

CONFERENCE MOVED TO 2021

CloserStill Media, organiser of the British Dental Conference and Dentistry Show, have taken the decision to postpone the British Dental Conference and Dentistry Show (BDCDS). The 2020 event will now take place on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 May 2021 at the Birmingham NEC, hall 5.

Martin Woodrow, Chief Executive of the British Dental Association (BDA), said: 'It's a real shame that we can't hold what would have been an excellent conference and exhibition this year, but in the circumstances, postponing the 2020 event has to be the right thing to do and I'm sure the 2021 event will be bigger and better than ever!'

In the meantime the event organisers will be focussing on how they can support the profession as they prepare to return to their practice and resume some normality during a very testing time for dentistry.

The BDCDS is the UK's leading two-day exhibition and conference for dental professionals, providing clinical, leadership and practical training via an extensive educational programme and hands-on workshops. It is the UK's largest event of its kind, attracting over 9,000 unique delegates and over 400 exhibitors.

The 2021 event will still be co-located with The Dental Technology Showcase.

Student DCP donates oral hygiene supplies to care homes

Second year dental hygiene and dental therapy student Tamsyn McKenna from Teesside University has been coordinating the donation of oral care products to care home residents during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Tamsyn approached oral hygiene brands including BioMin, TePe, Piksters and Oralieve to ask if they would be willing to donate their products for the most vulnerable members of society, and received an overwhelming response.

Between them, the companies donated 500 tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, interdental aids and flossets, which Tamsyn has been busy donating to care homes.

Tamsyn, 23, from Gateshead, said: 'For me, this pandemic has brought to light what is important - helping others. I have managed to complete my university work and still have the time to volunteer and donate to those in need.'

'I am so grateful to the companies I have been working with for their generous donations. As a student dental hygienist and dental therapist, I understand that good oral health is paramount, and I am pleased to be able to help provide some of the most vulnerable people with access to oral hygiene products.'



RESOURCES PUBLISHED TO SUPPORT THE USE OF SDF

A comprehensive set of resources to support the use of Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) as a treatment to arrest dental caries in the primary dentition is now available on the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (BSPD) website. The technique is expected to be more widely used in the coming months as dental teams find ways to minimise aerosol generating procedures (AGPs).

Included among the resources is a Patient Information Leaflet which has been made editable so hospitals and dental practices can add their own logo. A Standard Operating Procedure and a Consent Form have also been developed. A slide explaining the background to the technique as well as a demonstration video to show how SDF is applied has been created and are on the BSPD's YouTube channel.

The resources have been compiled by Laura Timms, an Academic Clinical Fellow at the University of Sheffield Dental School with an interest in SDF.

SDF is licensed in the UK for the treatment of sensitivity but Laura was aware of research which shows it has good results when painted onto dental decay in the primary dentition: 'Using SDF can buy time for children who cannot manage dental treatment by stopping the decay getting worse until they can have further dental treatment. It's simple, quick and effective.'

Without treatment, the children would be at risk of requiring extractions under general anaesthetic and suffering from pain and abscesses while waiting for a hospital appointment. SDF contains both silver and fluoride in a solution of ammonia. It arrests caries until the child is older and more compliant with dental treatment.

The disadvantage of the technique is that it stains the dental decay black. Some parents find the staining reassuring, however, as it shows that the treatment is working on the decay. If the child is subsequently able to cope with more demanding treatment, fillings or preformed metal crowns may be placed over the SDF.

Claire Stevens, spokesperson for BSPD and a Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry said: 'All paediatric dental teams working in hospital departments want to keep procedures under general anaesthetic to a minimum currently which makes Laura's work timely. Ideally, more children will be treated in their family dental practice instead of being referred into secondary care for a general anaesthetic. We are very grateful to Laura for her hard work.'

To access the resources visit:

- <https://www.bspd.co.uk/Professionals/Resources>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=njfhmN55HWs>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tELmH9jRvv8>