Subject: 2024 AAOM Summer Newsletter

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From: AAOM Office



# **2024 AAOM Summer Newsletter**

## **Message From the President (2024-2025)**

## Dear AAOM Colleagues:

It is a great honor and privilege to represent the American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) as President over the next year. I appreciate the dedication and effort of the officers on the Executive Committee, members of the Board of Trustees, members of all committees, and past presidents. I extend my special thanks to **Dr. Vidya Sankar**, immediate past president, for her leadership this past year and congratulate her numerous accomplishments during her presidency.



Those of you who attended the 2024 annual meeting in Orlando, FL, I trust you had a great time. It was a fantastic meeting with excellent scientific sessions and multiple workshops with rich content. Again, thanks to chairs and members of various committees to help organizing such a spectacular meeting. I would like to acknowledge our sponsors and supporters that enriched our annual conference tremendously - K Pharmaceuticals and Proteocyte AI as platinum sponsors, MeiraGTx as a silver sponsor, Legally Mine for a product theater and as an exhibitor, Azena Medical, Biolase, Thor Photomedicine, and Ultradent as supporters of

laser workshops and exhibitors, Xerostrip, PCCA as exhibitors, American Dental Association to support case report awards, Afyx, Bio Cosmetics, Pacific Dental Services for other sponsorship items.

One of my goals is to build a relationship with various other organizations to explore more networking and collaboration opportunities. I am lucky to be President this year while we plan for 2025 AAOM/EAOM (European Association of Oral Medicine) joint conference. The AAOM/EAOM joint conference is an exciting event to possibly attract many other organizations to join us. In addition, I also intend to communicate with other dental organizations to seek ways to collaborate.

AAOM is a thriving organization because of the volunteers' tremendous contributions. We are fortunate to have such enthusiastic volunteers. This is our culture and strength of the academy. I kindly invite you to join our dedicated group of volunteers. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me or any other executive committee member to discuss ways to be involved.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you as President of the AAOM. I look forward to seeing many of you in person at the AAOM/EAOM joint conference in May 2025 in Las Vegas, NV.

Kentaro Ikeda, DDS, MPH

#### List of the 2024-2025 AAOM Officers and Awards

#### **AAOM Officers**

President: **Kentaro Ikeda** 

President-Elect: Jaisri Thoppay Vice-President: Sunday Akintoye Secretary: Alessandro Villa

Assistant Secretary: Herve Sroussi

Treasurer: Arwa Farag

Assistant Treasurer: **Juan Bugueno** Auxiliary President: **Elliott Smith** 

Immediate Past President 2023-2024: Vidya Sankar

Past President 2022-2023: Nathaniel Treister

#### LESTER BURKET AWARDEES

- Hakan Gem (UW) Shotgun Sequencing of Oral and Colonic Microbiota in Patients with AML
- Surbhi Chugh UW) Cellular Senescence in the Aging Non-Human Primate Tongue.

#### OTOD CASE REPORT AWARDEES

- Natalia Trehan (Penn) A Rare Presentation of Kabuki Syndrome in A Dental Setting
- Michelle Yuchen Huang (University of Toronto) Primary Intraosseous Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Clinical, Radiographic and Histopathological Challenge
- Salima Asifali Sawani (Univeristy of Alberta) Gain of Function Mutation in STAT1:
   Cause Of Chronic Mucocutaneous Candidiasis In A Patient With Recurrent Oral And Esophageal Candidiasis
- Joud Y Omari (Harvard) Sarcoidosis Affecting the Maxilla: Report of Two Cases
- Abdulrahman Nakshabandi (Harvard) The Intended and Incidental

Congratulations everyone!

## **AAOM Membership and Members Highlights**

#### **Lumoral Therapy Enhances Oral Health in Elderly Care**

Maintaining oral health is vital for overall well-being, especially as individuals age and particularly for those residing in 24-hour care facilities. New research proposes using antibacterial light-activated Lumoral treatment to address common oral health issues, like gingivitis and periodontitis. This approach would enhance oral health and improve the general well-being of older populations living in elderly care homes.

Finnish scientists behind the study "Effects of regular antibacterial photodynamic therapy on oral hygiene in elderly 24-hour care residents" observed a decline in the number of individuals without teeth in institutional care. Results from this study were recently presented at the AAOM Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. Dental problems, including dental caries and periodontal diseases, remain common among residents of 24-hour care facilities, especially those aged 75 and older. This finding motivated the team to delve deeper into the topic to search for new ways to enhance the oral health of older populations.

In Finland, the oral health of elderly individuals requires significant improvement, especially among those in long-term or residential care, said Jaana Helenius-Hietala, Deputy Chief Dentist, PhD, DDS, at the Helsinki University Hospital (HUS), Finland.<sup>1</sup> According to Helenius-Hietala, similar challenges are observed in Western countries overall. Several studies highlight significant deficiencies in oral hygiene maintenance among individuals in 24-hour care settings.<sup>2</sup>

#### Lumoral is a beneficial adjunct therapy

Helenius-Hietala is part of a study group examining the effect of a novel antibacterial oral hygiene method, Lumoral, on the health of elderly individuals living in 24-hour facilities. The study was conducted in two different 24-hour assisted living facilities in Helsinki, Finland during autumn 2022 and spring 2023. A scientific publication detailing the findings is currently in the process of being published.

Thirty-one residents participated in the study, all with a minimum of 10 teeth in their

mouths. For the study, the subjects were randomized to receive either self-care guidance (control group n=17) or, in addition to guidance, antibacterial light-activated Lumoral therapy implemented twice a week (treatment group n=10) as an additional treatment alongside regular oral hygiene practices, tooth brushing, and flossing.

Throughout the trial period, the oral health status of the study participants was regularly monitored by a dentist/oral hygienist using manual examination and the aMMP-8 (Active MMP-8) chairside diagnostic tool. This tool, known as the PerioSafe test, detects and quantifies matrix metalloproteinase-8 (MMP-8) levels in saliva. MMP-8 is an enzyme linked to the degradation of collagen, a crucial component of periodontal tissues. Research indicates that aMMP-8 rapid tests effectively differentiate between diseased and healthy tissues in cases of periodontal and peri-implant diseases.<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>

According to Helenius-Hietala, participants in both study groups received guidance on oral hygiene. The Visible Plaque Index (VPI) improved during the follow-up period in both groups. Still, in the Lumoral group, there was also a statistically significant improvement in the Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs (CPITN) index. This index is a method used to assess periodontal health by examining specific indicators, including pocket depth and bleeding upon probing, on specific teeth in various sextants of the mouth.

In the PerioSafe test, positive results were present in 53% of participants in the control group at the beginning and 30% at the end. Meanwhile, in the Lumoral-treatment group, the PerioSafe test was positive in 80% at the beginning and 50% at the end. Based on the findings, researchers are confident that regular antibacterial light-activated Lumoral treatment improves oral health in selected residents of 24-hour care facilities as an adjunct to regular oral hygiene.

Lumoral improves oral hygiene. It can also increase oral moisture, as dry mouth is common in elderly individuals with multiple medications, explained Helenius-Hietala, reminding that toothbrushing is still necessary.<sup>1</sup>

It is difficult to assess potential cost savings, but it is generally acknowledged that good oral health can reduce infectious complications in older adults (e.g., aspiration pneumonia is linked to periodontitis), she adds.<sup>1</sup>

#### Gum disease: the root of many health problems

Why is it crucial to explore novel approaches to addressing the oral health challenges of elderly individuals? As populations age, more older adults are retaining their natural teeth. This is increasing their susceptibility to oral diseases due to the buildup of oral bacteria. Because approximately 95% of all oral diseases stem from issues with oral hygiene, it is crucial to find ways to tackle the root cause – the dental plaque – with new oral hygiene methods.

Infections in the mouth are linked to overall general health. When left untreated, gum

infections can progress to more severe conditions such as periodontitis or periimplantitis, which can have significant implications for oral and systemic health. Timely detection and treatment of gum disease are essential to prevent further complications and maintain overall health.<sup>7,8</sup>

Proper oral hygiene remains the most critical aspect of maintaining good oral health. Unfortunately, this is not always realized in 24-hour care settings. Good oral hygiene practices could prevent chronic oral infections and the potentially fatal complications they may cause.

Limited functional capacity often leads to deficiencies in oral care practices, resulting in poor oral health outcomes. This affects individuals' physical health and quality of life, as evidenced by lower self-reported quality of life scores among those with poorer oral hygiene.

Innovative approaches are needed to address these challenges. Antibacterial light-activated therapy has emerged as a new solution for reducing plaque levels in the mouth and combating dental plaque's harmful bacteria. Lumoral is a CE-marked medical device that harnesses the power of dual-light therapy to effectively reduce dental plaque and bacterial load.<sup>9</sup>

### Lumoral: developed by a cardiologist

Lumoral is a medical device designed to improve oral health. The method combines a light-activated antibacterial agent (Lumorinse mouth rinse) with a specific light source (Lumoral mouthpiece) to target and reduce harmful oral bacteria, especially those that brushing and flossing might miss.<sup>9</sup>

The invention of Lumoral was driven by recognizing the limitations of traditional oral hygiene methods in controlling plaque and preventing diseases like periodontitis and dental caries. Researchers aimed to develop a method to provide a more thorough antibacterial effect. The device uses a technique where a photosensitizing agent, typically in the form of a mouthwash, is applied to the teeth. This agent adheres to dental plaque and oral bacteria. When illuminated by Lumoral's specific wavelength of light, the photosensitizer produces reactive oxygen species that have a local antibacterial effect without causing damage to the surrounding tissues. The device was developed by collaborating with dental professionals, microbiologists, and photodynamic therapy experts who aimed to create a user-friendly, effective, and non-invasive treatment option for enhancing oral hygiene at home. This collaborative effort ensured that the technology was both practical for daily use and scientifically grounded to provide benefits in reducing oral bacterial loads, thereby helping prevent oral diseases. 9,10,11,12

Good oral hygiene benefits everyone, but its importance is especially emphasized in older age groups. Within elderly care settings, the effectiveness of implementing oral hygiene practices is often inadequate, with studies revealing significant room for

improvement in seniors' oral hygiene levels. Neglecting oral hygiene heightens the risk of comorbidities, underscoring the critical nature of prioritizing hygiene, says **Tommi Pätilä**, a cardiovascular and transplant surgeon who is also one of the scientists behind developing the Lumoral method.

#### Jaana Helenius-Hietala

Dental specialist, PhD, DDS, MSc (clinical dentistry) Doctor in charge of general anesthesia dental care Quality physician

Helsinki University Hospital, Head and Neck Center, Oral and Maxillofacial Diseases







Drs. Jaana Helenius-Hietala, and Wilma Romppanen

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#### **NEWS FROM THE SCHOOLS**

ORAL MEDICINE, ORAL ONCOLOGY, AND DENTISTRY, MIAMI CANCER INSTITUTE

#### Dr. Alessandro Villa, D.D.S., Ph.D., M.P.H

Chief of oral medicine, oral oncology and dentistry

We are thrilled to introduce the newest addition to our Oral Medicine and Oral Oncology team at Miami Cancer Institute, **Dr. Jeffrey Goetz**. **Dr. Goetz** brings a unique blend of expertise as a DDS and MD. He completed an oral medicine residency at Penn in 2023. As the first Oral Oncology Fellow, Dr. Goetz embarked on a one-year intensive training program focused on honing skills in diagnosing and managing oral precancers and complications arising from cancer therapy. Beyond clinical mastery, Dr. Goetz is also delving into cutting-edge research to improve immunoprevention of oral cancer through management of oral leukoplakia-related financial toxicities. Welcome, Dr. Goetz, to the Miami Cancer Institute family!



#### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Name of the Program Director/Department Chairman /Division Director:

- Program Director: Takako I. Tanaka, DDS, RCSEd
  - Assistant Program Director: Roopali Kulkarni, DMD, MPH
  - Department Chair: Thomas Sollecito, DMD, RCSEd

## Calendar of upcoming events:

- June 2024 Orientation for incoming residents
- June 2024 Graduation for outgoing residents

#### Outgoing/incoming residents:

**Current Residents:** 

PGY-2

- o Dr. Afrah Alfaifi
- Dr. Naser Alkandari
- Dr. Maya Ramachandran, Co-Chief
- Dr. Heba Turkstani
- o Dr. Natalia Trehan, Co-Chief

#### PGY-1

- Dr. Kavya Alluri
- Dr. Naheel Alkhudiri
- Dr. Mashael Ben Rashed
- · Dr. Rachel Boice
- Dr. Colton Cannon

## Awards of any member of your Department/School:

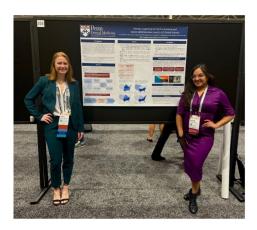
- Chief Resident, PGY-2, Dr. Natalia Trehan: Case Report Award AAOM (oral presentation)
- Faculty Member **Dr. Adeyinka Dayo**: ADEA Award for Excellence in Oral Health Research, Clinical Research Innovation Day from Colgate-Palmolive Company and National Dental Association Foundation (NDAF).
- Faculty Member Dr. Agnes Radan Woch: Faculty mentor to Natalia in her Oral Presentation Case Award
- Faculty Member Dr. Alicia Risner-Bauman: Penn Dental Medicine Annual LGBTQIA+ Advocacy Award
- Faculty Member Dr. Miriam Robbins: named a Distinguished Fellow in Dentistry by the National Academy of Practice (NAP)
- Faculty Member **Dr. Eric Stoopler**: Diamond Pin Award, American Academy of Oral Medicine:
- Faculty Member Dr. Roopali Kulkarni: American Dental Association "10 Under 10" Award; Pennsylvania Dental Association Recognition Award; Colgate Award for Research Excellence Grant recipient

#### Information, announcements, photos:

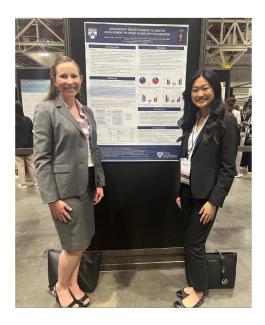
- All of our oral medicine residents had posters accepted for AAOM poster presentations!
- We have three new Diplomates from Penn Oral Medicine
  - Dr. Fatmah Alhendi (Alumni)
  - Dr. Rawan Ashshi (Alumni)
  - Dr. Roopali Kulkarni (Alumni / Faculty)



• Faculty Members **Dr. Katherine France and Dr. Roopali Kulkarni**, and Co-Chief Resident **Dr. Natalia Trehan** represented the department and attended the annual Penn Dental Medicine Alumni-Student Networking Event



**Dr. Roopali Kulkarni and Dr. Katherine France** mentored predoctoral student Emma Wilkinson on her Academic Careers Fellowship project through the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). Pictured here are Emma Wilkinson and **Dr. Kulkarni** at the ADEA Annual Meeting in New Orleans.



**Dr. Katherine France and Dr. Sunday Akintoye** mentored several students on projects at the International Association for Dental Research conference.



Members of the department and alumni of the program attended the American Board of Oral Medicine Diplomates Luncheon at the AAOM Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL to celebrate the three new diplomates from Penn Oral Medicine: **Drs. Fatmah Alhendi, Rawan Ashshi, and Roopali Kulkarni**.



Members of the department and alumni of the program joined together to celebrate **Dr. Eric Stoopler**, Diamond Pin recipient at the AAOM Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL.



Faculty members, alumni, and guests gathered together at the AAOM Annual Meeting Penn Dental Medicine / Penn Oral Medicine Alumni Reception.



## UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE (CDM)

We are delighted to share that **Dr. Juan Bugueno** joined the CDM family on May 20th as Associate Professor and Department Chair of Diagnostic, Surgical, and Integrated Sciences. He will be observing in classes and clinics in the upcoming weeks. When you see him, please give him a warm welcome!



Dr. Bugueno received his pre-doctoral and oral and maxillofacial surgery training at the Universidad de Concepcion in Chile. He worked as a general dentist and oral surgeon in a hospital setting for several years in Chile before moving to the United States. He completed three years of advanced training with an emphasis on maxillofacial trauma at the University of Florida Health Science Center. Upon completion of this training, Dr. Bugueno provided comprehensive dental care to medically compromised patients in El Paso, TX. For six years, he coordinated the delivery of routine dental treatment, interacting closely with primary caregivers and other members of the medical and dental team. He also collaborated with Texas A&M University College of Dentistry as a Clinical Assistant Professor, preceptor faculty, and coordinator of dental students assigned to the clinic for their externship program.

In 2011, Dr. Bugueno enrolled in the Oral Medicine Residency Program and Geriatric Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine where he received experience caring for medically complex patients with oral mucosal diseases, orofacial pain, and oral manifestations from cancer therapy. To further strengthen his research skills, he enrolled in the MS Oral Biology Program while at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bugueno is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine and volunteers as a Commission on Dental Accreditation site visitor for Oral Medicine.

Following two years as an adjunct volunteer faculty at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston after completing his Residency, Dr. Bugueno entered academia in a fulltime capacity joining the University of Tennessee Health Science Center as an Assistant Professor and Director of Geriatrics. In 2019, he joined the faculty at West Virginia University School of Dentistry. Dr. Bugueno was a founding member of the Oral Care Clinic for Cancer Patients at WVU; he attended tumor board meetings at the WVU Cancer Institute; and he served on the 2021-2025 West Virginia Cancer Plan Prevention Committee. He was a facilitator for the WVU Health Science Center Interprofessional Education Program; Chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee; and past Chair of the School of Dentistry COVID-19 Task Force. Dr. Bugueno is a Fellow of the American Dental Education Leadership Institute. He has multiple publications and serves as a review editor on the Editorial Board of Oral Cancers/Specialty Section of Frontiers in Oral Health and a reviewer for the American Academy Oral Medicine (AAOM) Abstract Committee. He is a member of the AAOM Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee, and Chair of the Publication Committee, as well as the Newsletter Director. Dr. Bugueno was recognized with the West Virginia University Shining Star award given to individuals who demonstrate what it means to be a mountaineer

and embody WVU's values of service, curiosity, respect, accountability, and appreciation.

Dr. Bugueno's contact information is as follows:

Office: Goddard Hall 207 Phone: (207) 221-4739 Email: jbugueno@une.edu

WELCOME, DR. BUGUENO

## **AAOM Annual Conference Announcement**

#### Save the Date for the 2025 AAOM Annual Conference!

We are excited to announce that the 2025 Annual Conference of the American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) will take place May 12-17, 2025, in the vibrant city of Las Vegas, NV. This event is a must-attend for all professionals in the field of oral medicine.

Join us for an exceptional opportunity to:

- **Expand Your Knowledge:** Participate in lectures, panels, and workshops presented by leading experts in oral medicine
- Network with Peers: Connect with colleagues and industry leaders at various networking events
- Explore New Research: Discover the latest advancements and research findings in oral medicine

Stay tuned for more details on the conference schedule, speakers, and registration!

## Photos from our AAOM 2024 Conference







From left to right: Drs. Lina Mejia and Jaisri Thoppay

From left to right: Jason Colett, Dr. Juan Bugueno, and Edward Skonieczny

From left to right: Drs. Jaana Helenius-Hietala, and Wilma Romppanen







From left to right: Drs. Brianna Ingram, Rachel Calloway, and Courtney Johnson

Dr. Hakam Gem, presenting "Shotgun Metagenomic Sequencing of Oral and Colonic Microbiota in Patients with AML", Lester Burkett Award

Dr. Shurbi Chugh presenting "Cellular Senescence in the Aging Non-Human Primate Tongue", Lester Burkett Award







From left to right: Drs. Juan Bugueno, Eric Stoopler, Thamer Musbah, and Sahar Mirfarsi
Dr. Vidya Sankar, 2023-2024 AAOM President, addressing her farewell speech

# From left to right: Drs. Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, and Kentaro Ikeda





Executive Committee 2024-2025

From left to right: Drs. Martin Tyler, Kentaro Ikeda , Jaisri Thoppay, Sunday Akintoye, Alessandro Villa, Herve Sroussi, Arwa Farag, Juan Bugueno, and Elliot Smith

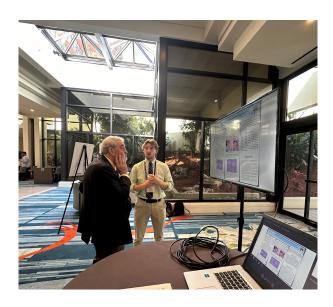
Dr. Kentaro Ikeda, 2024-2025 AAOM President, addressing his inaugural speech





From left to right: Drs. Thomas Sollecito, Eric T. Stoopler, Natalia Trehan, Sunday Akintoye, and Agnieszka Radwan-Woch

Poster presentations during AAOM meeting





Edward Skonieczny, WVU dental student, presenting his poster: "Squamous Cell Carcinoma Arising from An Oral Lichenoid Lesion?

Welcome Reception and Talent Show







Welcome Reception and Talent Show

From left to right: Drs. Petros Yoon, and Lauren Patton

From left to right: Drs. Anette Vistoso Monreal, Wendy Rojas Acuna, Seena Patel, and Phuu Han







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