



**Community
Dental Services
Group**

Annual Presidential and Scientific Meeting 2026
Tooth be told - CDS is for everyone
Venue Cymru, Llandudno

Sponsored by:



Programme
Thursday 8 October 2026

08:45 *Registration, refreshments and exhibition*

09:15 **Introduction, Valedictory address and Installation of President**

09:30 **Welcome to Wales**

09.40 **How we make the dental GA experience special in North Wales**

Aims

- Highlight how a dental GA service can deliver safe, high-quality, patient-centred care through thorough assessment and holistic planning
- Emphasise the importance of collaborative working across community, primary, and secondary care to support a positive experience for patients with complex needs.

Learning objectives

- Appreciate the importance of identifying the different features of a malocclusion and be able Undertake a basic orthodontic assessment
- Understand the different types of orthodontic service provider along with the types of clinical cases they manage
- Appreciate the principles of the Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need (IOTN).

Learning content

An overview of dental GA pathways and services in North Wales, using Ty Nerys and its unique approach as an example. The session will explain effective GA assessment and best interests planning, outlines the patient journey on GA day, present mini cases illustrating key issues that commonly arise in practice, and explores core challenges in delivering Special Care Dentistry GA across the region and wider local community.

Development outcomes

A, B, C, D

Daniella Garcia Lucas and Zoe Greenwood, Specialists in Special Care Dentistry, North Wales
Community Dental Service

10:40 *Refreshments, exhibition and poster display*

11:10 **From Boundaries to Bridges - Caring for our population**

Aims

- Consider how the needs of the population are changing within the current political and social climate
- Describe the changing profile of oral and systemic disease with consequences for health demand on a population basis
- Review current structure of services, benefits, strengths and opportunity for change
- Understand the importance of effective acquisition and use of data

Learning objectives

- Describe a systems approach to how the Community Dental Services can function
- Identify where there may be opportunities to work differently to move towards change
- Bring a health inequalities perspective to delivery of care
- Appreciate the demands on those leading and delivering Community Dental Services and how to build capacity to adapt.

Learning content

Lecture and discussion points designed to stimulate reflection and encourage establishment of informal and formal networks.

Development outcomes

A, B, C, D

Suzanne Burke, Clinical Director, Liverpool University Dental Hospital

12:10 **Dental radiography for special care - A bag of tricks**

Aims

- Review the varied challenges when carrying out radiographs for patients with additional needs
- Discuss some approaches to minimising these challenges
- Discuss the use of skill mix in radiography.

Learning objectives

- Describe the challenges which may be encountered when taking radiographs for patients with additional needs
- Apply some different techniques to aid successful radiography
- Identify areas where skill mix can be applied to aid dental radiography.

Learning content

Patients with additional needs face many and varied challenges when approaching dental care. Dental radiography is a key tool to help aid diagnosis and treatment planning. Being able to achieve good quality radiographs, or sometimes any radiographs requires a clinical team to use all of the resources at their disposal. This session will aim to provide some practical tips and tricks as well as to outline how skill mix is applied in our service.

Development outcomes

A, B, C, D

Jessica Bell-Davies, Specialist in Special Care Dentistry and Deputy Clinical Director, North Wales Community Dental Service, **Karen Windsor**, Enhanced Dental Nurse and **Chelsey Wright**, Enhanced Dental Nurse

12:55 *Lunch, exhibition and poster display*

13:55 A patient's journey with oral cancer

Aim

To raise awareness of what treatment a patient has to undergo whilst being treated for oral cancer.

Learning objectives

To understand the link between the HPV16 virus and oral cancer and the importance of vaccination.

Learning content

A personal journey using photographs, scans and statistics of the diagnosis and treatment of oral cancer caused by the HPV16 virus.

Development outcome

C

Bryan Webber, Retired GDP

14:55 Undertaking an orthodontic assessment and orthodontic referrals

Aims

- Explore the fundamentals of an orthodontic clinical assessment
- Discuss the various types of orthodontic service provider, their role, and the types of treatment they provide
- Provide an overview of Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need.

Learning objectives

- Appreciate the importance of identifying the different features of a malocclusion and be able to undertake a basic orthodontic assessment
- Understand the different types of orthodontic service provider along with the types of clinical cases they manage
- Appreciate the principles of the Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need (IOTN).

Learning content

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

Development outcomes

A, C

Benjamin Lewis, Consultant Orthodontist, Wrexham Maelor and Glan Clwyd Hospitals

15:35 Save the date – CDS conference 2027

15:40 *Refreshments, exhibition and poster display*

16:10 Aetiology of malocclusion and interceptive measures to improve outcomes

Aims

- Discuss variations in dental and facial development which would benefit from intervention and when to appropriately refer to a specialist
- Explore the aetiology of a range of dental malocclusions and some of the interceptive measures which can be undertaken
- Discuss clinical guidelines relating to orthodontic problems.

Learning objectives

- Appreciate variations in dental and facial development which would benefit from intervention and when to appropriately refer to a specialist
- Understand the aetiology of a range of dental malocclusions and some of the interceptive measures which can be undertaken
- Appreciate the range of clinical guidelines available relating to orthodontic problems and associated interventions.

Learning content

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

Development outcomes

A, C

Benjamin Lewis, Consultant Orthodontist, Wrexham Maelor and Glan Clwyd Hospitals

17:00 **Close**

Programme

Friday 9 October 2026

08:45 *Registration, refreshments and exhibition*

09:15 Welcome and housekeeping notes

09:30 **Addressing health inequalities in cleft care through community dentistry**

Aim

Using North Wales as a case study, explore how we can work better together to reduce inequalities in cleft care, improve access to prevention and specialist support, and deliver equitable, patient-centred care closer to home.

Learning objectives

- Understand how deprivation and variation affect children with cleft in North Wales
- Recognise barriers families face when accessing dental care
- Consider how community dental teams can strengthen prevention and equity
- Share local experiences and perspectives.

Learning content

Overview of cleft lip and palate and associated oral health risks; discussion of inequalities and access challenges across North Wales; the role of community dental services in prevention and reducing variation; a one-minute animation highlighting access barriers; open discussion with colleagues about local service experiences.

Development outcomes

A, B, C, D

Madhavi Seshu, Cleft Orthodontist, Alder Hey Children's Hospital

10:30 **Poster competition presentation**

10:45 *Refreshments, exhibition and poster display*

11:15 **Management of the severely worn dentition with acrylic dentures**

Aim

This lecture will discuss how a severely worn and depleted dentition can sometimes be managed with a well design acrylic denture.

Learning objectives

- Overview of the broad management strategies to manage toothwear
- Describe the indications and contraindications for a removable prosthesis to manage a worn dentition.
- Define an overdenture, onlay denture and overlay denture

- Understand how to design an acrylic over denture/onlay denture with specific reference to flange placement, clasp prescription and optimising tooth support
- Explore how to design a gasket over denture to optimise prosthetic retention.

Learning content

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

Development outcome

C

Rahat Ali, Consultant in Restorative Dentistry, Liverpool University Dental Hospital and Training Programme Director in Restorative Dentistry, Northwest, NHS England

12:15 **AGM** (BDA members only)

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

13:30 **Living with obesity - A psychological perspective**

Aim

Attendees will understand the biopsychosocial factors in obesity, the psychological support needs of people living with excess weight through the lens of bariatric surgery, and the role of assessment and intervention in weight loss surgery. The session will also cover compassionate, constructive conversations using motivational interviewing, MECC, goal setting, and promoting wider wellbeing.

Learning objectives

- Understand bio-psycho-social factors in obesity (including mental health and social determinants)
- Recognise psychological needs in excess weight and surgical weight loss
- Explain psychology's role in MDT weight loss services
- Understand compassionate communication, including motivational interviewing and MECC.

Learning content

The biopsychosocial approach to obesity, the social determinants of health, the psychological and mental health factors impacting weight management, the expectations of weight loss surgery, the role of psychology assessment, the psychological risks of surgery, the support offered from psychology around weight loss surgery, the importance of language when discussing weight, the five ways to wellbeing, MECC, and motivational interviewing.

Development outcomes

A, C, D

Peter Cox, Assistant Psychologist, Sunderland Royal Hospital

14:20 **The modern weight loss revolution: Clinical implications for the dental practitioner**

Aim

To review the most commonly encountered weight loss medications and discuss their potential impact on oral health and dental care.

Learning objectives

- Gain awareness of the commonly encountered weight loss medications
- Increase knowledge of the potential oral health implications of commonly used weight loss medications.

Learning content

This session will aim to raise awareness of the common weight loss medications which patients are increasingly using. The session will explore how these medications work, how they are used, the common

indications for their use as well as the oral health implications in order to enable teams to support patients along their weight loss journey.

Development outcome

C

Caroline Graham, Consultant in Special Care Dentistry and Clinical Lead Tees Community Dental Service, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust.

15:10 *Refreshments, exhibition and poster display*

15:40 **Weighing up life - A patients perspective**

Aim

Discuss accessing dental and medical care from the patient's perspective

Learning objectives

- Discuss the background to obesity and the prejudice and discrimination faced by overweight patients
- Appreciate a patient's perspective and journey prior to sitting in the dental chair
- Consider the patients thoughts and feelings around accessing dental care and barriers to accessing dental care
- Accept patient feedback as a profession for offering care to obese adults.

Learning content

A personal story of managing obesity. The good and the bad experiences interacting with dental and medical professionals. What can we learn to make future experiences better?

Development outcomes

C, D

Nick Rowley, Patient

16.10 **Panel discussion** with Caroline Graham, Peter Cox and Nick Rowley

16:30 **Close**