Greetings to iADH Members

Dear iADH Members,

The iADH has been very busy over these last few months, despite the fact that all of us around the world have found ourselves in very challenging circumstances. September and October will bring our statutory Council meeting and General Assembly, and our brand new online research competition. Be sure to check for details below!

Denise Faulks
iADH Editor

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Don’t hesitate to join us during this fast moving public health emergency – we all need support and help from within our professional community. The iADH Facebook page is a great forum to exchange on what is happening within special care services around the world. We will try to bring you the latest scientific evidence and feedback in the domain, but also provide a space for people to debrief and exchange regarding their local situation. iADH media team are regularly posting details for how to attend relevant COVID-19 webinars suggested by our members and partners from all around the world. This recognizes that we are all at different stages and living within different customs circumstances and regulations so are hoping that members are finding this useful.

The IADH Education Committee has catalogued a list of relevant resources and the IADH Scientific Committee have also updated the information in the fact sheet to ensure that it remains informed by the latest available evidence. The fact sheet and resources are available via our website by following this
The iADH advice remains that members adhere to their own national guidelines in terms of maintaining, adapting or cancelling clinical activity. This is because measures need to be adapted to the regional epidemiological profile, to the capacity of health services to respond to the emergency, and to the availability of protective equipment. All these factors will vary locally. However, there are two points that need to be made directly in relation to Special Care Dentistry.

The specificity of our patient base needs to be taken into account during triage of emergency requests. There are many examples of this. Whilst some patients may accept, and be able to comprehend, the logic behind being asked to self-medicate for dental pain and deferring treatment, certain patients with autism or mental health disorders, for example, may not. The risk of self-harm, or harm to carers, needs also to be assessed when patients are unable to cope with pain. As special care dentists, we need to be prepared to inform our colleagues and authorities of the possibility of outliers and exceptions to standard recommendations.

The second point is that we are an empathetic and caring community. Not being able, or not being permitted, to provide treatment and relieve our patients is distressing and against our values. It cannot be stressed enough however, that we must first and foremost protect ourselves and our families, and through this, our patients. We must not become vectors for the spread of the virus by wanting to treat at all costs. This is why we would encourage all of our members to keep up to date, to follow their national public health guidelines and to stay as safe as possible.

The iADH Facebook page is remains the best forum for this discussion and we look forward to hearing from our members via this channel.
Following the cancellation of the iADH congress in Mexico due to the pandemic, the iADH Scientific Committee is delighted to announce that they will be organising and running the biennial IADH research competition online as part of an online celebration of IADH research on our website.

IADH has proved to be important in creating research networks and research groups over the years and also in providing a stage for young researchers to further develop their careers. It is hoped that retaining this event will facilitate this continued role of iADH in this regard and provide recognition of the big disappointment to many researchers who had planned to showcase their work in Mexico.

All iADH members are encouraged to submit an abstract on the theme of Special Care Dentistry (SCD) for the IADH 2020 research competition. Submissions are encouraged both from dentists and the wider SCD team – physicians, speech therapists, hygienists, nurses, educators...

Within the iADH definition, SCD concerns those individuals with an activity restriction, a health condition and/or a disability that directly or indirectly affects their oral health, within the personal and environmental context of that individual. This population may include patients of all ages, medically compromised patients, disabled persons, mental health patients, prison populations, refugees, homeless persons, persons with dental fear, etc. Abstracts may include original clinical research, basic scientific research, case reports or studies, oral health promotion initiatives, behavioural interventions, education in SCD and wider topics will be considered.

All submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the iADH Scientific committee. All authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to produce a poster that will be placed on the iADH website. In addition, all accepted abstracts who meet the required standard will be published in the Journal Medicina Oral Patología Oral y Cirugía.

Abstract categories. Submit an abstract here (closing date 1st August 2020)

1. Clinical research
2. Translational research, including oral health promotion, access to services etc
3. Basic research
4. Case reports
5. Education research

Abstract submission opened on the 8th June and will close on the 1st August 2020. Please note that abstracts previously submitted for Mexico need to be resubmitted.
Submit an abstract here (Abstract submission closes 1st August 2020)

Authors may also choose to enter the **online oral presentation award competition**. The iADH Scientific committee will shortlist abstracts from those submitted for the optional competition. Prize winning authors will win a prize of up to a maximum of $500 in one of 5 categories and winners will also be invited to provide an **extended abstract** for publication in an IADH supplement of the Journal Medicina Oral Patología Oral y Cirugía Bucal.

**Judging** - Short-listed authors in the following 3 categories will be invited to give a 5 minute, live, online, oral presentation of their work using just 5 slides to ensure clarity of aims and in order to prioritise key findings and their relevance. This will be delivered as a members webinar. Presentations will be judged by a panel from the iADH scientific committee in real time. The oral presentation must be given in English (but can be pre-recorded for those who have difficulty in spoken English).

1) **Best basic research or translational research presentation**

2) **Best clinical research presentation**

3) **Best early career research presentation (<36 years)**

Authors will answer one or two questions regarding their work. The iADH will try and provide an interpreter for the questions if requested.

In addition, two other prizes will be awarded, based solely on the online posters/presentations:

1. **Best educational research poster**

2. **Best case report poster**

Finalists of the Education Research competition may be invited to present their research if they wish at a joint iADH / ADEE Webinar (Association for Dental Education in Europe) to be held later in the year.

Please note that you need to be member of iADH or one of the allied national member societies to take part in this members event. If you are not a member of a national member society affiliated to iADH it’s not too late as you can join as an individual member.

Visit our membership page for more details about how to become a member of IADH
All members of IADH are invited and encouraged to attend the AGM, which will be held online on Saturday 3rd October at 12.00 GMT.

This is an opportunity for all individual members and members of allied organisations to hear about the activities of the iADH over the last two years. There will be a lot to fit in! Reports from the president, chair and treasurer will proceed information regarding the activity of the international, scientific and education committees. Members will be able to ask questions to the current iADH executive.

The Executive will also present the iADH strategy, mission and provisional budget, along with the new board and committee members, for the period 2020 – 2022. A brief presentation will be given inviting you to the iADH Paris 2022 conference and giving news of Seoul 2024. A call for bids to host the IADH conference 2026 will be made.

Finally, there will be the presentation of the IADH honorary lifetime awards and fellowships and the research competition awards. The new president will wrap up the event with an incoming address.

Members will receive an official call later this month. Please contact the membership secretary or your own society for your membership number and register for the AGM when the call comes and you will receive the relevant

Membership Matters

Mrs Caroline Eschevins is currently busy issuing membership numbers, creating databases of membership, setting up an efficient payment system via Paypal, creating individual membership identifiers.

She has doubtless already been in touch with the majority of associations with reminders for 2020 fees so please look out for this correspondence.

If you have any membership enquiries, she can be reached at:

membership@iadh.org
The chair of the Nominations committee would like to officially make a closed call for the following positions on the iADH Executive, which will become vacant in September 2020.

1. President Elect IADH
2. Chair IADH Executive Board
3. Vice-Chair Executive Board
4. Media and Communications Board Member

Candidates must be paid-up members of IADH who are currently serving on one (or more) of the following committees:

The Executive Board of IADH
The Council of IADH
The Education Committee of IADH
The Scientific Committee of IADH
The International Advisory Committee of IADH

Candidates must self-nominate and provide the names of two current IADH members of good standing that will second them.

The IADH executive 2020 would also like to officially make an open call to all IADH members who are interested in joining the following committees:

1. 2 year renewable term on The Education Committee (max 6 years)
2. 2 year renewable term on the International Advisory Committee (max 6 years)

Please contact the secretary of IADH stating your interest and request an application form: secretary@iadh.org

Please note that each self-nomination must be supported by two current IADH members of good standing. All members and seconders for any positions must supply their iADH membership numbers with the application.