Lunch and Learn. Dr. Bidra gave a presentation on ‘Contemporary Prosthodontics and Prosthodontists’ that described “who we are,” “what we do,” and finished with a few clinical cases. Many dental students, years 1-4, attended the session, and stimulated great discussion between students, residents, and faculty.
- **Iowa**: Drs. Holloway, Boza, Garaicoa and Stanford delivered a presentation “What is Prosthodontics?” to all dental students, faculty and staff. Pizza was served.
- **Ohio**: Drs. Peregrina, Lloyd, Knoblach, Saponaro and Salata spoke and presented cases.
- **Oregon**: Dr. Lisa Spink spoke to 3rd and 4th year students about Prosthodontic residencies and what it’s like to be a prosthodontist in private practice at OHSU.

Proclamations

- **New York**: Dr. Marshall Fagin organized a gathering of regional, Erie County and leading dentists from the University at Buffalo Dental School and Mayor Byron Brown issued a proclamation recognizing NPAW.

Community Public Outreach

- **South Carolina**: Dr. Robert Holland discussed the latest cosmetic dentist techniques.
- **Kansas**: Dr. Edward Amet and his staff helped out a kindergarten class in Colorado and did a fun dental evaluation of Flat Stanley to raise awareness about the critical importance of a healthy mouth.
- **Ohio**: OSU Staff, faculty and residents handed out flyers and brochures to patients educating about dental implants and denture care.
- **Oregon**: Dr. Larry Over developed a dental preceptorship for his local Catholic High School to be offered at an annual live auction fundraiser for the school. The dental preceptorship is offered to a high school student who has an interest in dentistry. It involves five dentists: a general dentist, endodontist, pediatric dentist, oral and maxillofacial surgeon, and a prosthodontist. The student will visit each office for a day to observe how each dentist provides patient treatment. At the conclusion of the morning of the student observation with the doctor, the student will be taken out to lunch to encourage them to pursue a career in dentistry and potentially specialize, and to answer any questions the student may have. This activity offers an opportunity for a student to see very intimately what is involved in the actual treatment that specialists and general dentists provide. Hopefully this will have a positive influence on the student and have them pursue a career in dentistry and in the specialty of prosthodontics.
April 04, 2014

National Prosthodontics Awareness Week set for April 6-12

Dentists have free access to research from the Journal of Prosthodontics through April 16 as the American College of Prosthodontists urges observation April 6-12 of National Prosthodontics Awareness Week.

The free content includes evidence-based studies on bulimia; sleep apnea; implants; cement- versus screw-retained retention systems; peri-implant risk conditions; a retrospective study of 800 All-On-Four implants; a Japanese clinical report on a titanium allergy; and patient reports of cutting-edge prosthodontic research.

For more information about ACP and National Prosthodontics Awareness Week, including access to the complimentary select journal articles, visit GoToAPro.org/NPAW.

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UCLA National Prosthodontics Awareness Week

In honor of National Prosthodontics Awareness Week (NPAW), the UCLA Prosthodontics Study Club (UCLA PSC) organized a series of lectures by a number of well-renowned prosthodontists. A common misconception about the field of prosthodontics is that it is “all about dentures.” Recognizing this gross fallacy, the UCLA PSC aimed to use NPAW to provide the dental student population with lectures that elucidated the wide range of prosthodontics procedures, as well as highlight up-and-coming possibilities and advancements in the specialty.

The NPAW lecture series took place during lunch periods from April 4-7, drawing an audience of both dental students and faculty alike. The topics touched upon by the guest speakers drew the attention of students from all four dental classes. With topics ranging from general information of the specialty to advanced prosthodontics procedures and the future and direction of the profession, these lecturers shared their passions, excitement, and achievements in their work as prosthodontists. And while National Prosthodontics Awareness Week may take place only once a year, the UCLA Prosthodontics Study Club continues to do its best to educate, advance understanding, and promote interest in the field of prosthodontics. These are the lectures that took place during the UCLA National Prosthodontics Awareness Week:

**Mon 4/7** "Crowns and Bridges on Steroids" by Dr. Edmond Hewlett  
**Tues 4/8** "Nasoalveolar Molding for Cleft Lip/Palate" by Dr. Jeffrey Rodney  
**Wed 4/9** "Clinic Tips and Tricks" by Dr. Ryan Wallace  
**Thu 4/10** "Why Prosthodontics" by Dr. Min K. Chung
At UConn, we celebrated NPAW loud and clear by hosting a banner at the main entrance of the health center, for the entire week!
National Chair of NPAW, Dr Bidra engaged an audience of dental students on Contemporary Prosthodontics and Contemporary Prosthodontists
Prosthodontics Residents enjoyed hosting a booth at the UCONN Health Expo attended by numerous members of the community!
Third year resident Dr Touloumi demonstrating laboratory tips and tricks as part of the “Learn a Trick” workshop
Chief resident Dr Dibner demonstrating laboratory tips and tricks as part of the “Learn a Trick” workshop
UConn Prosthodontics Residents engaging dental students in the “Learn a Trick” workshop that was very popular among the students!
National Chair of NPAW, Dr Bidra was featured on the UConn home page as Part of an article highlighting NPAW and missing teeth.


April 7, 2014  By: Carolyn Pennington

It's not something to smile about, but it's estimated that 178 million Americans are missing at least one tooth. And according to the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP), 35 million are missing all of their teeth.

The ACP believes missing teeth need to be treated as a chronic medical condition like diabetes, high cholesterol or heart disease. Even a tooth in the back of the mouth that others can't see should be replaced promptly, or serious consequences can result.

"When you lose even a single tooth, it will result in bone loss, change the bite, cause food impaction and result in adjacent teeth moving towards the missing space," says Dr. Avinash Bidra, of the UConn School of Dental Medicine and National chair of NPAW (National Prosthodontics Awareness Week). "The longer one waits to get it replaced, the more challenging the clinical situation is, yet if you fix it fast the cycle stops."

Bidra adds that the chronic condition of missing teeth affects one's quality of life from eating nutritious foods to speaking clearly and maintaining a healthy self-image.
Dr. Ord- the chairman of the Department of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery University of Maryland instructed and led oral surgery residents and students in proper oral cancer screenings.

Max Emmerling, DDS ’15 president of the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Interest Society led doing screenings along with other student doctors and oral surgery residents Maryland day.

Se Jong Kim- first year resident, Ms. Barbara Andersson- administrator and MD. Section President Dr. Guadalupe Gracia attended the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Club and aided oral surgeons and student doctors in registering patients.

Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Interest Society student doctors who volunteered- Max Emmerling and Dr. Robert Ord in the front row leading the students. Dr. Se Jong Kim and Dr. Guadalupe Garcia helped with screenings/registration.
The NPAW week was coordinated with the Postgraduate week at NYU this year.

The NPAW week was promoted on all flat screen billboards and in the elevators throughout the week.

The Chair, Dr. Jahangiri, and the program director, Dr. Choi, invited all dental students to Q & A sessions.

Students had the opportunity to ask the program chair and director about our profession and what it means to be and to become a prosthodontist.

Residents from the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years were invited to provide a Q & A session (Drs. Sherman Farahani, Jeremy Kay, Ann Marie Pereira, and Paul Zhivago).

Topics discussed were how to get into a prosthodontic residency, how is the daily life of a resident, and what kind of patients are treated by a prosthodontist.

Presentations were held by the residents regarding cases and our profession.

Prosthodontic honor students also shared their experiences being in the honors program run by Dr. Vahidi.

Food and beverages were also provided for these events.

During the entire week all students were invited to the PG prosthodontic clinic to shadow cases and talk to the faculty and residents about what we are all about. The opportunity was given to the students to shadow residents during the treatment sessions. Students are welcome to attend our clinic.
- 5 year old male patient
- complete denture
- retain existing teeth
- reshape existing teeth as necessary
In what manner does a prosthodontist perform?

- A prosthodontist typically replaces missing teeth with prostheses
- Restorative and replacement of existing
- Teeth must fit for any reason
- Full mouth reconstruction
- Loss of vertical dimension
- Long-term occlusal planning and treatment
- Knowledge and skillful hand of master clinician and technician
- Comfort and aesthetics
- Loss of bone and oral function
- Diagnosis and treatment of compromised occlusal
- Standards
- Problems with existing dental restorations