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Issue 6

July 2017

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Looking Towards a Brighter Future



Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association, District XI, Delegates and Alternate Delegates at the ADHA 95th Annual Conference

Advocacy's Corner

How Will You Save More Than 3 Million Dollars?

Arizona dentists and dental hygienists will save a combined \$3.3 million in reduced and waived Board of Dental Examiners (BODEX) renewal fees between now and 2020 due to the

combined proactive efforts of the Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association (AzDHA) and the Arizona Dental Association (AzDA) over the last year.

[Continue Reading](#)

Arizona Oral Health Coalition Hosts Summit to Launch State Oral Health Plan

On May 12, over 130 stakeholders, including many dental hygienists and representatives of AzDHA, gathered at the Wigwam Resort to focus on ways to improve oral health through communication and collaboration. Participants heard many great presentations including a panel discussion on Arizona's Oral Health Landscape, What it Takes to Improve Rates of Pregnant Women Receiving Oral Healthcare, Why Health Literacy & Education are Critical to Success, Strategies for Oral Health Advocacy, and finally, workgroup discussions on the draft Arizona Oral Health Plan. An overview of the plan in Powerpoint form can be found [here](#). All resources from the event can be found [here](#).



Senator Bradley and Representative Cobb Host a Meeting of Oral Health Stakeholders

About 40 representatives from various organizations, policy makers, government agencies, and lobbyists gathered at the Capitol on June 29th to hear updates on the legislative session just ended and to begin to plan for next session. AzDHA has been participating in this stakeholder group since its inception in 2013. Some of the topics discussed included the Arizona Oral Health Plan, Arizona Oral Health Coalition workgroups which includes AHCCCS dental benefits for adult pregnant women and teledentistry, funding issues experienced by the Arizona Indian tribes, water fluoridation in Tucson, and challenges faced by individuals with developmental disabilities due to the \$1,000 benefit cap on dental services that includes charges for general anesthesia. Attendees with common advocacy goals were able to make connections as a result of this meeting. The group will meet again in December to discuss specific legislation that will be introduced. If you have an interest in advocacy and want to learn more about the efforts of AzDHA, please contact Deb Kappes at dkappes.azdha@gmail.com

2017 Legislative Session at a Glance

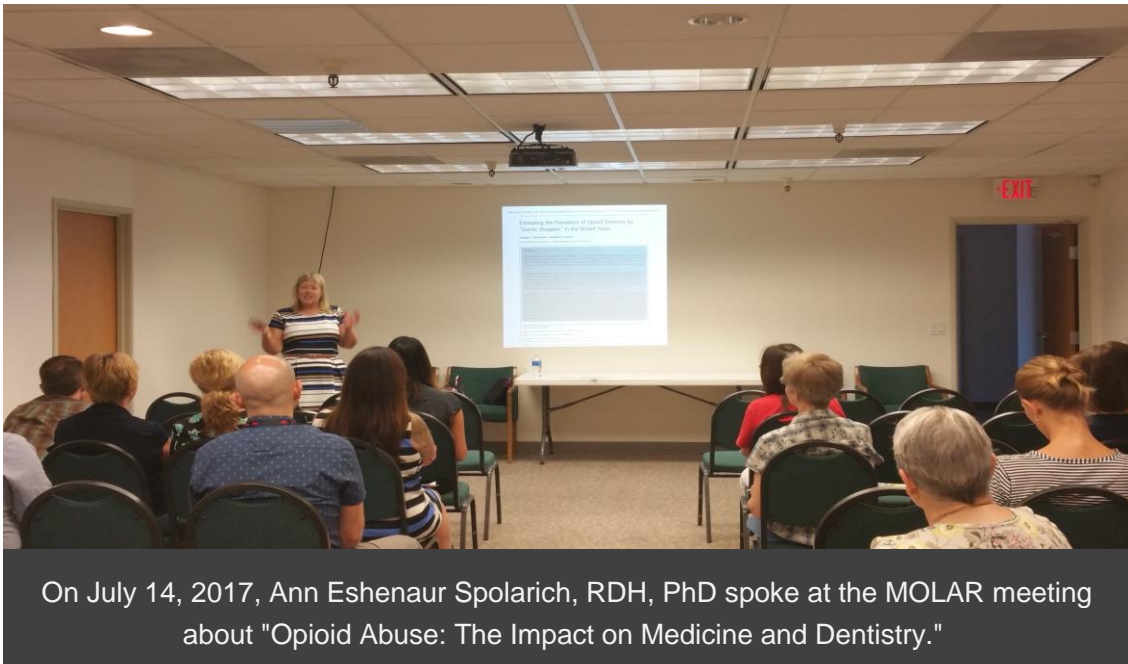
The 53rd Legislature – First Regular Session, adjourned on May 10, 2017. The Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association had two successes: The passage of Senate Bill 1362 which addressed a number of issues relating to the Board of Dental Examiners, licensing and licensure portability, affiliated practice, and teledentistry and restoring the AHCCCS emergency dental benefits for adults. A one-page summary can be found by clicking [here](#). For those wanting more detail, click [here](#) to access the complete end of session report prepared by our lobbying firm, Axiom Public Affairs.

American Journal of Public Health Releases Special Issue on Oral Health

The American Journal of Public Health released a special oral health supplement exploring oral health inequities and the need to diversify the health work force with additional providers including dental therapists. Henrie Monteith Treadwell, PhD, guest editor for the supplement writes, "This special issue—through scholarly articles addressing oral health inequities, vulnerable populations (e.g., the incarcerated and elderly), provider diversity, policy development, public health practice, and research—embraces a belief that protection of the public's health must include access to affordable and preventive oral health care services for everyone" (doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2017.303957).

All articles are available at: <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/107/S1>

Maricopa County Oral Health Leaders, Advocates, and Resources



If you have never been to a Molar meeting, you don't know what your missing! Attending one of these meetings is a great way to network and enjoy the variety of speakers and topics discussed at these meetings.

The next upcoming meeting is Friday, September 8, 2017, where Michelle Gross-Panico, DHSc, RDH, and Sandra DeVita, RDH, RN, will speak about "Integrating Oral Health into Primary Care."

For more information, go to <http://molarcoalition.org/>.

Component News

SADHA



Southern Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association BODs is hard at work planning for the upcoming year. Look for their upcoming fall schedule of CEs. You can follow them on their [Facebook page](#) for updates on their CE courses.

CADHA

The Central Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association's annual meeting, held in June, was a huge success! Dr. Rishi Popat, DMD, DMSc, spoke to a standing-room only group of enthusiastic dental hygienists eager to learn as much as possible about orthodontics on a Saturday morning! **Dr. Popat** is a North Central Phoenix native and Ivy-League trained orthodontist. He received his specialty Certificate in Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics at Harvard University and concurrently received his second Doctoral degree in Oral Biology from Harvard Medical School located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Popat was the only American dentist

accepted to Harvard's internationally renowned orthodontic residency in a class of five! Check out his website at: <http://popatorthodontics.com/>

Additionally, we were excited to hear the latest updates about our state association, the Arizona Dental Hygienists' Association (AzDHA), from Deb Kappes, RDH, MPH, AzDHA Vice President. What our state association's Board of Directors has accomplished legislatively for every dental hygienist in the state is truly remarkable! Check out their website to see a list of their accomplishments at <http://azdha.org/>.

We aren't slowing down over the summer, either! We still have our monthly social/study clubs scheduled for every month. Information regarding these monthly meetings is sent to everyone on our email distribution list. To be included, send an email to centralazdentalhygienists@gmail.com.

The next upcoming CE is August 1, 2017. Dr. William Hull will be presenting on "Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office." The location is at Times Square, 718 E. Union Hills Dr., from 6-8 pm. It is free of charge for members, and \$15.00 for non-members. For more details contact us at centralazdentalhygienists@gmail.com.

Arizona Dental Hygiene Schools: What are they up to?



Arizona Dental Foundation's 15th annual "Give Kids a Smile" was hosted this year at [Rio Salado College Dental Hygiene Clinic](#). According to the [Arizona Dental Foundation](#), "116 children received 659 dental procedures totaling \$40,175.56 worth of care in one day."

