Spring into Toronto

Two days of exhibits, three days of education, nights filled with fun

Welcome to one of the largest and most respected dental conventions in North America, the Ontario Dental Association’s Annual Spring Meeting.

The meeting includes three days of education and also includes a two-day trade show — capped each day with a complimentary cocktail reception on the exhibit floor.

In the days ahead, more than 90 internationally renowned speakers will cover a broad and diverse range of clinical, practice-management and personal development topics. The exhibit floor features more than 330 companies and organizations offering a wide range of tried-and-true and new-and-innovative dental products, services and technology for attendees to test and compare.

The lectures, workshops and exhibits serve dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and all other members of a dental practice’s staff.

“Asm19 features more than 330 exhibitors and 90 speakers – and quick access to Toronto’s world-class dining, shopping, arts, culture and entertainment. (Photo/Provided by Tourism Toronto)”
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conference and trade show attracts more than 13,000 dental professionals from across Canada, the United States and internationally to learn, network and share best practices.

New this year
Returning attendees will notice a few changes this year. One of the biggest is the addition of the “Emerging Speaker Showcase” featuring presentations by experts with high-value information but with limited experience speaking professionally. These presentations are structured in shorter blocks of time compared with many of the other educational sessions, with each scheduled for 75 minutes. That gives attendees the opportunity to check out a wide range of topics with minimal time commitment. The Emerging Speaker Showcase runs today and Friday. There is no extra charge, but you should sign-in and be aware that seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis. The showcase is in Room 712 on the 700 Level.

Seating will be less of a challenge at most of the meeting’s other sessions this year because of another change put into place by meeting organizers:

All of these sessions are now ticketed. Most courses are in the South Building of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, but some are in the North Building and the InterContinental Toronto Centre. To confirm final locations and schedules, you’re encouraged to consult the ASM19 website, Program-at-a-Glance, mobile app and on-site signage.

75,000 square feet filled with dental innovation
A great complement to the meeting’s expanded offering of hands-on educational sessions, the ASM exhibit hall also offers an abundance of tactile opportunities.

The more than 600 booths occupied by more than 330 dental companies and organizations are staffed by some of the industry’s most knowledgeable professionals – all ready to answer questions and guide you through some of the industry’s highest-value advancements.

But it’s not all just business. There’s plenty of opportunity to ensure dental professionals are leading fully balanced lives. Among the exhibit hall’s destinations designed to keep you energized, motivated and happy are:

The Relaxation Zone in booth No. 2141: Professionally staffed, this booth offers attendees the opportunity to receive 10-minute neck and shoulder massages.

The Wellness Lounge in booth No. 2226, sponsored by Carestream Dental: Not your ordinary lounge, here you’ll find an oxygen bar and various other complimentary enhancements of your well-being.

Healthy Eating Zone in booth No. 2212: Now an ASM staple, this popular area is staffed by the well-known author and chef Rose Reisman and team. She has been providing Canadians with healthy eating recipes for 20-plus years.

The author of 19 books that encompass more than 2,000 recipes, she focuses on preventing chronic disease, maintaining healthy weight and keeping stress in check. But the real draw here, throughout both days of exhibits, is the opportunity to sample the delightful, delectable food – that’s good for you.

Cocktail Receptions: End your time in the exhibit hall each day with these complimentary but-ticket-required networking and socializing opportunities. The receptions run from 4:30–5:30 p.m. on both days. Tickets are limited.

(Source: Ontario Dental Association ASM19 website)
New: Hands-free infrared technology

By Designs for Vision Staff

Designs for Vision is introducing patented hands-free infrared technology with the WireLess™ IR HDi™ and the Micro IR HDi headlights. These headlights feature HDi, high-definition imaging, Designs for Vision’s exclusive advanced photonic design that provides uniform light distribution with maximum intensity.

The patent pending HDi technology optically focuses the light from the LED to provide 45 percent more light with uniform distribution.

The patented IR feature enables better infection control by letting you operate the headlight without touching the system. The IR headlights use a built-in infrared signal to enable you to turn the light on or off simply and safely. Onboard biometrics sense the position of the headlight to filter out unintended signals while working.

Designs for Vision has added the high-definition imaging to all of its headlights, including the LED Day-Lite® WireLess IR and the LED DayLite WireLess Mini, providing a lightweight cordless solution with light intensity comparable to many corded headlights. You can choose high-definition imaging with either a wired or wireless design to meet your preference, and any of the HDi headlights will illuminate the entire oral cavity.

Designs for Vision’s WireLess headlights free you from being tethered to a battery pack. The simple modular designsuncouple the headlights from a specific frame or single pair of loupes. Prior technology married a cordless light to one pair of loupes via a cumbersome integration of the batteries and electronics into the frame. The compact design of the LED DayLite WireLess headlights are independent of any frame/loupes.

The LED DayLite Micro HDi uses the new high definition imaging with a very lightweight headlight in combination with the Micro power pack. The Micro power pack is the lightest and smallest power pack. The complete unit includes two power packs, and each power pack can run up to 10 hours.

Designs for Vision is also featuring the REALITY 5-Star rated Micro 3.5EF Scopes and Micro 4.5EF Scopes utilizing a revolutionary optical design that reduces the size of the prismatic telescope by 50 percent and reduces the weight by 40 percent while providing an expanded field view of the oral cavity.

Designs for Vision is excited to announce that it recently expanded into a new 67,500 square foot location on Long Island at 4000 Veterans Memorial Highway, Bohemia, N.Y.

You can see the Visible Difference® yourself by visiting Designs for Vision’s booth, No. 630, or contact the company to arrange a visit in your office by calling (800) 345-4009 or emailing info@dvimail.com.
Align University Training Institute opens in Shanghai

By Align Technology Staff

Align Technology Inc. has opened the Align University Training Institute in Shanghai, China. This is Align’s second training facility in China. The company opened its Chengdu training center in 2017.

This newest center represents the company’s commitment to clinical education and support for dentists in China. It will be a major training facility that will enable Align to educate dentists and showcase the company’s latest product and technology innovation in orthodontic treatment and digital dentistry.

“We see enormous potential in China, with a growing demand for Invisalign clear aligners,” said Julie Tay, Align Technology senior vice president and managing director, Asia Pacific. “As consumer demand grows, we want to ensure we provide our doctors with the latest innovation and training to deliver great outcomes for Invisalign patients — and ultimately more beautiful smiles. This is another important investment we are making in China to provide localized training and support to our doctors, as we continue to lead the industry in clear aligners and digital dentistry.”

According to the company, the Align University Shanghai Training Institute features state-of-the-art technology, including iTero intraoral scanners and dental simulation equipment. It holds three training rooms, including one multiple training room, a ClinCheck workshop room and a demonstration lab for iTero intraoral scanners and dental simulation equipment.

The institute will provide training, clinical education programs and demonstrations of the tools and processes used in a range of treatment options.

China is the second largest market for Align. The company opened its first office in Shanghai in 2011 and today has more than 1,200 employees in seven offices across China. To date, Align has trained more than 150,000 Invisalign practitioners worldwide.

Align Technology designs and manufactures the Invisalign® system — one of the most advanced clear-aligner systems in the world — and iTero® intraoral scanners and services. Align’s products help dental professionals to achieve the clinical results they expect and to deliver effective, cutting-edge dental options to their patients. You can visit www.aligntech.com for more information.

Here in Toronto

You can visit Align Technology in booth No. 204 to learn more about the Invisalign system and iTero digital scanning.
New scanner could move digital fence-sitters

By Dr. Hsuan Chen

The Primescan is the new intraoral scanner from Dentsply Sirona. For the dental professionals who are on the fence about joining digital dentistry, the Primescan presents an interesting choice. For the current CEREC users, on the other hand, social media might have just imploded with a collective, “It’s about time!”

But how much of it is hype, and how much is grounded in practical truth? Our very own Dr. Michael Tsao spent some time with this new machine and noted both its apparent strengths and weaknesses. In this article, I will attempt to distil our internal discussions and offer some insights and analysis on this fascinating device.

What is Primescan?
You can read all about its technical achievements and specifications at www.dentsplysirona.com/primescan.

In short, Primescan promises to be faster, easier to use and more accurate. At face value, these claims might not seem bold or even interesting, since every other major brand of intraoral scanners have said similar things about their scanners. This time, however, it seems like these promises are more than just marketing platitudes, as our analysis will show. But first, let’s talk about some physical comparisons between the Primescan and the Omnicam.

The interface
The Primescan kept the same cart design as the Omnicam, albeit with some distinct differences in how you control the user interface. The mouse cursor is now controlled with a touchpad, with two smaller regions underneath corresponding to the left and right mouse buttons. For CEREC users accustomed to the old scroll-wheel, it will take some getting used to.

Not only is the track ball gone, the keyboard is removed as well for a clean and minimalist look. The battery is also apparently larger and actually able to support the use of Primescan without a power socket connection. The new touch screen is also 16:9 instead of 4:3, giving the user plenty more real estate to work with. Personally, I’ve had no complaints with the original design on the Omnicam, but keep in mind that the Omnicam is currently already one of the fastest scanners available. So how fast do you need, really?

Is Primescan easier to use? Yes. As a veteran Omnicam user, Tsao had no trouble adjusting to the Primescan on the first try. The new scanner’s large imaging area and increased depth of field (up to 20 mm) seems to keep the image capture more continuous without breaks. Note that the scanner is also bulkier and heavier, so if you’re not into heavy scanners this might be a small issue.

Is Primescan more accurate? Accuracy can be divided into two components: trueness and precision.

Trueness is how closely the data conform to reality (or the best approximation of reality), while precision is how closely the data conform to each other. These two concepts are mutually exclusive, and therefore can be tested separately.

According to tests completed at the University of Zurich, Primescan can achieve a local accuracy trueness of 14 µm and precision of 10 µm, and a global accuracy trueness of 32 µm and precision of 30 µm. (Results of other scanners can be found in the Journal of Applied Dental Research.)

Final thoughts
The release of Primescan at this time, along with its complementary software, is intriguing because it signals Dentsply Sirona’s push to capture a bigger share of the digital impression (DI) market. While in this article I focus almost entirely on the scanner, it is actually just the gateway into a whole slew of systems.

For dental professionals looking to purchase their first intraoral scanner, the ease of use and accuracy offers immediate short-term benefits. At the same time, the A.I., the optional modular software and great support communities such as CERECDoctors.com are valuable assets for the longer term.

For current CEREC users, Primescan offers a fork in the road that we’re already traveling on. Assuming that the Omnicam will indeed get all the latest software updates, I feel that current users will be just as happy with either the Omnicam or the Primescan.

If you are planning a gradual conversion to the new digital workflow in restoratives, implantology or orthodontics, then the DI-focused Primescan is a great first step into the ecosystem.

About the author
Formerly from Vancouver, Dr. Hsuan Chen now practices full-time in Taiwan. Dr. Hsuan Chen is a lecturer at the CEREC Asia Training Facility and has a background in engineering. As chief editor of CEREC Digest (www.cerecdigest.net), he writes primarily about the technological aspects of digital dentistry.
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New dental camera engages entire team

Revolutionizing clinical photography: Pre-programmed shooting modes enable dental camera users to navigate through tasks without extensive photographic skills or experience

By Shofu Dental Staff

- Dentists who strive to increase the effectiveness of clear aligner therapies in their practice seek products that can engage their team members and improve the experience of a patient. Digital photography plays a key role in documenting treatments. With the right camera, team members can help increase the patient’s understanding of the clear aligner treatment for easy case acceptance.

The EyeSpecial C-III camera from Shofu enables staff to take impressive images for case documentation, diagnosis, treatment planning, and patient communication and education. This digital dental camera has eight pre-programmed shooting modes so that clinicians and their team members can complete their photo series with ease and consistency.

For every step of orthodontic photography, the EyeSpecial C-III will automatically set the appropriate f-stop, aperture and focal length to deliver consistent ideal photographs, leaving the camera’s operator to simply select a suitable mode. Incorporating intuitive functions tailored specifically for dentistry, the EyeSpecial C-III is designed to handle all clinical applications regardless of who is taking the photos.

Combining the photos with a draw/edit function, which allows for making notes directly on images, is a unique attribute for effective treatment evaluation or a discussion about the progress or challenges associated with the modality. Engineered to provide functionality, the ultralight (weighing ca. 1lb) EyeSpecial C-III complies with infection control protocols. The camera’s body is water-, chemical- and scratch-resistant, and it can be swiftly disinfected with a sterilizing towelette.
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Dr. Jean-Francois Brochu,
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Navident by ClaroNav
A revolutionary paradigm shift in dynamic surgical navigation

By George Mandelaris, DDS

A revolution in surgical guidance is afoot. A new dynamic navigation technology called “Trace and Place” (TaP for short), was developed by ClaroNav and will soon become available with its Navident system. I have had the opportunity to try the technology in a range of cases, and I am very impressed. Here’s a brief description of my experience.

Registration is accomplished using any recent CT scan of the jaw by selecting on-screen and then tracing three of the patient’s teeth or other structures (such as braces or abutments). The process is done in the chair, immediately before surgery. No stent or guide needs to be prepared, and the entire registration process is typically accomplished in about three minutes.

In the rare case something goes wrong during registration and an accuracy check fails to demonstrate the accuracy expected, the registration can be immediately repeated by tracing the same or other structures.

Once the jaw is registered with its CT scan, on-screen guidance of the drill position and orientation is provided. The jaw surface is fully exposed, just like with free-hand drilling.

Because the jaw often moves during the operation, the system continuously tracks the position of the jaw and adjusts the registration to keep the jaw and its on-screen image in accurate alignment. Tracking the upper jaw is accomplished using a special head-tracking frame, which is not affected by movements of the lower jaw or changes in facial expressions.

Tracking the lower jaw is accomplished by connecting a lightweight plastic “jaw tracker” part, marked with optical targets, to a single tooth using a light-cured composite. The motions of the drill are tracked using another plastic part marked with optical targets.

Streamlined and simplified

After only a short experience with Trace and Place technology in my practice, I have come to believe that it is a real tipping point for dynamic navigation guidance.

It has streamlined and simplified the workflow in both the diagnostic and surgical phases to allow state-of-the-art technology to be an everyday component of my surgical implant practice. I can’t imagine going back!
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ONTARIO DENTAL ASM19

ASM19 Annual Spring Meeting
More dentists are detecting oral cancers in Ontario — earlier

11-year study confirms dental professionals’ growing role in early detection of the deadly disease

By University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry Staff

After examining data gathered over an 11-year period in a first-of-its-kind provincial study, University of Toronto clinician-scientist Marco Magalhaes has one vital message: Dentists in Ontario are detecting more cases of oral cancer and pre-cancer than ever — and it’s saving lives.

Magalhaes, lead author of the study that appears in the Journal of the American Dental Association, is an assistant professor at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Dentistry, and one of the oral pathologists at the Toronto Oral Pathology Service (TOPS). Operated by the Faculty of Dentistry, TOPS is one of the largest oral pathology services in Canada, which provides comprehensive evaluation of biopsy specimens — the overwhelming majority of which are submitted by dentists.

For the study Magalhaes looked at 63,483 biopsies submitted to the service between 2005 and 2015. “We wanted to look at the scope of oral biopsies performed by dentists, what they’re seeing in practice,” says Magalhaes of the study’s design. The biopsy data from TOPS were then compared to numbers collected by the Ontario Cancer registry, Cancer Care Ontario, which tracks all reported cancers in the province.

Surprisingly, the data showed a steep rise in the overall numbers of carcinomas (oral cancers) and dysplasia (pre-cancerous lesions) detected by dentists. Overall, 828 cases of oral cancer were diagnosed by the U of T oral pathology service between 2005 to 2015, along with 2,679 premalignant lesions. But over time, the percentage of oral cancer detection by oral health professionals rose significantly. In 2005, only 56 cases of oral cancer and 99 cases of oral epithelial dysplasia were detected through biopsy.

By 2015, though, the number of cancers detected through the biopsy service had nearly doubled, rising to 103 cases of oral cancer. Dysplasia cases more than tripled from 2005, rising to 374 cases.

“These numbers are important, because the number of diagnosed cases outpaced both the rise in population in Ontario and the increased number of dentists licensed in Ontario,” says Magalhaes.

In fact, the number of cases detected at TOPS was significantly higher than the overall increase of oral cancers recorded in the province over that same period — just 30 per cent — compared to the 180 per cent rise at TOPS. Cancer Care Ontario identified a total of 9,045 cases of oral cancer between 2005 and 2015.

So what does it all mean? For one, argues Magalhaes, dentists in Ontario are playing an important role in detecting the deadly disease.

And more comprehensive training and continuing education programs for oral health professionals may be behind the dramatic rise in detection rates. While advanced oral cancers are fairly easy to detect, says Magalhaes, premalignant lesions and early cancer can be easy to miss without specialized training. Early detection of oral cancers, meanwhile, is “critical” to survival rates, he explains.

Calling the Toronto Oral Pathology service “extraordinary,” Michael Glogauer, acting chief dentist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and professor at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Dentistry, agrees that strong training is likely playing a role in the higher detection rates.

“The focus on oral cancer education through the universities and (in) continuing education in the area of cancer has led to the increased surveillance by dentists, and validates the focus that the dentists in this province are placing on this important health initiative,” says Glogauer.

Early detection is key

Oral cancer survival rates have remained steady over the past several decades. What that means, says Magalhaes, is that “advancements in treatment have minimally improved survival rates.” Yet, treated in its early stages, patients with oral cancer have the highest survival rates: around 80 per cent over five years. That statistic drops to approximately 30 per cent over five years when the cancer is detected at an advanced stage.

“This supports the fact that early detection really is the most important step here,” Magalhaes adds. And, as the study suggests, regular check-ups at the dentist’s office may be our best line of defense.
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The iTero Element 5D scanner is not available for sale in the United States. iTero Element 5D is currently available in Canada, European Union, and any other country that accepts CE marking (EU, except Greece, including Switzerland and Norway), including Australia, New Zealand, and Hong Kong.

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Host to many Toronto events, the Rogers Centre, formerly known as SkyDome, is the city’s indoor/outdoor multi-purpose stadium and home of the Toronto Blue Jays. It even includes a luxury hotel, the Toronto Marriott City Centre Hotel. You can book a room with floor-to-ceiling windows to provide an unobstructed view of Rogers Centre and enjoy a professional baseball game from the comfort of your own room. Note: the official ASM19 block of preferred rate rooms sold out weeks ago. (Photos/Provided by Toronto Marriott City Centre Hotel)

You can see the Toronto Blue Jays play during ASM 2019

- Toronto Blue Jays home games once again nicely coincide with the Annual Spring Meeting this year. You can try to catch a Blue Jays game just a few blocks away at Rogers Centre, considered to be one of the most versatile entertainment centres in the world. Last night the Blue Jays were schedule to close out a three-game series with the Minnesota Twins. But another three-game series at the Blue Jays home park starts Friday evening with the Chicago White Sox. You can visit www.mlb.com/bluejays for details.

  If you’re remaining in the Toronto area for a few days, the following games are on tap through Sunday:

  **Toronto Blue Jays vs. Chicago White Sox**
  - Friday, 7:07 p.m. EDT
  - Saturday, 3:07 p.m. EDT
  - Sunday, 1:07 p.m. EDT (Mother’s Day!)

  (Source: mlb.com/bluejays/schedule)
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