

ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL ANAESTHETISTS




A letter from Dr Ken Ruiz, President of ADA

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Our illustrious Secretary and President Elect, embodied in Diana, asked me to put together a small piece for the newsletter, and I'm struggling for words. Ken, struggling for words? By 'eck, that's a first! By way of illustration, it was only last week when a couple of consultant colleagues called me over as I sang my way through the theatre corridor at the Rotherham General Hospital. They were obviously cooking something. Paul spoke:

 *"Ken, we've decided. When you die, we're going to rip that tongue out of your head and beat it with a stick – just to make sure"*

Charming! This was the chap to whom I'd entrusted my UR5 root canal a few days earlier. Blessed relief! Cracked the damn thing on some rather hard crackling. It was so good, frankly I'd do it again – as long as I could also avail myself of the Carmenère-Shiraz from Chile's Colchagua Valley that went with it.

So what has El Presidente been up to since donning the bandoleros of office last year? Well, nothing much new to be honest. I still anaesthetise an all-day GA list for children's exodontias, and continue to sedate phobic adults for the routine dental treatment on two half-days as well of course as my work in other disciplines. The Sector of Alternate Remuneration (in buildings which once housed the Private Sector, now where we carry out Contracted-Out NHS Services and Choose & Book) has me involved in our favourite field of interest too.

The ADA has sent representatives to meet with the BSDH regarding some guidelines, and as I type we are also beginning our involvement with the APA for some more of the same. While I cannot complain that our field of interest is being ignored, I cannot simultaneously help but feel that it is going the way of our careers – overregulated, overscrutinised, overprescribed, overdefensive etc etc. Don't ask me what to do in preparation for revalidation and relicensing, I'm as much at sixes and



**Dr Ken Ruiz
President, ADA**

sevens as anyone else! Chicken entrails or tea leaves, anyone?

The Pendulum of Regulation continues to swing this way now, after many years of immobility. Are the various bodies trying to make up for lost time, in acts of contrition hoping that these will redress the balance created by decades of indifference that preceded the 1990s? When will fashion swing it back, if ever, or like the Universe as understood by Hubble, is regulation to gather pace forever, never ever coming to rest, forever expanding? Yuk! Anyway, see you mid-2009 at our summer jolly!

LAUNCH OF THE NEW AND IMPROVED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Association of
Dental
Anaesthetists



2008
Conference
Proceedings

The ADA is delighted to announce that the Proceedings have been produced by our new editor Dr Harry Ashurst, after an absence. We are very grateful to Harry for gathering up all the abstracts from recent meetings and re-designing the whole publication. The advent of widespread digital photography and universal electronic communication has enabled us to produce a good

document at reasonable cost to the members, and we hope you enjoy reading it.



Dr Harry Ashurst

2008 Annual Scientific meeting - Manchester



A cross section of delegates at the 2008 Joint ADA/DSTG Annual Conference

The ADA Postgraduate Prize

ADA remains committed to promoting audit and research in Dental pain and anxiety management. Submissions are invited for the ADA Postgraduate Prize, entries should be sent to the Hon. Secretary for assessment by the panel.

The winner will be invited to present their work at the next ADA Meeting, and receive a prize and free registration for the meeting.

Members are encouraged to motivate colleagues, particularly Junior Staff to investigate how they can develop their research and audit interests .

Please email entries to: info@dentalanaesthesia.org.uk

This year your Council decided to combine forces with the DSTG to put on a joint meeting. You will see the summaries in the Proceedings which are being mailed with this Newsletter.

Our thanks go especially to Christine Arnold, who worked hard with Prof Coulthard to produce a splendid meeting, which was well attended. This was somewhat of a breakthrough for ADA , as the attendance at meetings has been a major problem, both for ADA but several other Specialist societies. In the field of Dental Sedation, anaesthesia and pain control there are three active national groups, ADA, DSTG and SAAD, and

although each Society has it's particular interests and strengths, many Clinicians belong to all these. The economics and time constraints are making Clinicians very selective about the time and money spent for obtaining Continuing Professional development credits.

Manchester is a vibrant University town, and we were made very welcome by the local hosts. The Conference Centre was centrally placed so the delegates could enjoy the City.

We discussed the Political background, in which Sedation services are now commissioned, and

Conference committed to working to ensure that patients can access the services they require., To ensure this and in order to commission the appropriate services Primary Care trusts must be advised by those in the professions who understand sedation, and have an interest in the safe training and delivery of sedation for all who need it.

The Free Paper session showed some excellent work and members are reminded that this is an ideal forum for trainees of all grades to present some original work to an interested audience.

Future Meetings 2009

Your Council has thought long and hard about how to provide meetings that are educationally sound, meet the requirements for CPD and are economic to run.

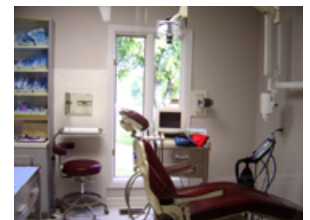
In the past , meetings have generated a small surplus, which was used to support the organisation of the subsequent meeting and run the society. For the last 3 years, we have not generated any surplus at ADA meetings, so a different approach is required. We have looked into running joint meetings with other Specialist Societies, where

our interests coincide and both memberships will benefit.

Dr Yousef Omar has run some successful training days on Advanced Sedation Techniques in London, and this model can be used. We have also looked into running a seminar at the AAGBI utilising their Seminar Programme.

Please see the website for the 2009 meeting and look out for the mailing in 2009 when arrangements are finalised. The DSTG meeting is in Bristol 24th -25th April 2009, and we

are currently in discussions about organising a second joint meeting.



ADA COUNCIL NEWS

Current officers are

Ken Ruiz - President
Christine Arnold - Membership Secretary
Diana Terry - Honorary Secretary

Dr Bill Hamlin - Treasurer
Dr Harry Ashurst - Proceedings Editor
Dr Rachel Pollard - Council Member
Dr Yousef Omar - Council Member

Dr Ian Fletcher - Council Member
Dr Ian Tring - Council Member



ADA Council Members at work

Membership Secretary—Dr Christine Arnold

ADA is grateful for the work done by Christine, and Busola at AAGBI in organising and maintaining the membership.

Ideas in 2008 have included asking the prospective member for a professional profile, which could be used to introduce them to other members, and a welcome letter on joining, outlining activities such as the Prize and the opportunity to serve on Council, undertake roles such as editor for the website. At the Annual general meeting there were 281 active members; the new members keeping pace with those retiring. At the Summer meeting, members of DSTG were invited to



Dr Christine Arnold
ADA Membership
Secretary

become members of ADA and to encourage colleagues and trainees to benefit from what ADA can offer those interested in Dental GA and sedation.



Honorary Secretary, Dr Diana Terry

I was pleased to be elected as President to follow Ken Ruiz at the AGM on 10th May.

I have enjoyed working for ADA, sorting out the Council meetings and organising some of the recent Meetings.

The ADA has a place amongst the other Specialist Societies which are supported by the AAGBI. I attended a meeting in November 2008 on your behalf, where we discussed the progress, meetings and political activity of all the societies. This meeting is very helpful in understanding what other organisations can offer, both in terms of expert speakers and also in shared experience of organising professional development activity. Areas where the Specialist societies can have a role include advice to national Bodies such as NICE,

contribution to National frameworks and guidelines, liaison with international colleagues.

Larger societies can also support applications for National Clinical excellence awards. You may be aware that anaesthetists have been grossly underrepresented in the awards system in the past, and the Royal College and AAGBI are keen to redress this poor state of affairs, both in Local and National awards. ADA is currently too small to take part in this process, and lacks a lay member on Council, but we have a role to ensure that those who contribute fully to advances in Dental Anaesthesia and sedation, are put forward for consideration in the awards process.

In 2009, we will be seeking new members to serve on Council. If

you wish to stand, please send a letter of support stating 2 a nominee and seconder, each of whom must be ADA members, and an affirmation that you are willing to stand. The period of office is 3 years, and Council members are encouraged to undertake officer roles as a second term. The commitment in time is to attend 2 Council meetings and one Annual General Meeting annually, as most of the business of the society is conducted by e-mail throughout the year. The benefits are many; to gain insight into, and have the opportunity to organise scientific meetings, to assess the applications for the prize, to contribute to local, national and International guidance, and to share the experience of colleagues who have a common interest in Dental Anaesthesia.



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Society Update

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The ADA Council, has had lengthy discussions about the frequency, content and structure of Meetings in the light of poor attendance in recent years. Suggestions for 2009 include another joint meeting with DSTG, running a Seminar on Dental Anaesthesia at the AAGBI, and providing an independent series of seminars on aspects of Dental Sedation.

The costs of attending meetings and restriction of study leave are perceived as barriers to meetings, unless there are specific CPD objectives. Those in NHS Practice have Dental Anaesthesia /sedation as a small part of a job plan and essential core skills take precedence over the minority interests. The field of Dental Sedation is well served by SAAD, DSTG and ADA, so we have to consider whether the future lies with collaboration with other groups to meet the educational needs of the Membership.

WWW.DENTALANAESTHESIA.ORG.UK

Information for Members

How do I find all the latest guidelines and relevant information to keep up to date??

Health Information management – the work previously known as the Library!

You will be pleased to know that the information age is now producing a vast resource that is easily accessible for us as Clinicians and for Patients.

The National Library for Health; NLH www.library.nhs.uk has everything you might want to teaching, patient care and professional development. Those of you in Hospital service and some in Primary Care can get access to detailed resources including evidence based reviews via Athens registration; contact your local specialist librarian for details and training.

The basic NLH is available to all.

Health management Specialist Library resources includes;

- Best available evidence
- Policy documents
- National and Local standards

- Guidance
- Good practice
- Evaluations
- Effectiveness studies
- Tools/toolkits
- Reference material

Event information a knowledge of the above is essential for being up to date and having access to the guidance which is now devolved to the regions of the United Kingdom. Nigel Robb has contributed to several of the recommendations for the Scottish Intercollegiate Network SIGN, and it is useful for us all to benefit from the work of such experts.

There are 6 key search resources at NLH.

1. evidence based reviews
2. Guidance
3. Specialist Libraries

4. Books, Journals and Bibliographic databases
5. Images

Information for patients

A section on Drugs including the British National Formulary, British National Formulary for Children and the National Electronic Library for Medicines is currently under development.

There are resource guides for each section NHL Resource Guide 1-7 which show you how to navigate quickly to the information you require. You will find it easier to search each section separately using these section guides.

The sheer volume of information you have access to through NLH means that learning how to navigate and search the system is essential.

The King's Fund has developed a system, **eclipse; a strategy for searching for health and social care policy/management information**. Further details can be obtained from the King's Fund or your local medical library service.