BADN conference hits Blackpool

This year's new and improved BADN conference hits the seaside and tickets are selling fast, says Pam Swain

The annual Dental Nursing Conference will be held at the Blackpool Hilton on Friday October 31 and Saturday November 1, and this year sees some changes in the conference format. Mostly notably, we've decided to hold an informal Halloween Dinner (fancy dress optional), instead of the black tie Presidential Dinner held in previous years. The menu will also be slightly different, too, serving such delicacies as Witches' Broth, Creepy Chocolate... and Frankenstein Chicken and Cies as Witches' Broth.

The conference doesn't only take place at Halloween. It's also the last weekend of the Blackpool Illuminations, so for those interested, we've arranged a tram ride through the city to see the lights after dinner, which will either drop delegates off at the Pleasure Beach, or in the centre of town if they want to go clubbing (Conference delegates will get free VIP entry to both Walkabout and Sanuk in Blackpool) or back to the hotel for a quieter night catching up with old friends.

Pre-book presentations

Our second innovation is the new conference registration site, provided through CVENT and sponsored by Schulke, where delegates can choose which presentations they want to attend in advance. The conference programme itself covers a wide variety of subjects, which cover the subject of CPD itself:

- Professional Portfolio Development by BADN
- CPD by Stephen Hancocks, sponsored by P&G Oral Healthcare
- Revalidation by the GDC

Core CPD subjects:
- Decontamination, sponsored by Kerrdent
- Cross Infection by Dentply

Advice on how to rise to the challenge of being a registered professional.

- Keynote speaker Duncan Rudkin of the GDC on professionalism in practice
- Professional indemnity by WR Berkley
- Professional governance (whistleblowing) by the NCAS
- Safeguarding (child protection) by Blackpool PCT's named nurse for child protection

A look at possible future rules for dental nurses with:
- Dental nursing in the British Army by the RADC
- Dental public health
- Sleep apnoea screening – a role for dental nurses, sponsored by Healthcare Marketing

There will also be presentations, which focus on looking after yourself:

- How to use nutrition to keep yourself healthy by renowned author Dr Marilyn Glenville, sponsored by Molar Ltd
- Occupational dermatitis by the Health and Safety Executive and employment law by Peninsula
- Don’t forget the two perennial nurses’ role, both sponsored by Philips Oral Healthcare.

Delegates have a choice of two presentations in each time slot and full attendance at conference will give eight hours verifiable CPD.

The exam revision day is facilitated by DN Training? Solutions! and is open to all student dental nurses sitting the National in November this year or next May. Due to Dentply's sponsorship, the price has been reduced to £40 and there are still a few places left, so if you would like to attend, contact me at conference@badn.org.uk as soon as possible.

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Elegant, yet ergonomically designed, the Florida Probe® is the complete electronic probing and charting system which enables a single operator to complete a simple or comprehensive periodontal exam in less than 10 minutes. The results are recorded by computer as well as “spoken” so the measurements do not have to be called out to another person. And as an added bonus, the patient’s current exam data is compared automatically to their last Florida Probe exam clearly indicating where treatment is needed.

The probe exerts a constant pressure so no matter who operates it, dentist or hygienist, the same pressure is applied ensuring accuracy and reproducibility between users. Exams can be customised to record all or any of the following: medical history, risk assessment, recession or hyperplasia, pocket depth, bleeding, suppuration, furcations, plaque, mobility, MGJ and diagnosis.

The probe is the most accurate and consistent available. Precision is within 0.2mm, depth range is 0 to 11mm (up to 13.2mm with the special long tip probe option). The Florida Probe software offers patient education videos and handouts, a risk assessment summary, print-outs of the periodontal chart and much more. Now available in the UK exclusively from Clark Dental, the Florida Probe gives the patient a unique experience, enhancing treatment acceptance. And gives you and your practice, precise and accurate information no matter who uses it.

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