High interest in CAPP Asia meeting

Digital and CAD/CAM International Conference presents update on digital dentistry

DENTAL TRIBUNE Asia Pacific Edition

DT Asia Pacific

SINGAPORE: Boasting a new record attendance of more than 570 dental professionals, the Centre for Advanced Professional Practices (CAPP Asia) hosted its CAD/CAM and Digital Dentistry International Conference in Singapore last week. The event, held for the second consecutive year at the Marina Bay Sands hotel, presented the latest developments and trends in different fields of digital dentistry, such as imaging and dental CAD/CAM.

Among other topics, the aesthetic potential of modern CAD/CAM materials, as well as digital impression taking and guided implantology were discussed. Furthermore, two presentations demonstrated for the first time how modern digital technology can be applied to orthodontics. The event also featured a number of workshops, where attendees gained hands-on experience of the latest technologies in fields like computer-guided implantology. The benefits of the new technology for dental laboratories were presented during a parallel session on the second day of the conference, which, according to the organiser, was attended by over 50 technicians from the region.

A spin-off of the successful congress series held by CAPP in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates annually since 2006, the event was supported by over 50 industry players from around the globe. During the show more than 55 brands were presented by leading manufacturers in the field, according to the organiser. He said that plans are already underway for the next show to be held in October next year, with dates and times to be announced in the upcoming weeks.

CAPP’s ninth Dubai edition is scheduled for May 2014. The organisation added that it will also host the Dental Technicians Forum at the upcoming International Dental Exhibition & Meeting in Singapore.

Participants of a workshop getting hands-on with the latest technologies (DTS/Photo courtesy of CAPP Asia, Singapore)

“Computerisation and advanced technologies have become the future of dentistry and we have to make an effort to stay abreast of the latest technologies,” Singapore Dental Association President Dr Kuan Chee Keong told Dental Tribune Asia Pacific in an interview. “The CAPP Asia conference is a good example of that.”

IN DENTAL PRACTICE

Paul Feuerstein, DMD

08:00 PM (EST)

To make intelligent purchase decisions

• To use digital and 3D radiography and associated implant and treatment planning

• To understand high tech diagnostic aids and digital imaging

• How to help diabetic patients maintain their periodontal health and concomitant metabolic control

• How to avoid diabetic emergencies in your office

• How to best manage Diabetic Patients with Periodontal Disease

NOV

05

DIABETES AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Luciana M. Shaddock, DDS, MS, PhD

08:00 PM (EST)

In this webinar, the association between Diabetes and Periodontal Diseases will be elucidated, with special emphasis to how it impacts Periodontal health and the management of diabetic patients with periodontal disease.

Participants will learn:

• How does Diabetes impact Periodontal Health and how Periodontitis can impact Diabetes control

• How to best manage Diabetic Patients with Periodontal Disease

• How to avoid diabetic emergencies in your office

• How to help diabetic patients maintain their periodontal health and concomitant metabolic control

WEBINARS
DTI
DUNEDIN, New Zealand: A new study conducted by researchers in New Zealand has highlighted that dental workers may hold a key role in reporting child maltreatment. As the majority of injuries occur in the head and neck area, therapists, who are the most common type of health professional to see children up to the age of 14 in New Zealand, are in the best position to report physical abuse.

The study, which was conducted at the University of Otago, involved 320 registered dental therapists from New Zealand, who completed a questionnaire in which they were asked how frequently they had suspected and reported child maltreatment over the past year.

The researchers found that 55 had each suspected up to 10 cases of physical abuse, while 87 had suspected up to 10 cases of child neglect. Moreover, 101 participants had suspected up 10 cases of dental neglect. According to Dhara Tilvawala, the final-year Bachelor of Dentistry student at the university who led the study, the therapists primarily reported bruises and physical signs of abuse to the head and neck area, including cigarette burns, and children who seemed overly fearful when the clinician tried to examine their mouths. Tilvawala said that 50 to 70 per cent of injuries occurred in the head and neck area.

Fears of reporting someone mistakenly, unfamiliarity with the signs of child abuse and fear of violence to themselves from caregivers were among the barriers to reporting. The greatest barrier, however, was that dental therapists were unsure of where to report suspected cases. According to Tilvawala, 60 per cent said that they would report directly to the Child, Youth and Family service, while others preferred to turn to an official or to discuss the matter with a colleague. Only a few said that they would report the matter to the police, she said.

DTI

Study finds crucial role of dental therapists in child protection

however, the dental profession is committed to phasing down the use of the material through the prevention of dental diseases, the development of alternative materials and effective amalgam management. Guidelines in this respect for professionals, health officials and the public are currently being compiled and will be released by the organisation soon. The initial steps have already been taken with a pilot project launched recently by the FDI in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme in East Africa that aims to train professionals in the country on managing and recycling amalgam waste more effectively.

Amalgam remains one of the most widely used restorative materials worldwide. Particularly in developing countries, it is often the only affordable means of treating dental caries, despite the availability of other methods, such as atraumatic restorative treatment. Unfortunately, it is also a significant source of mercury pollution. Recent national tests conducted in Pakistan, for example, found that levels in urban dental hospitals and practices were up to 20 times higher than acceptable levels, which was considered largely due to poor amalgam waste management.

According to estimates by the United Nations Environment Programme, between 500 and 1000 metric tons of mercury is used in dental fillings every year worldwide, a tenth of the world’s annual consumption.