



Dentistry IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Allied Staff News

Wellbeing is Working in South Dakota

Dentists and team members from across the state have benefitted from accessing the services of Mary Wolf, a licensed professional counselor and executive coach, through the SDDA's Be Well program. Mary has twenty-five years of experience in focusing on the wellbeing of others, including healthcare professionals. Through the SDDA Be Well Program, Mary provides up to three free confidential counseling or coaching sessions to any dental professional in South Dakota. Anyone who feels they could benefit from visiting with Mary should reach out to her directly. Everyone's situation is unique. Here is what one team member recently had to say:

I'm so thankful that I reached out to Mary and took advantage of the Be Well program. I've been struggling at home with my teenage adopted daughter. We have faced a lot of hardships in our family dealing with the drug addiction of our daughter. As a result, I face a lot of guilt as a parent. Mary's words helped me realize that I need to give myself some grace. She reminded me of everything I have done for my child and it's important to take care of myself too. I'm so grateful for the resources she gave me to continue on this journey. I really didn't realize how much I needed outside help until I met with Mary. I'm in a leadership role in dentistry and I'm always taking care of others needs and today I realized it's okay to take care of myself too.



Mary Wolf, MS, LPC-MH, BCC
President, Veritee Partners LLC
PO Box 90225, Sioux Falls, SD 57109
(605) 940-3868
www.veriteepartners.com

Medicaid Monthly Mentorship



Join your fellow colleagues and Delta Dental representatives to discuss all things South Dakota Medicaid dental! Sessions are held via Zoom the second Thursday of each month from 5:00-6:00 pm CDT/4:00-5:00 pm MDT.

Zoom Meeting ID: 816 3141 6766 and Passcode: 501195. You can also call in by dialing (312) 626 6799 and using the same codes. Watch for an email from Delta Dental each month with the Zoom link.

Each session highlights a hot topic, plus Medicaid dental program updates. Then the floor is open for comments, questions, and conversation. Learn from others and share your own experiences. Sessions are for all interested dental office staff – dentists, hygienists, assistants, insurance coordinators, and front desk associates. Participants can earn 1 Practice Management CE from the SD Board of Dentistry for each session.

Questions? Email Lori Langdeaux at lori.langdeaux@deltadentalsd.com or call 605-494-2532.

Save the Date: Saturday, October 8, 2022

Sioux Empire
Smiles

A Free
One Day
Children's
Dental Clinic



We are looking for a dedicated group of volunteers for the Sioux Empire Smiles event.
(Dentists, Hygienists, Assistants, Office Staff)

Contact Dr. Damon Thielen or Jean Gross to volunteer.
damon.thielen@gmail.com
jeanrdh@sio.midco.net

Medicaid Dental Care Coordination Can Help Your Office

In 2017 South Dakota Medicaid implemented Dental Care Coordination as part of the South Dakota Medicaid dental benefit. To implement the new component, Delta Dental of South Dakota hired three Medicaid Dental Care Coordinators who cover the whole state. The care coordinators work directly with dental offices and Medicaid recipients to help increase access to dental care and reduce the barriers to oral health through education and advocacy.

Current care coordination initiatives include:

- **At-risk referrals:** The care coordinators partner with dental offices across the state who refer patients they consider “at risk” due to barriers they face to accessing care (i.e., missed appointment history or lack of compliance with oral hygiene instruction). Referrals are submitted to the care coordinators through the Delta Dental website. The care coordinators follow-up on every referral to provide information and resources to the patient and the dental office.
- **Focus on early childhood prevention:** To ensure the youngest South Dakota Medicaid recipients start out with a focus on prevention, the care coordinators contact the parent/guardian of every child turning one to provide information about their child’s access to dental care and encourage an early first dental visit.
- **Orthodontic care education:** Care coordinators provide education to the family of patients approved for orthodontic treatment under South Dakota Medicaid. The mandatory discussions review patient responsibilities and identify potential barriers to treatment.

Find out more about Medicaid Dental Care Coordination by visiting the “SD Medicaid info” on your dentist page on the Delta Dental of South Dakota Dentist website (deltadentalsd.com). There you will find the at-risk referral form, information about the South Dakota Medicaid dental benefit, and contact information for the care coordinators.

You can also reach the care coordination team via email at sdmedicaid@deltadentalsd.com or by calling Delta Dental at 877-841-1478.

Dental Offices No Longer Need to Accept Virtual Credit Cards Insurance Payments

Some insurance carriers operating in South Dakota require dentists to accept claims payment using a credit or debit card equivalent rather than a paper check or direct deposit. Typically, the transaction involves no physical card, but rather a series of numbers the dentist enters into a website or credit card terminal in order to complete the claims payment transaction. This form of payment is commonly referred to as a virtual credit card. If the insurance carrier offers no other alternative for paying its claims, it can become expensive and cumbersome for dental offices to be paid. The virtual credit card payment method includes a per transaction fee of as much as 4 or 5%, which is paid by the dental office. So, in order to collect for the services they have rendered to a patient/subscriber of the insurance carrier, dentists have to pay a fee for each transaction.

Thanks to legislation adopted at the behest of the SDDA, dental insurance companies operating in South Dakota must offer more than one form of payment, beyond a virtual credit card, allowing the dentist to be paid without incurring a credit card transaction fee. Members that no longer want to be paid by virtual credit card should contact the insurance company, notify them of South Dakota’s new law and ask the insurance company to permanently change the way the office receives payment to either a physical check or an automatic clearing house (ACH) transaction like direct deposit.



USD Helps Fill Hygiene Positions

The USD Department of Dental Hygiene would like to assist SD dental offices that have dental hygiene position openings and support our students staying in the state of SD. We suggest the following:

- Please send position and contact information at any time to dh@usd.edu. We send out notices via email to students and alumni and post this on our Facebook and Instagram pages on a continuous basis.
- Please inform us if you’d like to be on a list and be contacted every December to present to our students between Jan-May to help make student/ employer connections.
- We will alert our graduating students to visit the SDDA website and the Bridge the Gap program for the latest listings.

Recycle Old X-rays

Do you need to get rid of old X-rays? National Precious Metals is offering all SDDA members free pick up for quantities of over 300 pounds. There is a fee of \$150 for amounts less than 300 pounds. Offices can also be reimbursed based on the quantity that can be recycled. Contact National Precious Metals at 262-224-9996 or NationalPreciousMetals@gmail.com.



How to Prevent Bloodborne Pathogen Injuries in Dentistry

By Nan Dreves, RDH, MBA, Professional Health Horizons, nkdreves@gmail.com

Every effort should be made to minimize risk and prevent accidents in a dental setting. There is a risk of transmission of hepatitis B, hepatitis C or HIV infection percutaneous or mucocutaneous exposure. The deeper the exposure(s) or volume, the greater the risk of transmission.

OSHA states in the bloodborne pathogen standard 1910.1030(f)(1)(ii)(D) that post-exposure management and medical follow-up be "provided according to recommendations of the U.S. Public Health Service."

Here are some commonsense ways to reduce your chance of injury:

1. Focus on the procedure, take your time, do not rush or be distracted.
2. Look before reaching for instruments. Do one task at a time.
3. When placing instruments on a tray, ensure they are in the appropriate place and a single layer. When returning a used instrument to the tray, do not stack them. Return them carefully; do not throw them.
4. Collect all necessary instruments before treatment starts. Ensure they are transported in a covered, puncture-resistant container to avoid the chance of injury from dropping or bumping into someone.
5. Do not recap local anesthetic needles with two hands. Use a recapping device or one-handed scoop technique.
6. Always recap the needle before changing the cartridge or needle.
7. Clinician should uncap, administer injection(s), and safely recaps before changing the needle or cartridge. Do not pass an uncapped needle to an assistant.
8. Burs in handpieces should be removed immediately after completing treatment. Another idea is to place a clean inverted plastic cup over the burs.
9. When placing items in the sharps box – be cautious, unhurried, and deliberate. Sharps boxes should not be behind a cupboard door or in a drawer. It must be readily accessible.
10. Obtain self-sheathing or safety needles. Examples: SecurInject, 1SHOT™ Safety Syringe, Ultra Safety Plus XL®.
11. Use heavy-duty utility gloves when handling sharps.
12. Written needlestick prevention protocols, accident prevention education, reporting of exposure incidents, and critical thinking.

Every dental healthcare setting must determine where follow-up care for an injury would occur for both the source patient and the dental healthcare worker. The post-exposure testing for HBV, HCV, and HIV (both antigen and antibody) can be refused by either party. When a dental injury occurs, we must explain to the medical provider how it happened and why it is considered a significant exposure. Their knowledge of our instrumentation and procedures is limited, and although some injuries do not involve blood, saliva alone is an infectious body fluid.

Your family, friends, and loved ones appreciate the attention to our well-being. Remember, safety, like kindness, matters!

Resources:

- ADA Dos and Don'ts for The Safe Handling of Instruments and Sharps
- 2016 CDC Infection Prevention & Control Guidelines & Recommendations
- CDC's Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care

If your office needs an Incident Report Form, email Nan at nkdreves@gmail.com.



Classified Ads

Bisson Dental in Brookings is currently looking to add a full-time Registered Dental Hygienist to their team! The ideal candidate is dedicated to enriching the patient experience and contributing to a positive, upbeat work environment. Bisson Dental offers competitive pay starting at \$40/hour, paid health insurance, paid time off, and many other benefits. Experience is preferred but not required. The schedule for this position is Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Dental Hygienist: Are you a dental hygienist looking for a change? Delta Dental of South Dakota's Mobile Program has opportunities for dental hygienists. These opportunities include both—full time and/or part-time flexible schedules, including working specific weeks and/or months out of the year. The dental hygienists will work under collaborative supervision in southwest South Dakota, primarily on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The dental hygienists will join a team providing preventive services and oral health education in schools, Head Starts, etc. Extensive travel is required. Excellent salary and benefits including health, dental, vision, life/long term disability insurance, paid holidays, vacation/sick leave, 401k, and more. For more information visit www.deltadentalsd.com. Submit a cover letter and resume to: summer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com. Questions? Contact Summer Sporrer at 605-494-2569.

SDDA Webinars

Managing in the 'Marvelous' Middle: Maximizing your Influence and Energy – Wednesday, September 14, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Central Time

Course description: Learn to navigate the complexity of being a Middle Manager and leading in multiple directions while keeping the well-being of yourself and others at the top of the priority pile. Collaborate with your fellow managers to find solutions to common challenges in dental clinics. Discover the resources available through the South Dakota Dental Association's Be Well Program and share your ideas for the program's success!

Presenter: Mary Wolf

Price: \$100. Free to SDDA member dentists and member allied staff.

Dentistry in South Dakota
804 N Euclid; Ste 103
Pierre SD 57501

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 7
Pierre, SD 57501

CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

SDDA 2023 ANNUAL SESSION

Contact: Melissa Afdahl 605-609-1152
melissa@sddental.org; www.sddental.org

May 18-20, 2023 Sioux Falls, SD

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Contact: 605-718-2410

Dental Radiology 2-Day Course

July 16-17, Aug 6-7 or Sept 10-11, 2022 in Rapid City

Third Friday of the Month, mornings

- American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals

Third Friday of the Month, afternoons

- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR Recertification

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: 605-367-4607

- **Dental Radiology (2-day course)**
November 18-19, 2022

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Contact: Amy Meadors, 800-657-4344

Amy.Meadors@lakeareatech.edu

<https://www.lakeareatech.edu/corporate-education/corporate-education-registration/>

Home Study Radiology Courses available:

- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

CPR

Contact: Tia Meyer, 605-842-5672
meyertia@hotmail.com

CPR Solutions: Local instructor with 20 years of CPR teaching experience. We provide AHA and Red Cross BLS/SCLS/PALS certification www.cprsiouxfallssd.com; sfcprolutions@gmail.com; 605-525-4CPR (4277). Will travel.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene
605-677-5379

Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course

Offered two to three times per year

Home Study Radiology Courses available:

- Digital Radiography, Advantages & Disadvantages
- Exposure Errors of Periapicals & Bitewings
- Processing Errors
- Occlusal Exposures for Children
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Panoramic Radiography
- Radiation Safety
- Vertical Bitewings
- Fluoride Varnish, Indication & Application

Dentistry in South Dakota

Editor: Paul Knecht, Executive Director

Published quarterly by the
South Dakota Dental Association
804 N Euclid, Ste. 103
Pierre SD 57501

Telephone: 605-224-9133

Fax: 605-224-9168

E-Mail: paul.knecht@sddental.org

Website: www.sddental.org

Member publication: American Association
of Dental Editors

Opinions expressed in the Dental Forum may not be those of the South Dakota Dental Association. Advertising rates and circulation data will be furnished by request.