Opioids in Dentistry

ADA Statement on the Use of Opioids in the Treatment of Dental Pain

1. When considering prescribing opioids, dentists should conduct a medical and dental history to determine current medications, potential drug interactions and history of substance abuse.

2. Dentists should follow and continuously review Centers for Disease Control and State Licensing Boards recommendations for safe opioid prescribing.

3. Dentists should register with and utilize the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) to promote the appropriate use of controlled substances for legitimate medical purposes, while deterring the misuse, abuse and diversion of these substances.

4. Dentists should have a discussion with patients regarding their responsibilities for preventing misuse, abuse, storage and disposal of prescription opioids.

5. Dentists should consider treatment options that utilize best practices to prevent exacerbation of or relapse of opioid misuse.

To access the full ADA House of Delegates 2016 Statement click: Opioid Use in Dentistry.

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This March 2017 marks the beginning of the six years of publishing First Friday — Dean’s Update to the IUSD Community! What fun this has been and what amazing things we have accomplished together over these past five years. My introductory paragraph in March 2012 read:

Welcome to the first monthly edition of something I have wanted to do to enhance school-wide communication from the dean’s office. I had actually planned to begin this update with the new calendar year 2012, but the best plans are sometimes delayed!! IUSD is a very busy place, and it is easy to lose track of time amid our busy lives. So, I want to highlight a few of the things we continue to do to advance the Vision and Mission of IUSD to make Indiana one of the best dental schools of the 21st century. (March 2, 2012)

Five years later, I remain passionate about the many good things happening at IUSD. With new facilities becoming more real every day and the many discussions within the school about ways to improve the educational, research, patient care and service programs, IUSD is on the move to become one of the best dental schools of the 21st century. I welcome your feedback and interest as we move forward to this vision.

Fritts Clinical Care Center Progress...March 2017

Continued favorable winter weather has allowed much progress to be completed on Fritts Clinical Center. As the photo shows, we now have the skeleton of the three-story building plus penthouse space for mechanical, heating and air handling equipment. Vermont Street is re-opened as utility tie-ins are now complete. In April, the Fritts facility will be attached to the north and south connectors of the existing dental school buildings to create a rectangular pedestrian walkway on the first and third floors of the integrated complex. Walls are now being installed in what will be the first floor clinical area! Watch all the daily action on the construction camera here at Fritts Clinical Care.
IU Health Deans to Assist Indiana Governor to Address Drug Epidemic

President McRobbie assembled the IU Health deans under the University Clinical Affairs (UCA) school network to actively partner with Indiana Governor Holcomb to address what the Governor has identified as one of his top five priorities for Indiana – addictions and the drug epidemic. As outlined in the Governor’s 2017 State of the State address, “This is a problem that is taking an enormous toll across the country, and Indiana has not escaped the pain. Since the year 2000, deaths from drug overdoses have increased 500 percent, and we are 15th in the country in overdose fatalities. This epidemic causes ripple effects with devastating impacts on our children and families, our cities and towns, our schools and government agencies, our health care system and health care costs for each of us, and our economy. For dentistry, this has also been a topic of much discussion at the ADA (see side bar on page 1).

Clinic and Office Moves Coming Soon

During the month of March as we plan for the future use of space in the existing building and eventually moving the Comp Care program into the Fritts Clinical Care building, a number of moves are anticipated of clinical and office spaces. Pre-doctoral oral surgery and the emergency clinic will return to the dental school and relocate to the space currently occupied by screening. Screening will consolidate and move into some adjacent space all located in the south building on the first floor. More details to follow shortly.

IUPUI Chancellor’s Report to the Community 2017

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Chancellor Nasser H. Paydar delivered the annual Chancellor’s Report to the Community on February 15, highlighting the vital partnership between the city of Indianapolis and the campus.

Welcoming Campus Initiative – IUSD Planning

An IUSD planning group, under the leadership of Mr. Damon Spight, is planning to be a player in the IUPUI Chancellor’s “Welcoming Campus Initiative,” launched a year ago. The initiative was created to foster an environment that encourages and supports the highest levels of personal and academic achievement among faculty, staff and students. It was also designed to make members of the community feel welcomed, inspired and encouraged to stay on campus. IUSD is planning to submit several grant proposals.

DDS Student Nametag Pilot Project Kicks Off

The Office of Admissions and Student Affairs is implementing a pilot professional nametag project for all DDS students. We heard from many students, faculty and staff about the need to be able to quickly identify students in the class and clinic setting. Nametags were distributed beginning February 23 and are optional for students at this point. We welcome us your thoughts!

Spring (Equinox) is Near – Yeah!

The IU Star Trak newsletter reports, the sun will cross the celestial equator at 6:29 a.m. EDT March 20 heading north. This will mark the start of spring in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere.

In Closing…….Thanks to the IUSD Community

During this time of mourning, I thank each of you for the many lovely flowers, notes/cards, and words of condolence. The Williams family thanks each of you for your kindness and concern at this time which speaks to the heart of IUSD. Thank you.

Upcoming IUSD Events

- March 17-21: ADEA Annual Session Long Beach, CA
- March 21-25: AADR/IADR Annual Session San Francisco, CA
- March 20-25: IUSD Spring Break
- April 10: 25th Annual IUSD Research Day, IUPUI Campus Center

Thanks to each of you for your dedication to and support of the Vision and Mission of IUSD. I’ll be back next month with another edition of First Friday…Dean’s Update.

- John

Check out all the current IU Dentistry news on our website: www.dentistry.iu.edu or on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/IUDentistry