

INDUSTRY NEWS

New committee members announced



The British Fluoridation Society (BFS) is pleased to welcome Sharon Walker and Sakina Needham to its Executive Committee.

Sharon Walker has worked in dentistry for more than 30 years, starting her career as a dental nurse in general practice and going onto work with the Community Dental Service and leading its Oral Health Improvement Team.

Sharon said: 'I am delighted to be joining the BFS Executive at this exciting time with the changes to the 2022 Health and Care Act. I hope to bring my knowledge and experience of working within the oral health field with the aim to drive forward and support the water fluoridation agenda. Community water fluoridation is one

the most effective ways to reduce dental inequalities and benefits both adults and children's oral health. Everyone deserves a healthy smile.'

Sakina Needham has been a registered dental care professional (DCP) for 15 years, where she has expanded her scope of practice in private, NHS, community and voluntary settings mostly in the Lincolnshire area.

Throughout her career, Sakina has developed a passion for educating and supporting children and their parents on their journey to better oral health.

She added: 'I am honoured to be joining the BFS Executive Committee and hope to bring a deeply passionate and well-experienced energy that will continue to highlight the importance of fluoridation in our communities and I hope to encourage

more dental nurses to join us in our public message.'

Welcoming Sharon and Sakina on board, Dr Barry Cockcroft CBE and BFS chair, said: 'This is an exciting time to be joining the BFS Executive Committee.

I am delighted to welcome Sharon and Sakina to the team. They bring a diverse range of expertise and practical knowledge, which will be of great benefit to our work as we move forward in our commitment to educate and encourage more communities to adopt water fluoridation as a safe means of reducing dental health inequalities in the UK.'



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Collaboration announced to elevate educational standards in orthodontic aligner therapy

Align Technology, Inc (Nasdaq: ALGN) has announced a new collaboration with the European Aligner Society (EAS).

The Align EAS Collaboration announcement, made at the Society's Summer Meeting in Portugal, is intended to elevate educational standards in orthodontic aligner therapy, which are consistent with the EAS/European Board of Aligner

Orthodontics (EBAO) Clinical Excellence Master requirements.

Align Education has developed orthodontic development programmes which includes Advanced and Masters Plan programmes for continued learning in clear aligner therapy with Invisalign aligners. The European Aligner Society recognises these programmes are consistent with the EBAO

clinical aims and objectives.

Professor Tommaso Castroflorio commented: 'EAS has established the European Board of Aligner Orthodontics (EBAO) to certify the expertise, the skills, the attributes, and the comprehensive knowledge of orthodontics, with an emphasis on orthodontic

aligner treatment, through certification and periodic re-evaluation, and by encouraging the achievement and maintenance of Diplomate status.

'A suitable candidate is to be committed to the advancement of orthodontic aligner treatment, to life-long learning and a lifetime of ethical practices. Furthermore, EBAO aims to dignify the art and science of orthodontics and elevate the quality of orthodontic care by promoting high standard evidence-based practice in orthodontic aligner treatment and encouraging research in this field. EBAO also collaborate with other entities and organisations to improve the whole profession of dentistry.'

Now that it has established recognition of the educational programmes, Align will be advocating them as preparation for the EAS/EBAO Clinical Excellence Master certification. During these development programmes, Align will share guidance on the five case submission required for the EBAO Clinical Programme examination. This will be positioned as aspiration and best practice within Align's Development Programmes.

