Today’s Topics…

- What is Dentistry?
- The Dental Team
- Dentistry at OHSU
What is Dentistry?
Dentistry as defined by ADEA is the branch of the healing arts and sciences devoted to maintaining the health of the teeth, gums, and other hard and soft tissues of the oral cavity and adjacent structures. A dentist is a scientist and clinician dedicated to the highest standards of health through prevention, diagnosis and treatment of oral diseases and conditions.
Why Choose Dentistry?

• Make a difference in your patient's health
• One of the ten most trusted and ethical professions in the U.S.
• Balance in professional and personal life
• Opportunity to be your own boss
• Personally rewarding profession
• New exciting scientific breakthroughs in gene therapy and biotechnology offer promising new treatment options.
Future Opportunities for Dentistry

• Outlook is favorable for new dentists
• Large numbers of dentists are projected to retire in the next 20 years
• Increasing numbers of older adults are keeping their teeth longer, and have a high demand for cosmetic services
• Advancements in dental technology
• New information about the relationship of oral health to general systemic health
Dental Health Care Disparities

- Surgeon General Report
  - For African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans, dental care is the most unmet health need.
  - Only 1 in 5 children covered by Medicaid receive preventive oral care for which they are eligible.
  - The greatest racial and ethnic disparity among children 2-4 years old and 6-8 years old is seen in Hispanic and African American children.
Further Report Conclusions

• There is a lack of racial and ethnic diversity in the oral health workforce. Efforts to recruit members of minority groups to health research and practice result in more equitable distribution of care providers.
Dental Team...

• Traditional Dental Team Members
  – Dentist/Dental Specialist
  – Dental Hygienist
  – Dental Assistant
  – Dental Lab Technology
A dentist or ‘dental surgeon’ is a health care professional that specializes in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and conditions of the oral cavity.
What Do Dentists Do?

• Diagnose and treat diseases, injuries and malformations of the teeth and mouth
• Improve a patient’s appearance
• Perform surgical procedures such as implants, tissue grafts and extractions
• Educate patients on how to better care for their teeth and prevent oral disease
• Research directed at improving oral health and developing new treatment methods
• Academic dentistry
Where Do Dentists Work?

- Private practice
- Group practice
- Academic dentistry
- Public health dentistry
- Research
- International health care
- Hospital dental clinics
DMD/DDS Education

• Formal Degree Programs
  – 60+ US dental schools
  – Prerequisites similar to pre-med, pre-pharm, pre-vet
  – Community college limitations

• Length of Program
  – 4 years
  – full-time curriculum only
Dental Specialty Programs

- Endodontics
- Orthodontics
- Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
- Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology
- Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Public Health Dentistry
Career Options and Compensation

• Career Options
  – 80% are GPs/20% are dental specialists
  – dental research
  – dental industry
  – public health agencies
  – hospital dentistry
  – military

• Compensation (practice owners)
  – $194,000
  – $311,000
Dental Hygienist

Dental hygienists work together with dentists to meet the oral health needs of patients. Hygienists use their knowledge and clinical skills to provide dental hygiene care for patients and use interpersonal skills to motivate and instruct patients on methods to prevent oral disease and maintain oral health.
What Do Dental hygienists Do?

- Patient screening procedures
  - assessment of oral health conditions
  - review of the health history
  - oral cancer screening
  - head and neck inspection
  - dental charting
  - taking blood pressure and pulse
- Taking and developing dental radiographs
- Removing calculus and plaque from tooth services
- Applying preventive materials to the teeth
- Patient education, appropriate strategies to maintain oral health
- Nutrition counseling and its impact on oral health
- Taking dental impressions, casting models
- Performing documentation and office management activities.
Where Do Dental Hygienists Work?

- Solo dental practices
- Group practices
- Dental specialties (Perio and Pedo)
- Public health dentistry
  - Schools
  - Community Clinics
- Hospital dental clinics
- Dental school clinics
Dental Hygiene Education

• Formal Certificate/Degree Programs
  – 4-year university
  – community colleges
  – vocational schools
  – technical institutes

• Length of Program
  – 24 months
  – accelerated training/part-time education
Career Options and Compensation

• Career Options
  – Private contractor
  – Dental education
  – Dental product sales
  – Hospital Clinics
  – Public health clinics
  – Dental industry

• Compensation – $68,250
The duties of a dental techs work directly with dentists by following detailed written instructions and using impressions or dental molds of the patient’s teeth or oral soft tissues to create a variety of dental appliances. Dental lab techs generally do not work directly with patients except under the direction of a licensed dentist.
What Do dental Lab Techs Make?

Using material such as wax plastics, porcelains, composites, polymer glass, precious/non-precious metals, and stainless steel lab techs create:

- Dentures
- Removable partial dentures
- Bridges
- Crowns
- Veneers
- Orthodontic appliances
Where Do Dental Lab Techs Work?

• Commercial Dental Laboratory Companies
  – Average 5-10 employees
  – Full range to specialized services
• Dental Offices
• Dental Schools
• Dental Lab Tech program
Dental Lab Tech Education

• Formal Certificate/Degree Programs
  – 4-year university (BA/BS degrees)
  – community colleges (AA/AS degrees)
  – vocational schools
  – technical institutes
Career Options and Compensation

• Career Options
  – Commercial laboratories
  – Self employed/small business owner

• Compensation - $35,140
The duties of a dental assistant are among the most comprehensive and varied in a dental office. Dental assistants perform many tasks requiring both interpersonal and technical skills.
What Do Dental Assistants Do?

- Assisting dentists during treatment
- Take/develop radiographs
- Record medical history/blood pressure and pulse
- Assist in managing patient comfort
- Infection control officer
- Sterilizing instruments and equipment
- Patient instructions after completion of procedure
- Teach patients appropriate oral hygiene
- Nutritional counseling
- Taking dental impressions, casting models
Where Do Dental Assistants Work?

- Solo dental practices
- Group practices
- Dental specialties
- Public health dentistry
  - Schools
  - Community Clinics
- Hospital dental clinics
- Dental school clinics
Dental Assisting Education

• Formal Certificate Programs
  – community colleges (AA/AS degree)
  – vocational schools
  – technical institutes

• Length of Program
  – 9 to 11 months
  – accelerated training
  – part-time education
  – distance education
Career Options and Compensation

- Career Options
  - Insurance companies
  - Dental education
  - Dental product sales

- Compensation – $33,470
  - Veterinary technicians, physical therapy, occupational therapy and pharmacy assistants.
Training Programs at the SOD

• Over 350 students/residents enrolled
  – D.M.D. Program
  – Five Advanced Specialty Education Programs
    • Endodontics
    • Orthodontics
    • Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
    • Periodontics
    • Pediatric Dentistry
  – AEGD and GPR programs in development.

• 92,914 patient visits in 2012-2013
DMD Program

- >1300 applications
- Class size 75
- Academic preparation
  - Basic Science
  - Mathematics
- Standardized test scores
- Community service
- Extracurricular activities
- Experience in the field**
- Passion for dentistry
- Letters of Evaluation
Previously implemented
• Simulation Clinic
• Electronic Health Record
• Digital Imaging
• Group Practice System
• Cone Beam CT
• Community Based Education

Future innovations
• Haptic simulation
• Interprofessional patient care
• School of Dentistry Breakout Session
  – Group A 2:00 – 2:45 PM, MRB 310

• School of Dentistry Tour
  – 3:45 PM – 4:45 PM
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Questions???