



OCTOBER 2025

the FDA's official e-newsletter

NEDDA FALL CE MEETING-

On Friday, Sept. 12, the Northeast District Dental Association (NEDDA) hosted its Fall continuing education (CE) Event at the Jacksonville Marriott. The room quickly filled as we welcomed 95 dentists who came to reconnect with peers, meet new colleagues and complete their continuing education requirements.

The morning began with breakfast and sponsor networking, followed by a prompt start of the business meeting, where members successfully voted to approve the bylaws updates. This was a key step in aligning NEDDA's governance with both that of the Florida Dental Association (FDA) and the American Dental Association (ADA). During the meeting, Immediate Past President Dr. **Bethany Douglas** was awarded a plaque of appreciation for her outstanding leadership during her term as president.

Speakers Dr. **Jason Portnof** and Ms. Debbie Hill presented "Prescribing Controlled Substances" and "Medical Errors," respectively, with both presentations highly praised for their content and delivery.

MobileFingerprints provided fingerprinting services through-

out the morning thanks to the efficient coordination of Jake Saliba. Attendees who participated should have received their Transaction Control Number (TCN) via email. If you have not received yours, please contact Debbie at ddeville@nedda.org.

NEDDA President Dr. **Sarah Hagerty** and Immediate Past President Dr. Bethany Douglas were essential to the success of this event. Their planning and behind-the-scenes coordination ensured every detail ran smoothly.

Last but definitely not least, we are extremely grateful to our amazing event sponsors, whose support helps make these events possible:

Abyde • Ameris Bank • Cad-Ray • Carestream • Core Scientific • DCS Lab • Dental Lifeline Network • Douglas Law Firm • DPC Technology • Doctors Choice Practice Transitions • FDA Services • Florida Blue • Henry Schein Dental Practice Transitions • Kettenbach • MobileFingerprints • Renasant Mortgage Lender • SBDP CPAs & Advisors • Stahl & Stahl Group

You can find the sponsor contact information on our website at www.nedda.org.

We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

(See more photos on the following page.)





NEDDA FALL CE MEETING CONTINUED—









The Northeast District Dental Association (NEDDA) has 2 affiliate societies, the Jacksonville Dental Society and the Clay County Dental Society. NEDDA Leadership would like you to consider membership with these societies.

Why Join an Affiliate Dental Society?

- Solution Build relationships & share referrals.
- Stra CE Access More learning, close to home.
- Leadership Opportunities Contribute to a unified voice that strengthens the profession.
- If Streamlined Communication Stay informed & connected.
- Professional Support Peer review & mediation resources.
- Shared Purpose Belong to a community that reflects your values.



2025-2026 Schedule:

- ➤ Wednesday, October 22nd Fingerprinting Social at Club Continental
- Wednesday, November 19th Dr. Lessig: Botox & Bruxism Case Discussion
- Wednesday, December 10th Kevin Rhoad, CPA: The Dental Impact of the Big Beautiful Bill in Dentistry
- Wednesday, February 11th Dental Technology Fair
- Wednesday, March 11th Periodontist Discussion Topic: Implant Osseointegration - Speaker Information Forthcoming

Contact Clay County Dental Society President, Dr. Nick Grubor for more information at claycountyds@gmail.com



450 State Road 13, Ste. 106 BOX # 451 Jacksonville, Florida 32259 (904) 513-8234

Dr. Laura Weaver - President Dr. Bethany Burton - Vice President Dr. Broc Flores - Treasure ? - Secreatary
June 2025 to June 2026

DATE	DAY	SPEAKER	TOPIC	LOCATION	TIME
August	Thursday	New year kick off	Fun		6:00 PM
September 11, 2025	Thursday	Dr. Tommy Currie	Endo	Epping Forest Yacht &Country 1830 Epping Forest Dr. Jacksonville, Fl. 32217	5:30 pm social time 6:00 pm meeting begin
October 16, 2025	Thursday	Dr. Michael Semidey	Navigating Through OMS Complications and Antibiotic updates	Epping Forest Yacht &Country 1830 Epping Forest Dr. Jacksonville, FL 32217	5:30 pm social time 6:00 pm meeting begins
January 23, 2026	Thursday	Dr. Bhattacharrya	Oral Path	Epping Forest Yacht &Country 1830 Epping Forest Dr. Jacksonville, FL 32217	5:30 pm social time 6:00 pm meeting begins
February 2026	Thursday Saturday	GKAS Screening GKAS Treatment	Community Program	FSCJ North Campus 4501 Capper Rd.	5:00 pm screening 7:00 am treatments
March 5, 2026	Thursday	Dr. Michael Dorocoak	Updates in dentistry	Epping Forest Yacht & Country 1830 Epping Forest Dr.	5:30 pm social time 6:00 pm meeting begins
May 2026	Thursday	Final Social			6:30 pm

Contact Ms. Savannah Sweet for more information at jaxdentalsociety@gmail.com

READY. SET. RENEW!

Keep Your Practice Moving — Renew Your License by February 28.

All Florida licensed dentists must renew their dental license for the 2024-2026 biennium by **Feb. 28, 2026**. You must complete 30 hours of CE credit to renew your dental license. Because you are an FDA member, we are here to help! The FDA offers opportunities to earn 6 hours of free CE online at www.floridadental.org/online-ce.



NEW! Fingerprinting & Background Screening Requirement

All Florida licensed dentists renewing their license by Feb. 28, 2026 must undergo a fingerprint-based Level 2 background check, including state and national criminal records checks, and are required to comply with the background screening requirements established in section 456.0135, F.S.

Learn more at floridadental.org/fingerprinting.

Requirements for First-Time Biennium Renewals

If you are newly licensed (after Feb. 28, 2024) and renewing your license for the first time, you are only required to complete two courses for renewal. These courses are:

- 2 hours of CE on Prescribing Controlled Substances
- 2 hours of CE on HIV/AIDS

At the next renewal cycle, you must complete the full 30-hour requirement.

YOU MUST HAVE 30 HOURS OF CE CREDIT TO RENEW YOUR LICENSE



28 Hours of General Course Credit

Only 3 hours of the 28 hours can be practice management credit.



2 Hours of Prescribing Controlled Substance Credit

This 2-hour course is included in the 28 hours of general course credit & must be taken each license renewal.



2 Hours of Medical Errors Credit

This course is required for all dentists and must be taken each license renewal.



2 Hours of Domestic Violence Credits

This course is due every third biennium. Check your CE Broker account to confirm the last time you took this course.



2 Hours of HIV/Aids Credits

This course is only required during your first license renewal cycle.



Updated CPR Certificate

You must have a current CPR certification to renew. The CPR certification course hours do not count toward the 30 hours required to renew.



QUESTIONS? Contact the FDA at ce@floridadental.org or 850.681.3629.

NEED TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION OR RECENTLY RETIRED/RETIRING SOON?-

HAD A CHANGE TO YOUR CONTACT INFO. THIS YEAR?

Make sure your email, cell phone, practice and home addresses on file with us are up-to-date at ada.org/myada using your email on file as your username or call us 850.681.3629.

RECENTLY RETIRED OR RETIRING SOON?

If you have recently retired or have plans to retire on or before March 31, 2026, please contact Megan Bakan at mbakan@floridadental.org or 850.681.3629 to complete your retired affidavit through a quick and easy DocuSign form. Most retired members pay little or no dues to maintain their membership and keep access to all their benefits and services.



THE FDA NOW PROVIDES A PROGRAM FOR YOU TO CERTIFY— YOUR HYGIENIST OR ASSISTANT IN RESTORATIVE FUNCTIONS!



The Florida Dental Association's (FDA) new restorative function dental auxiliary (RFDA) program allows your qualified assistant or hygienist (under your direct supervision) to place, pack and contour restorations using slow-speed only — after you have prepared the tooth. Learn more at floridadental.org/rfda.

The FDA has partnered with Tallahassee State College's (TSC) Hygiene Program to allow for your hygienist or assistant to become certified under Florida Board of Dentistry guidelines.

Training includes:

• 10-hour didactic portion will be provided online in the FDA's learning management software.

- 70 hours in a simulated lab
- 13 hours on live patients will be provided during four consecutive weekends at TSC.
- Additionally, you, the delegating dentist, will provide 12 hours of clinical experience in your office.

Registration will be going live soon! The price is \$7,000 per student for FDA members.

For more information, please email rfda@floridadental.org.





IS YOUR BANK DENTAL FRIENDLY?

Only a bank with dental-practice experience can maximize the value of a practice's equity. Most banks struggle to determine the value of a dental practice when considering a loan. To an experienced bank the process is simple.

Affinity Bank's clients that are dentists 0%

100%

value of the home and calculate the size of the loan accordingly.

But a dental practice is different. There are few tangible assets. Most of the value is in the goodwill — the hard work, sweat and tears the dentists have put into the practice to build its reputation on the market. But it's hard to value goodwill, and even harder to use it as collateral for a loan.

Fortunately, about 85 percent of Affinity Bank's clients are dentists, so we've long since figured out how to value a practice.

3 FACTORS COME INTO PLAY

- 1. The average sale price for a healthy practice in your market area.
- 2. The bank's tolerance for risk at any given time.
- 3. The profit margins of the practice and its ability to consistently generate sufficient cash flow to pay its current and future debts.

To read the entire article, click HERE.

DENTISTRY HAS CHANGED OVER THE YEARS, OUR COMMITMENT HASN'T. WORLD'S MOST ETHICAL COMPANIES The transition ahead may seem new and uncertain, similar to when you began your practice, but we understand the process. As your experienced Transition Sales Consultants at Henry Schein Dental Practice Transitions, we'll guide you along the way. **ETHISPHERE** Thinking Transitions? Need a Valuation? Call Today! 904-647-2033



HenryScheinDPT.com

- PRACTICE SALES
- VALUATIONS
- TRANSITION PLANNING

RENEE FRIEDEL Transition Sales Cons Renee.Friedel@henry



WHY IT'S TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO WINDOWS 10 BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

Time is running out for Windows 10 - it's a risk you can't afford to ignore. After Oct. 14, Microsoft will end all support for this operating system, including critical security updates, which will leave dental practices open to potential serious cyber risks.

For dental practices, the stakes are high:

- Downtime can cost more than \$5,600 per minute
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act exposure could mean regulatory fines and reputation damage
- Insurance claims may be denied if you fail to act on known risks

It's not just about cybersecurity. Outdated systems lead to slower performance, software compatibility issues and costly crashes that impact your team and your patients. Don't wait for a breach to make the switch. Need an infor-

mation technology (IT) provider? Sunset Technologies specializes in dental IT support and managed services and can be reached by visiting <u>sunsetsecure.com</u> or calling 855.861.8833. Contact your IT provider today to schedule your upgrade!



CYBER INSURANCE: IT'S NOT EXPENSIVE, IT'S PRICELESS!-



Imagine your dental practice is forced to shut down for two weeks because you are locked out of all patient records and systems. The lost income alone could be catastrophic, with tens of thousands of dollars in revenue gone. Now add the cost of a forensic investigation (often \$30,000-\$75,000), patient notifications, legal fees and the average ransomware demand, which can exceed more than \$350,000. It is terrifying and a matter of when, not if.

Cybercriminals are utilizing artificial intelligence to move faster, identify vulnerabilities more efficiently and attack more effectively. What used to take weeks to crack now takes hours. Without cyber insurance, your practice is one click away from

devastating financial loss and reputational harm. We urge all members to have a standalone, comprehensive cyber policy. Call FDA Services (FDAS) today if you need pricing at 850.681.2996 or visit FDA Services Inc.

Cyber insurance doesn't just cover costs; it keeps your business alive. That's why it's not expensive. It's priceless.

TAKE THE LEAD WITH THE FDA'S PREMIER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM.

Leaders Emerging Among Dentistry (LEAD) is the FDA's flagship program designed to cultivate the next generation of dental leaders. Through interactive sessions and hands-on training, LEAD helps participants strengthen their leadership, communication and relationship-building skills. The program also connects attendees directly with FDA leaders and initiatives, offering valuable insight into how the association operates and how to get involved. Whether you're just getting started or looking to grow your impact, LEAD is your launchpad into organized dentistry. Seating is limited, so register today at floridadental.org/lead.





claycountydental.org



• jaxdentalsociety.net •

NEDDA CLASSIFIEDS-

Make sure to check out the <u>NEDDA classifieds</u> for your next opportunity!





800.232.3826 | www.AFTCO.net

Practice Sales & Purchases Over \$3.2 Billion



MAKE PAYMENT COLLECTION EASIER WITH BCPAY-



Getting paid shouldn't slow down your day. That's why the FDA has endorsed Best Card, offering BCPay — an online payment suite specifically designed for dental practices.

With BCPay, your office can:

- Accept payments directly on your website with custom buttons or QR codes
- Send secure Text-to-Pay links to patients
- Automate posting to popular dental software
- Safely store patient cards for recurring payments

Best Card's easy-to-use tools help practices streamline collections while offering patients more convenient payment options. Learn more and schedule a demo at Best Card link or call 877,739,3952

UTILIZE THE FDA'S JUMPSTART PROGRAM IN SOLVING WORKFORCE CHALLENGES.

The FDA's Jumpstart program is an initiative to connect member dentists with pre-dental students who are interested in volunteering or working with dental offices. It's a creative solution to assist in solving workforce challenges faced by Florida dentists. Jumpstart is a fast





pass for students to gain real-world experience, connect with dentists and master skills that will help them stand out in the dental school application process and in the competitive field of dentistry. All of this while providing staffing for offices that may have difficulty hiring the right people. A true win-win!

As a result of the FDA's efforts, members can access a student directory at floridadental.org/jumpstart. It notes students' geographic location, interests and roles they could fill. If you have an interest in engaging any of these students, please contact them directly and make suitable arrangements. If you know pre-dental students who may be interested registering, encourage them to visit floridadental.org/jumpstart to sign up and learn more about transforming their enthusiasm into expertise.

FREE ONLINE CE FOR FDA MEMBERS!

Diagnostic Discussion Rooted in Dentistry

BI-MONTHLY COLUMNS

FDA members can earn up to 6 hours of general continuing education (CE) by reading the Diagnostic Discussion column included in the bi-monthly Today's FDA and taking a quick online quiz.

Discussions and quizzes are available 24 hours a day at the convenience of your home or office.

WEBINAR SERIES

This webinar series is your opportunity to stay informed, grow your skills and earn up to 6 CE hours at no cost.

Webinar topics include implant restoration, peri-implant disease, systemic oral health, diagnostic advancements and more!



▶ WHERE WILL YOU BE ON JANUARY 27? (HINT: IT SHOULD BE TALLAHASSEE)

Are you free on Jan. 27, 2026? Join us in Tallahassee for a day that highlights the strength, unity, and leadership of Florida's dental community! *Dentists' Day on the Hill (DDOH)* is your chance to represent your profession at the Capitol. <u>Registration for the 2026 DDOH is open</u>.

DDOH kicks off with a legislative briefing and complimentary buffet dinner on Monday, Jan.26 at 6 p.m., at Hotel Duval. This is a great opportunity to connect with peers from across the state before heading to the Capitol the next morning. Be sure to select both the briefing and dinner during registration if you plan to attend.

A room block is available at Hotel Duval for \$272 per night. Rooms fill up quickly, so we encourage you to book as early as possible by calling 850.224.6000 and referencing "Florida Dental Association," or <u>click here</u> to reserve online.

Please note: only book rooms for yourself or for individuals staying in the same room. Multiple-room reservations under one name may be canceled by the FDA to ensure fair access for all attendees.

Questions? Contact Legislative Affairs Coordinator Jamie Graves at 850.224.1089 or jgraves@floridadental.org.

Want to see what the day looks like? Watch the 2025 highlight video for a glimpse of what is in store at DDOH.



Life comes with challenges.

The FDA's Member Assistance Program is here to help.

Starting Jan. 1, 2025, FDA members have free, confidential access to AllOne Health's counseling and work/life services.

The Florida Dental Association's (FDA) Member Assistance Program (MAP) can help you reduce stress, improve mental health and make life easier by connecting you to the right information, resources and referrals.

All services are confidential and available to you and your household as an FDA member benefit. This includes access to short-term counseling and the wide range of services listed below:

Mental Health Sessions

Manage stress, anxiety and depression; resolve conflict, improve relationships and address personal issues. Choose from in-person sessions, video counseling or phone counseling.

Life Coaching

Reach personal and professional goals, manage life transitions, overcome obstacles, strengthen relationships and achieve greater balance.

Financial Consultation

Build financial wellness related to budgeting, buying a home, paying off debt, resolving general tax questions, preventing identity theft and saving for retirement or tuition.

Legal Referrals

Receive referrals for personal legal matters including estate planning, wills, real estate, bankruptcy, divorce, custody and more.

Work-Life Resources and Referrals

Obtain information and referrals when seeking childcare, adoption, special needs support, eldercare, housing, transportation, education and pet care.

Personal Assistant

Save time with referrals for travel and entertainment, professional services, cleaning services, home food delivery and managing everyday tasks.

Medical Advocacy

Get help navigating insurance, obtaining doctor referrals, securing medical equipment and planning for transitional care and discharge.

Member Portal

Access your benefits 24/7/365 through the member portal with online requests and chat options. Explore thousands of self-help tools and resources including articles, assessments, podcasts and resource locators.



No matter what the concern might be ... connect with AllOne Health. It is a great starting point to find appropriate resources, referrals, information and support. Simply pick up the phone and call: 800.788.8630 or login to www.encompass.us.com to access your services.

Contact AllOne Health

800.788.8630

www.encompass.us.com

Code: fdamap





FDC2026 OFFERS 150+ COURSE OPTIONS FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE DENTAL TEAM!

FLORIDA DENTAL CONVENTION





Save the date for the 2026 Florida Dental Convention (FDC), taking place June 25-27 at the recently renovated Gaylord Palms in Orlando! This year's theme, "Plug In. Amplify. Rock Your Practice!" brings you more than 150 courses and 300+ top dental vendors, all aimed at keeping you ahead of the curve in your practice. Course highlights include The Dawson Academy's Core 1 Occlusion & Smile Design, sleep apnea, digital full-arch workflow, stress and burnout prevention, anterior and posterior composites, implant restorations and more. You can earn up to 20 hours of continuing education (CE) at FDC2026! Don't miss this chance to amplify your practice while having fun with your peers and enjoying the amenities of the Gaylord Palms Resort. Click here to learn more. The course schedule and speaker listing will be available in November.

SURVEY: IMPACT OF REVIEWS ON THE MENTAL HEALTH-OF YOUNG DENTAL PRACTITIONERS

Studies have reported that negative reports can affect the physician's mental health (1). According to the American Dental Association (ADA), between the years 2000 and 2021, about 17.7% of dental healthcare workers reported symptoms of anxiety and 10.7% reported depressive symptoms, globally(2). High workload, burnout, and financial constraints are among the most common factors that have been identified that are responsible for increased anxiety and depression which inadvertently may lead to suicidal thoughts and ideations among the dental personnel (3). So far, there are no study has been done to assess the effect of google reviews on the mental health of the dentists. The purpose of this study is to assess the relationship between web reviews and mental health of dentists. Click here to take the survey.

References: 1. Mano MS, Morgan G. Telehealth, social media, patient empowerment, and physician burnout: seeking middle ground. Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book. 2022; Apr; 42:1-10. 2. Versaci M. B. Dental Professionals on Early Front Lines of Pandemic Report Anxiety, Depression: American Dental Association; 2022. 3. Galán F., Ríos-Santos J. V., Polo J., Rios-Carrasco B., and Bullón P., "Burnout, Depression and Suicidal Ideation in Dental Students," Medicina Oral, Patología Oral y Cirugía Bucal 19, no. 3 (2014): e206–e211.



MAKE YOUR FDC2026 HOTEL RESERVATION AT GAYLORD PALMS-

Why settle for an ordinary CE experience when you can have it all at FDC2026? Join us from June 25-27, soak up the sunshine, and learn new skills at the fabulous Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Orlando. Secure your stay within the heart of the action!

The FDC2026 room block at Gaylord Palms is now open, offering you exclusive access to all the fun Gaylord Palms offers at the rate of \$221 per night, including free self-parking. Click here or contact the hotel directly at 877.491.0442 to make a reservation at this discounted rate.







NEED HELP WITH PATIENT COMPLAINTS?

The Peer Review program is designed to help Florida Dental Association member dentists.

Avoid costly legal fees, malpractice suits and Board of Dentistry complaints by using this free service exclusively for members.



Learn more online at FloridaDental.org/PeerReview or by contacting FDA Peer Review Coordinator Lywanda Tucker at 850.350.7143 or ltucker@floridadental.org

NEW BACKGROUND SCREENING REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSURE RENEWAL

All health care practitioners, including dentists and hygienists, will be **required** to have a **background screening** and **fingerprinting** in order to renew their licenses for **February 28, 2026**.



As required by the Florida Legislature.

Fingerprinting & Background Screening Requirement

Florida Dental License Renewal:

Per 2024 legislation, all Florida-licensed dentists and dental hygienists must complete a Level 2 background screening every five years. This includes electronic fingerprinting through a state-approved provider

Deadline:

Must be completed by <u>February 28, 2026</u>. Recommend completing at least 21 days in advance to avoid delays.

Who Must Comply:

All licensed health professionals in Florida, including dentists and hygienists. Dentists must complete this every other biennium.

Approved Vendors Only:

Fingerprinting must be done through a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)-approved Livescan provider that is photo-capable and participates in the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse.

Medicaid Providers:

May be required to complete fingerprinting; depends upon past screenings. Prior screenings must be within five

years and through an FDLE/Clearinghouse-compliant provider. You must have your Transaction Control Number (TCN) during licensure renewal. Only the finger-print provider you used can issue that information.

Concealed Weapon Permits Do Not Qualify:

Fingerprints submitted for concealed weapon permits cannot be used for licensure screening.

Privacy Statement Required:

The privacy statement on your renewal application must be signed. Without it, results cannot be shared with the Florida Department of Health.

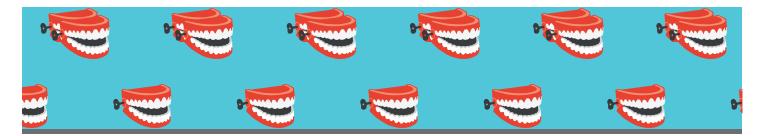
How to Complete Your Screening:

- Register in the CHAI system.
- Create or update your profile.
- Schedule an appointment with an FDLE- approved Livescan provider.
- Bring your ORI number (EDOH4560Z) to the appointment
- Keep your TCN which is required when renewing your license.



For full details and helpful links, visit floridadental.org/fingerprinting





FLORIDA DENTAL CHATTER

This Facebook group is designed for dentists to interact with other members, receive the latest updates and information, and engage with FDA leaders and staff. This is the place to be in the know!

Join us at facebook.com/groups/floridadentalchatter.















Follow us on Social

CONNECT AND STAY INFORMED





The Florida Dental Association (FDA) is a state constituent of the American Dental Association (ADA), which represents dentists throughout the country.

- @FloridaDentalAssociation
- @fda_dental
- @FDADental
- in @florida-dental-association
- @floridadental



Stay informed with updates on the education and event offerings for the Florida Dental Convention. You'll also find details about other continuing education events hosted by the FDA, including webinars, Women Inspire and Navigate Dentistry (WIND) and more.

- @floridadentalconvention
- @florida_dental_convention
- in @florida-dental-convention
- @floridadentalconvention



Stay in the know with FDA Services about practice insurance resources, risk management tips and industry updates by following our page.

- @FDAServicesInc
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- @FDAServicesInc
- in @fda-services-inc-



Florida Dental Chatter is a private Facebook group designed for dentists to interact with other members, receive the latest updates and information and engage with FDA leaders and staff.

f @floridadentalchatter PRIVATE



The FDA Foundation is the philanthropic and charitable organization for dentistry. Bringing together volunteer dentists, donors and community partners to serve the underserved and uninsured in Florida.

- @FloridaDentalAssociationFoundation
- @florida_dental_foundation



GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

The FDA Governmental Affairs Office (GAO) Instagram account is for FDA members only and is used to promote legislative and political advocacy throughout the year.

@fda_gao PRIVATE

HELPING MEMBERS SUCCEED SINCE 1884