

The BDJ News section accepts items that include general news, latest research and diary events that interest our readers. Press releases or articles may be edited, and should include a colour photograph if possible.

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TOOTH REPARATIVE PARTICLES WIN PRIZE

A research team from Queen Mary, University of London has won a major prize for developing degradable particles designed to repair decayed teeth.

The particles, about the same size as small holes in teeth, are designed to enter these holes and physically block and repair them. The particles are special glasses which can be incorporated into toothpaste and will dissolve in the mouth releasing calcium and phosphate that form tooth mineral. This reduces tooth pain, cuts back on the incidence of caries and repairs the teeth.

Led by Professor Robert Hill, the team have won the £25,000 materials science Venture Prize from

the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers. The prize aims to encourage innovative scientific entrepreneurship in the UK and provide funding to bring new materials science research into the market.

Professor Hill said: 'These new particles dissolve faster than existing ones and are also softer than tooth enamel. They have a more expanded open structure and this allows water to go into the glass structure faster and the calcium and phosphate ions to come out faster. Also, while existing particles are significantly harder and abrade away the enamel during brushing, our new particles will be softer.'

The prize money will enable the research team, which also includes Dr David Gillam, Dr Natalia Karpukhina and Dr Pushkar Wadke, to translate the laboratory research into commercial products.



(l-r) Robert Hill, Pushkar Wadke, David Gillam and Natalia Karpukhina

DENTAL GREATS DUE IN GLASGOW

This year's Scottish Scientific Conference and Exhibition will have a significantly expanded programme with a range of clinical topics being examined as well as sessions for the whole dental team.

The event, which takes place at the Crowne Plaza in Glasgow on Friday 6 September 2013, incorporates four distinct lecture themes: clinical focus; pain management; core CPD; and dental team. Fifteen sessions will be delivered by an inspiring line up of speakers including John Gibson, Professor of Medicine in Relation to Dentistry & Honorary Consultant in Oral Medicine; John Meechan, Senior Lecturer in Oral Surgery; and Tara Renton, Professor in Oral Surgery.

For the team sessions, the BDA has teamed up with the Association of Dental Administrators and Managers (ADAM), the British Association of Dental Nurses (BADN) and the British Society of Dental Hygienists and Therapists (BSDHT) to put together the programme.

Chief Dental Officer for Scotland, Margie Taylor, will open the Conference with a welcome address.

To book, visit www.bda.org/scottishscientific.

DENTAL NEGLECT ADDED TO CHILD PROTECTION HANDBOOK

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health has published the second edition of *The Child Protection Companion*, a handbook providing guidance for paediatricians on everything from examination and identification of children presenting with non-accidental injuries, through to referral and court proceedings. It contains information on the latest evidence, research, guidance, publications and standards on child safeguarding.

New to the second edition is a section on dental neglect, bringing to the attention of paediatricians

the need to examine the mouth and seek dental advice when needed. Mrs Jenny Haris, Consultant in Community Paediatric Dentistry, believes that the new section reflects a growing awareness among some paediatricians of the importance of oral health.

Visit www.rcpch.ac.uk/user?redirect=child-protection-companion (log-in required).