



THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORAL MEDICINE
INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF NEW YORK STATE
(Founded 1945)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 23, 2007

For Additional Information: Jane Kantor, CMP, Executive Director; (425) 778-6162, x108.

**The American Heart Association Releases
Infective Endocarditis Antibiotic Prophylaxis Guidelines at
The American Academy of Oral Medicine Annual Meeting**

San Diego, CA

The American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) hosted the first presentation of the new 2007 American Heart Association (AHA) recommendations on antibiotic prophylaxis at an all day program at the annual AAOM meeting in San Diego, CA. The four speakers, all members of the writing committee for the AHA Rheumatic Fever, Endocarditis and Kawasaki Disease committee who produced the document, were Larry Baddour MD, an infectious diseases specialist from Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN; Ann Bolger MD, a cardiologist from University of California, San Francisco; Peter Lockhart DDS, Chairman, Department of Oral Medicine from Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, NC; and, Kathryn Taubert, PhD who guided this 3-year effort as a Senior Scientist representing the AHA. Over 250 participants heard the scientific basis for antibiotic prophylaxis throughout the morning program, and at 2:00pm that afternoon they were given a copy of the new recommendations, which had been released to the public by the AHA one hour before. The afternoon program covered the changes from the 1997 recommendations as they relate to patients at risk for endocarditis, the dental procedures that might put them at risk, and the implications for dentists, physicians and patients. According to Dr. Lockhart, "These new recommendations are going to make it easier for dentists to identify patients who might be at risk and to determine the dental procedures that might put them at risk." Over the coming months,

members of the AHA and AAOM will be making efforts to continue the dissemination of this information to all dental practitioners.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ORAL MEDICINE (AAOM) - The AAOM was founded in 1945 as the American Academy of Dental Medicine and took its current name in 1966. The members of the American Academy of Oral Medicine include an internationally recognized group of health care professionals and experts concerned with the oral health care of patients who have complex medical conditions, oral mucosal disorders, and/or chronic orofacial pain. Oral Medicine is the field of dentistry concerned with the oral health care of medically complex patients and with the diagnosis and non-surgical management of medically-related disorders or conditions affecting the oral and maxillofacial region.