



The 2026-27 Dental Update Program Description

In one course you will receive vital instruction from national experts in the fields of dentistry, oral surgery, law, medicine, practice management, and psychology. Presented 4 hours per day, over 5 days, *The Dental Update* offers 20 hours of accredited content, weekly at over 50 premier travel locations.

ADA CERP® | Continuing Education
Recognition Program

DAY 1

- Lecture 1:** **Brett H. Kessler, DDS presents**
A Comprehensive Approach to Dentistry: Co-Discovery, Value, and the Complete Exam
With decades of experience as a restorative dentist, educator, and Past President of the American Dental Association, Brett H. Kessler, DDS guides clinicians through a relationship-driven, comprehensive approach to patient care. He outlines how co-discovery, value-based communication, and structured diagnostic processes—including comprehensive exams, occlusal evaluation, photographic records, and review-of-findings conversations—build trust and increase patient engagement. Using real clinical examples, Dr. Kessler demonstrates how focusing on health, function, and esthetics leads to clearer treatment planning, stronger case acceptance, and dentistry that can last a lifetime.
- Lecture 2:** **Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD presents**
How AI Works in Dentistry
Artificial intelligence is transforming how clinicians interpret imaging and make diagnostic decisions. In this lecture, Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD, reviews how AI models are trained, validated, and applied to dental radiography. The discussion covers key concepts such as machine learning, pattern recognition, and the use of annotated clinical datasets to build diagnostic tools. Participants gain a clear understanding of how AI systems function and how they can enhance diagnostic consistency and clinical accuracy.
- Lecture 3:** **Brian J. Jackson, DDS presents**
Implant Site Development and Preservation
Brian J. Jackson, DDS, Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry and Past President of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, presents a comprehensive approach to implant site development and preservation. Drawing on extensive clinical and surgical experience, Dr. Jackson reviews patient evaluation, risk factor assessment, and the biological principles underlying successful bone regeneration. He demonstrates step-by-step techniques for atraumatic extraction, socket grafting, and membrane use, supported by classification systems and real clinical cases. Participants gain practical strategies to preserve bone volume, optimize implant positioning, and improve both functional and esthetic outcomes.
- Lecture 4:** **Robert A. Convissar, DDS, FAGD presents**
Laser-Assisted Periodontal Therapy: LANAP Protocol and Clinical Application
Robert A. Convissar, DDS, FAGD, Director of Laser Dentistry at New York Presbyterian Hospital, is a pioneer in the use of laser technologies in dentistry and a sought-after international lecturer. In this lecture, Dr. Convissar provides an in-depth look at the LANAP protocol—a laser-based treatment for moderate to advanced periodontal disease. Attendees will explore the indications, procedural steps, clinical benefits, and patient selection criteria for LANAP. The lecture also covers the biological rationale behind periodontal regeneration, healing expectations, and comparison with traditional flap surgery. Emphasis is placed on integrating LANAP into modern periodontal practice to enhance outcomes and patient satisfaction.

DAY 2

- Lecture 1:** Gary Glassman, DDS presents
Mastering Endodontic Access Cavity Preparation
Renowned endodontist and international educator Gary Glassman, DDS, presents a focused lecture on achieving predictable endodontic access. Drawing on decades of clinical experience and teaching, Dr. Glassman reviews the biologic and mechanical objectives of access cavity preparation, emphasizing straight-line access, three-dimensional anatomy, and the laws of pulp chamber floor anatomy. Practical tips, bur selection, ultrasonic use, and tooth-specific access strategies are highlighted to help clinicians locate canals efficiently, avoid iatrogenic errors, and improve overall endodontic outcomes.
- Lecture 2:** Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD presents
AI in Diagnosis and Patient Care
Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD, an expert in clinical innovation and technology integration, explores the growing role of artificial intelligence in improving diagnostic performance and patient engagement. He examines how AI-assisted tools enhance detection of pathology, reduce variability in interpretation, and support more effective communication with patients. Through clinical examples, the lecture highlights how AI can increase case acceptance and streamline workflow. Participants leave with practical insight into how AI is already influencing day-to-day clinical care.
- Lecture 3:** Sal Lotardo, DDS, FAGD presents
Restorative Driven Orthodontics: Optimizing Implants in the Esthetic Zone
Smile design and restorative planning are strengthened when orthodontic principles guide diagnosis. In this introductory lecture, Dr. Sal Lotardo, DDS, FAGD, an experienced educator in Restorative Driven Orthodontics, reviews a practical framework for evaluating facial esthetics, tooth position, and occlusal relationships to support minimally invasive, predictable treatment. Through focused case examples, he demonstrates how GP-directed orthodontic tooth movement can optimize restorative outcomes and enhance overall smile esthetics.
- Lecture 4:** Robert A. Convissar, DDS, FAGD presents
Photobiomodulation in Dentistry: A Game Changer for Tongue-Tie Management and Beyond
Dr. Robert A. Convissar, DDS, FAGD—Diplomate of the American Board of Laser Surgery and a global authority on dental lasers—guides participants through the science and applications of photobiomodulation. Drawing from over 4,000 scientific studies and his extensive clinical experience, Dr. Convissar explores PBM's role in pediatric oral health, including its use before and after tongue-tie releases in neonates. This engaging and evidence-based talk highlights how PBM improves healing, reduces procedural pain, and enhances outcomes—offering a powerful, non-invasive tool for today's dental practitioners.

DAY 3

- Lecture 1: Gary Glassman, DDS presents
Optimizing Endodontic Irrigation
Advances in endodontic irrigation have reshaped how clinicians approach canal disinfection and treatment safety. Gary Glassman, DDS, a globally recognized endodontic educator, author, and clinician, reviews the science behind irrigants, delivery methods, and activation technologies. Drawing on decades of clinical experience and published research, he discusses irrigant selection, pressure dynamics, smear layer removal, biofilm management, and strategies to prevent irrigation accidents, providing practical guidance that can be immediately applied in everyday practice.
- Lecture 2: Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD presents
Implementing AI in Practice
Successfully integrating artificial intelligence into clinical practice requires more than understanding the technology, it demands thoughtful implementation. In this lecture, Chris Balaban, DMD, MSc, FACD, outlines how AI tools can be incorporated into workflows, documentation, and patient interactions. He reviews real-world applications, including payer integration, 3D workflows, and operational efficiencies driven by AI. Participants gain practical strategies for adopting AI in a way that enhances care quality, improves efficiency, and aligns with evolving clinical and regulatory expectations.
- Lecture 3: Eric J. Ploumis, DMD, JD presents
Emerging Trends in Dental Practice Opportunities and Structures
Practicing attorney and orthodontist, Eric. J. Ploumis, DMD, JD, reviews dentistry's new market forces and emerging structures along with the resulting challenges and opportunities to both junior dentists and senior practitioners seeking to transition. Areas discussed include traditional and alternative employment opportunities, current practice demography and distribution, senior doctor-associate dynamics, start-up practice pros and cons, part-time employment, the upside and downside of the multi-specialty practice, hospital and public entity dentistry, and a deep dive into industry disrupters including corporate dentistry, excessive student loan debt and DSOs.
- Lecture 4: Sal Lotardo, DDS, FACD presents
Restorative Driven Orthodontics: Managing Anterior Wear for Conservative Cosmetic Outcomes
Managing anterior wear and achieving ideal implant conditions often requires more than restorative dentistry alone. This lecture explores orthodontic strategies such as forced eruption, intrusion, torque control, and space management to improve soft- and hard-tissue support, create restorative space, and optimize implant sites. Drawing from numerous clinical cases in the presentation— including super-eruption due to wear, esthetic zone implant preparation, and decisions between intrusion and crown lengthening, Dr. Sal Lotardo, DDS, FAACD, an accomplished clinician and educator in Restorative Driven Orthodontics, demonstrates how thoughtful tooth movement can significantly elevate esthetic and functional outcomes.

DAY 4

- Lecture 1: **Brett H. Kessler, DDS presents**
Leading with Purpose: Mission-Driven Leadership in Dentistry
Purpose-driven leadership is essential in a profession facing rapid disruption and increasing public health challenges. This lecture explores how defining mission, clarifying values, and strengthening trust can guide leaders through uncertainty and unify teams. Brett Kessler, DDS, Past President of the American Dental Association and a nationally recognized leadership educator, shares practical insights from his own experience leading the ADA through significant headwinds. Through frameworks such as core values, mission statements, and Stephen Covey's "Seven Habits," Dr. Kessler illustrates how intentional, collaborative leadership can elevate both individual performance and organizational impact.
- Lecture 2: **Brian J. Jackson, DDS presents**
Immediate Implants in the Esthetic Zone
Immediate implant placement in the esthetic zone requires precise surgical technique and careful prosthetic planning to achieve optimal functional and cosmetic outcomes. In this lecture, Brian J. Jackson, DDS, Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry and Past President of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, presents a step-by-step approach to immediate implant placement and provisionalization in anterior sites. He reviews case selection, atraumatic extraction, implant positioning, and criteria for achieving primary stability, along with techniques for provisionalization that preserve soft tissue contours. Through detailed clinical cases, Dr. Jackson highlights key decision points that influence esthetic success, including torque thresholds, occlusion management, and healing protocols.
- Lecture 3: **Gary Glassman, DDS presents**
Principles and Techniques of Root Canal Preparation - Part 1
Successful endodontic treatment begins with predictable canal shaping. This lecture focuses on the biologic and mechanical goals of shaping, emphasizing glide path creation, patency maintenance, and the development of a "deep shape" that facilitates effective irrigation and obturation. Gary Glassman, DDS, a globally recognized endodontist and educator, draws on decades of clinical experience to review modern rotary shaping concepts, file design, and technique protocols. Practical pearls and case-based insights help clinicians shape canals more safely, efficiently, and consistently.
- Lecture 4: **Gary Glassman, DDS presents**
Preserving Tooth Structure and Enhancing Safety- Part 2
Gary Glassman, DDS, a globally recognized endodontist, author, and international lecturer, builds on foundational shaping principles by exploring advanced strategies that prioritize dentin preservation and long-term tooth survival. In this lecture, Dr. Glassman reviews modern instrumentation concepts including conservative access, pericervical dentin preservation, regressive taper design, and the clinical application of contemporary rotary and reciprocating systems. Drawing on extensive research and clinical experience, he provides practical guidance to help clinicians shape canals more safely while maintaining structural integrity and optimizing endodontic outcomes.

DAY 5

- Lecture 1:** **Brett H. Kessler, DDS presents**
Elevating Dentistry: A New Vision for Oral Health in Primary Care
The divide between dentistry and medicine continues to shape patient outcomes, access, and national health policy. In this forward-looking keynote, Brett H. Kessler, DDS, Past President of the American Dental Association, examines why oral health must be recognized as essential care and how medical–dental integration can transform population health. Dr. Kessler reviews current disparities, policy developments, and emerging innovations, from salivary diagnostics to AI and outlines a vision for a prevention-focused, whole-health model of dentistry. His insights provide clinicians with a practical and inspiring roadmap for elevating oral health within the broader healthcare system.
- Lecture 2:** **Brian J. Jackson, DDS presents**
Immediate Implants in the Posterior Zone
Brian J. Jackson, DDS, Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry and Past President of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, presents a focused approach to immediate implant placement in posterior sites. Drawing on extensive surgical experience, Dr. Jackson reviews atraumatic extraction of multi-rooted teeth, implant positioning strategies, and techniques to achieve primary stability in challenging bone conditions. He emphasizes key differences between anterior and posterior protocols, including load management, occlusal considerations, and prosthetic planning. Through detailed clinical cases, participants gain practical strategies to improve efficiency, reduce treatment time, and achieve predictable outcomes in posterior implant placement.
- Lecture 3:** **Ericka Aguilar presents**
Claims Denial Management – Part 1
Dental billing trainer and host of “The Dental Billing Podcast”, Ericka Aguilar, offers a 2-part talk on strategies and techniques for reducing and even eliminating dental billing denials. After defining the nature and scope of the problem, Ms. Aguilar reviews the most denied procedures as well as the most commonly stated reasons for denial, actual reasons for claims rejection, bad faith denial practices, regulatory oversight and consumer protection, self-funded vs. fully insured plans, the elements of clean valid claims, and effective whistleblowing.
- Lecture 4:** **Ericka Aguilar presents**
Claims Denial Management – Part 2
In part 2 of her presentation, dental billing coach and national presenter, Ericka Aguilar, reviews the step-by-step process for overcoming specific claims denials as well as patterns of rejection. Issues addressed include proper submission verification, effective insurance claims department conversations, leveraging the office of the state insurance commissioner, the stages of the denial appeals process and strategies for optimally navigating them, the benefits of becoming known as a “whistleblower office”, and helpful denial management implementation tips.

For more information, visit the AEI website at AEISeminars.com or click the links below

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PARTICIPANT DETAILS

Participant: _____ Destination: _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____ Cost: _____