

Annual Presidential and Scientific Meeting 2025

A smile for life – Prevention first

Assembly Buildings, Belfast

Sponsored by:



Programme
Thursday 2 October 2025

08:45 Registration, refreshments, exhibition and poster display

09:15 Introduction, Valedictory Address and Installation of President

09:30 Welcome to Belfast

09:40 Welcome from the sponsors - Wrights

09:45 Bite into performance: Oral health meets sports nutrition

Aim

This session aims to increase knowledge and understanding around the oral health risks associated with a sports-specific diet. It will cover how oral diseases and health problems can negatively affect performance.

Learning objectives

- Discuss the different ways in which sport-specific diets can affect oral health
- Understand how nutrition is of major importance in managing and enhancing athletic performance and recovery/adaptive processes
- Understand the ways in which poor oral health can impact performance
- Explores ways of how to prevent oral deterioration.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Development
outcome



Lorna Cooke, Sports Performance Nutritionist

10:45 Refreshments, exhibition and poster display

11:15 Childhood neglect - Improving outcomes

Aim

To look at neglect and the possible impact this may have for children.

Learning objectives

- Discuss what neglect looks like
- Explore how children's health and development can be seriously compromised by the experience of neglect
- Enable practitioners to recognise children who are or may be, being neglected
- Look at how professionals may respond to neglect, keeping the child's needs central.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Development
outcome



Fiona Corbett, Social Worker, Social Work and Social Care Learning and Improvement Team, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

12:00 Mouthguards in Rugby Union - Why the recent sea change?

Aim

To understand the evolution, purpose, and impact of mouthguard technology in rugby union, with a focus on concussion management, dental protection, and the integration of smart mouthguards in elite sport.

Learning objectives

- Describe the historical use of mouthguards in rugby
- Explain the significance of sport-related concussion in rugby
- Discuss the role of mouthguards in preventing dental trauma
- Outline the development and implementation of smart mouthguards in elite rugby union over the past two years
- Evaluate the findings from the use of smart mouthguards
- Reflect on the future of mouthguard technology in rugby.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Development
outcome



Michael Webb, Medical Director Ulster Rugby

12:45 Lunch, exhibition and poster display

13:45 Are you skiving?

Aim

Prevention and oral health promotion may not be 'sexy dentistry' but this session will underscore prevention and promoting oral health over the life course. It will be a journey of opportunities and challenge you to reflect on your role in preventing disease and promoting oral health. What

applies to all, what is specific for age/individual needs where oral health is viewed as a journey, not a destination.

Learning objectives

- Identify evidence-based prevention across the life course
- Discuss the role of 'packaging' advice and/or actions to improve oral health
- Organise preventive 'packages' for age and individual needs
- Describe key players to deliver better oral health across the life course.

Learning content

This presentation and interactive session will provide delegates with knowledge and resources to integrate prevention and oral health promotion into daily practice.

Development
outcome 

Leigh Hunter, Oral Health Coach and Founder of GrowingSmiles.co.uk
BONJ - MRONJ - The light bulb moments - A clinicians experience and personal perspective over several decades

14:45 **Evolution within paediatric CDS from the anaesthetic perspective**

Aim

This session will explore the evolution within the paediatric CDS from an anaesthetic point of view.

Learning objectives:

- Discuss the different airways anaesthetists might use in community dentistry
- Learn what the anaesthetist wants every community dentist to know about sharing the airway
- Explore the evolution of the average community dental patient
- Identify the different types of pre-operative sedation
- Discuss the evolution of hospital delivered care and that of the average DGH anaesthetist.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Development outcome

Development
outcome 

Conor Lamb, Consultant Anaesthetist, Ulster Hospital, South Eastern Health Trust

15:30 **Save the date – CDS Conference 2026**

15:45 **Refreshments, exhibition and poster display**

Aim

To increase knowledge of pension saving in the UK, with a focus on the NHS/HSC Pension Scheme.

Learning objectives

- Familiarise yourself with the different types of pension available, and have a broad understanding of where the NHS/HSC Pension fits in
- Appreciate the differences between personal pensions and NHS/HSC Pension
- Gain an understanding of the basic operation of the NHS/HSC Pension Scheme and how to get further personalised information
- Be aware of how the tax regime interacts with pension savings.

Learning content

This lecture will help attendees feel more confident in their knowledge of their NHS/HSC Pension and retirement planning more generally.

Development
outcome



Phil McEvoy, Head of Pensions, British Dental Association

Programme

Friday 3 October 2025

08:45 Registration, refreshments, exhibition and poster display

09:15 Welcome

09:30 **Minimum Intervention Oral Care (MIOC) - The contemporary approach to managing dental caries in primary care**

Aim

This lecture will outline and discuss the minimum intervention oral care delivery framework that should be used as best clinical practise in dental caries management in primary care.

Learning objectives

- Outline the minimum intervention oral care delivery framework
- Discuss the four interlinked clinical domains of the person-focused, susceptibility-related, team-delivered and prevention-based MIOC framework
- Outline the use of the oral healthcare team workforce to deliver such care to our patients.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Development
outcome



Avijit Banerjee, Professor of Cariology and Operative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences (FoDOCS), King's College London and Consultant and Clinical Lead, Restorative Dentistry, Guy's & St. Thomas' Hospitals Foundation Trust, London

10:30 **Poster competition presentation**

10:45 Refreshments, exhibition and poster display

11:15 **Can you eat or run your way out of periodontitis?**

Aim

After this presentation you should be able to initiate brief behavioural interventions to promote periodontal health through nutrition and physical activity.

Learning objectives

- Understand the importance of physical activity on health including periodontal health
- Describe the contribution of nutrition to general and periodontal health
- Understand how to incorporate brief interventions for nutrition and physical activity into daily encounters.

Learning content

A lecture with the opportunity to ask the speaker questions at the end.

Ian Needleman, Professor of Periodontology and Evidence-Informed Healthcare, University College London, Eastman Dental Institute

12:15 **Annual General Meeting (All BDA members welcome)**

12:30 **Lunch, exhibition and poster display (or 12:15 for non-members)**

Raffle prize winners on display

13:30 **Prevention in older adults**

Aims

Following this presentation delegates should know the following:

- The changing patterns in oral health amongst older adults
- The challenges of preventing and managing caries in older adults
- The options available for replacing missing natural teeth in older adults.

Learning objectives

- Learn how to work with your patients to plan appropriate preventative regimes
- Use evidence-based approaches to manage caries in partially dentate older adults
- Consider the most appropriate tooth replacement options for older adults.

Learning content

During this lecture, Gerry will discuss prevention of chronic oral diseases in older adults.

Gerry McKenna, Chair of Oral Health Services Research and Gerodontology/Consultant in Restorative Dentistry, Queens University Belfast

14:30 **Winning the fight against caries - Effective prevention for patients at increased caries risk**

Aim

To provide an overview of caries risk patients and the evidence base for caries prevention.

Learning objectives

- Understand patient and clinical factors contributing to increased caries risk
- Review evidence-based guidance for caries prevention
- Explore legislative changes with regards to dental exemptions for dental hygienists and dental therapist
- Review the Colgate® Duraphat® range of licensed products indicated for caries prevention/control.

Learning content

This presentation addresses the ongoing challenge of caries in both adults and children. Attendees will gain insights into patient and clinical factors that contribute to increased caries risk, review evidence-based strategies for prevention, and explore the Colgate® Duraphat® range of licensed products for caries control. Additionally, the session will cover recent legislative changes concerning dental exemptions for dental hygienists and therapists.

Development
outcome 

Stephanie Gribben, Senior Oral Care Consultant for Colgate-Palmolive

15:00 Refreshments, exhibition and poster display

15:30 SDCEP@20: An update and vision for the future

Aim

To provide an update and reflect on 20 years of SDCEP and consider how an evidence ecosystem might be the future.

Learning objectives

- Understand of how SDCEP guidelines are created, reviewed and amended
- Know where to access current SDCEP guidance
- Gain knowledge of which guidelines are due to be changed and have recently changed
- Consider the design of an evidence ecosystem for oral health.

Learning content

The presentation will include a description of the reasons for establishing SDCEP and the process of developing guidance. The latest SDCEP guidance topics and the challenges faced by the current volume of synthesised evidence will be discussed. Access to SDCEP guidance will be shared and the importance of implementation debated. The design of an evidence ecosystem oral health will be presented.

Development
outcome 

Jan Clarkson, Director of the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP)

16:30 Close

Speakers



Lorna Cooke

Sports Performance Nutritionist

Lorna is a performance nutritionist at the Sport Northern Ireland Sports Institute. She is a HCPC registered Dietitian and a SENr Practitioner and has been working in performance sport for over 13 years. She completed her Post Graduate Diploma in Dietetics at Glasgow Caledonian University in 2005 and then went on to complete her Post Graduate Certificate in Sports and Exercise Nutrition at Coventry University in 2010. In her current role, Lorna provides nutrition support to a number of elite athletes across a range of sports including para-swimming, swimming, football, lawn bowls and athletics.



Fiona Corbett

Social Worker, Social Work and Social Care Learning and Improvement Team, South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

Fiona is a social worker and currently works in the Social Work and Social Care Learning and Improvement team for the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust. Her focus within the team, is providing training and support to Trust staff, on safeguarding children. This training focuses on the general wellbeing of children, looking at a continuum of support for children and families ranging from meeting needs to protecting children at risk of harm. Prior to joining the team, Fiona worked within family and child care social services. She worked with families who needed extra support, with families where children were at risk. She was also involved in joint investigating with the police alleged abuse of children and in providing therapeutic support to children.



Michael Webb

Medical Director Ulster Rugby

A former pupil of Bangor Grammar School and captain of their Schools' Cup winning side in 1985, after school he played senior rugby for Dublin University and Bective Rangers whilst studying medicine at Trinity College Dublin. Following university he completed General Practice & Sports Medicine training in London before returning home to Northern Ireland in 1995 where he finished his playing career with Bangor RFC. He combines his role with Ulster Rugby with his work as a GP principal in Newtownards and boasts an impressive set of credentials in the field of sports medicine. Having completed his diploma in sports medicine in 1998, he began working for Ulster Rugby in 2000 as Team Doctor for the Ulster U21 side and has since administered to the Ulster Rugby Academy, Ireland U18, Ireland U21 and Ireland A. He has also been the Assistant Team Doctor to the Ireland Senior Team since 2003, touring Japan (2005), Argentina (2007) and North America (2009) but counts his role as Team Doctor on the day Ireland won the Grad Slam in Cardiff in 2009 as a real high point. He also counts on experience from working in elite sports medicine within other sports, including ice hockey, where he was Team Doctor for the Belfast Giants (2001-2003) and athletics, where he was recently the Team Doctor for the Ireland Athletics Team

competing in the Europa Cup. He is also a member of the British Olympic Medical Committee.



Leigh Hunter

Oral Health Coach and Founder of [GrowingSmiles.co.uk](https://growing-smiles.co.uk)

Leigh has over 40 years experience in a variety of dental environments both in the UK and abroad and is passionate about prevention and promoting oral health. She contributed to the latest edition of *Delivering Better Oral Health* and to a Head and Neck Cancer text book for dental professionals, writing the chapter on Xerostomia.

Leigh has experience in the community and hospital dental services; private specialist and general dental practice, education and training as well as the commercial side of dentistry. These days she describes herself as an oral health coach and is founder of [GrowingSmiles.co.uk](https://growing-smiles.co.uk) where the aim is to help people, help themselves have a healthier smile for life.



Conor Lamb

Consultant Anaesthetist, Ulster Hospital, South Eastern Health Trust

Conor is a Consultant Anaesthetist at the Ulster Hospital in Belfast. His main subspecialist interests are in maternity and head and neck anaesthesia. He has been doing a community dental every Friday since 2017 and is currently is also involved in training and education of the anaesthetic resident doctors at his hospital. Conor is looking forward to telling you his pseudonyms that have originated from the community dental list.



Phil McEvoy

Head of Pensions, British Dental Association

Phil has over 20 years' experience in the pensions industry, the majority representing member interests in the NHS and other areas of the public sector. He sits on advisory boards for the NHS Pension Schemes across the UK.



Avijit Banerjee

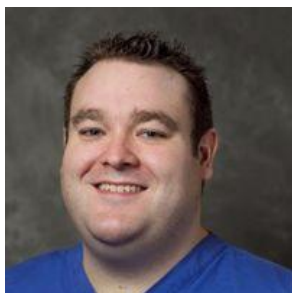
Avijit is Professor of Cariology & Operative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences (FoDOCS), King's College London, UK; Hon. Consultant & Clinical Lead, Restorative Dentistry, Guy's & St. Thomas' Hospitals Foundation Trust, London, UK. He currently holds three international honorary chairs as well as being a member of the Board of Trustees, Oman Dental College, Oman and the UK Oral & Dental Research Trust (ODRT).



Ian Needleman

Professor of Periodontology and Evidence-Informed Healthcare,
University College London, Eastman Dental Institute

Ian is Professor of Periodontology and Evidence-Informed Healthcare at University College London, Eastman Dental Institute, London UK. He leads the Centre for Oral Health and Performance (ucl.ac.uk/cohp) which was awarded recognition by the International Olympic Committee as part of the UK Research Centre for prevention of injury and protection of athlete health. He is also in specialist practice at PerioLondon. Ian was a Cochrane Editor for Periodontal Health 2002-2023. His research has been awarded prizes by the European Federation of Periodontology, Royal Society of Medicine, German Periodontal Society, German Cochrane Centre and International Association for Dental Research. He was awarded the UCL Provost's Prize for Institutional Leadership in Public Engagement in 2017 and nominated as an inspiring teacher by UCL in 2007. During the pandemic, Ian worked in the Critical Care Unit at University College Hospital London to develop a Family Liaison Team which received both the 2021 Intensive Care Society Improvement Project and the UCLH Top Quality Patient care awards. Ian is a past president of the British Society of Periodontology and Implant Dentistry and a Faculty member of the International Olympic Committee Diploma in Sports Medicine. He has been a member of many international consensus Workshops in Periodontology and Implant Dentistry. When not injured, he is a keen endurance mountain and road runner.



Gerry McKenna

Chair of Oral Health Services Research and Gerodontology/Consultant
in Restorative Dentistry, Queens University Belfast

Gerry completed his PhD and specialist clinical training in University College Cork. He works as a Consultant in Restorative Dentistry in Queens University Belfast where he provides clinical supervision and teaching for undergraduate and postgraduate dental students. His clinical work is focused on fixed and removable prosthodontics including managing older adults. Gerry is a clinical researcher based within the Centre for Public Health where he leads oral health research. He is the immediate past president of the BDA Northern Ireland. Gerry is also past President of the British Society of Gerodontology, the Geriatric Oral Research Group of the International Association for Dental Research and the European College of Gerodontology. His research is centered on optimizing treatment options for older adults which positively impact their dental and overall health



Stephanie Gribben

Senior Oral Care Consultant for Colgate-Palmolive

Stephanie is the Senior Oral Care Consultant for Colgate-Palmolive. She lives in Newcastle Co. Down and has worked with Colgate for 15 years looking after dental teams in Northern Ireland and Queen's University dental students.



Jan Clarkson

Director of the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP)

Jan is Director of the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP) and Professor of Clinical Effectiveness at the University of Dundee. Her remit is to conduct high-quality research and promote the implementation of evidence in dental primary care. Professor Clarkson has attracted more than £15m to lead UK-wide trials involving over 200 dental practices and 5,000 of their patients. She is a founding member of the Cochrane Oral Health Group. In 2023 she was elected a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Academy of Medical Sciences, the first dentist to have been awarded both.

Accreditation

The conference meets the educational criteria set by the GDC for enhanced CPD (9.5 hours total) and is certified by the British Dental Association.

Sponsor



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Exhibitors

The following organisations will also be exhibiting at the event. Please make time to visit their stands during the refreshment breaks.

British Dental Association
Chase De Vere
Colgate
Coltene
Dentsply
Design Specific
J&S Davis Ltd
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w: bda.org



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Colgate

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We are also here to support your clinical practice with a range of professional resources from patient materials and samples to ECPD educational programmes, designed to enhance both your professional development and patient care.

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Whatever your needs, we are here to help and we look forward to welcoming you to our stand.

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