

Oral Health Through the Gender Lens: Does Sex Matter?

In the spring 2005 issue of *Dispatch*, members were informed about the College's one-day symposium on "Oral Health: A Window to Systemic Disease," which was held in Toronto on February 4, 2005. The symposium included presentations by respected researchers and academics to illuminate the current state of the evidence for possible associations between periodontal and systemic diseases.

In addition, PEAK announced that it would be providing members with a series of articles written by the presenters at the symposium. The first article, by Drs. Chris McCulloch and Michael Glogauer, served as an introduction to this important topic and the series. The second article, by Drs. Howard Tenenbaum, Avi Shelemay, Michael Goldberg and Jim Lai, explored the associations between periodontitis and cardiovascular disease. The third article, by Dr. Debora Matthews, reviewed the relationship between diabetes and periodontal disease.

With the current issue of *Dispatch*, PEAK is pleased to provide members with the fourth article in the series, "Oral Health Through the Gender Lens: Does Sex Matter?" by Dr. Susan Sutherland. The article examines the marked differences between the sexes with respect to systemic and oral health issues, and in the way they encounter, relate to and interact with the health-care system.

Key points to consider

Many physiological and pathological functions are influenced by sex-based differences in biology. It appears that every organ in the body has the ability to respond differently on the basis of sex.

Historically, cardiovascular disease was thought of as a "man's disease;" yet, more women die of it. Although the incidence of cardiac arrest is three times greater in men, women have lower recovery and survival rates following a heart attack. Sex differences in acute presentation may lead to delayed triage, evaluation, institution of therapy, and ongoing management of women.

Women are more likely to suffer from depression, Alzheimer's and autoimmune diseases.

There are known differences between the sexes regarding the metabolism, efficacy, and safety of drugs.

Hormonal fluctuations influence the oral health of women throughout their lifetimes and may give rise to certain unique conditions. Additionally, many autoimmune disorders, which often have serious oral manifestations, and all types of non-dental orofacial pain, including TMJ pain, appear to be more prevalent in women.

PEAK (Practice Enhancement and Knowledge) is a College service for members, whose goal is to regularly provide Ontario dentists with copies of



key articles on a wide range of clinical and non-clinical topics from the dental literature around the world. It is important to note that PEAK articles may contain opinions, views or statements that are not necessarily endorsed by the College. However, the PEAK advisory board is committed in its desire to provide quality material to enhance the knowledge and skills of member dentists.

If you have any suggestions for subjects to be addressed by PEAK, or questions about this membership service, please contact:

Dr. Michael Gardner
Assistant to the Registrar, Dental
phone: 416-934-5616
toll-free: 1-800-565-4591
e-mail: mgardner@rcdso.org

PEAK INDEX

INDEX OF PEAK ARTICLES NOW AVAILABLE

As you know, PEAK, or Practice Enhancement and Knowledge, is a special membership service started in 2001 by the College to provide Ontario dentists with a wide range of clinical and non-clinical articles from dental literature around the world. The articles are published quarterly with each issue of *Dispatch*.

As the number of articles issued as part of this service grows, there is now an index of all PEAK articles on our Web site under the heading, Expert Articles. This index will be updated as new PEAK articles are published.

Unfortunately, it is usually not possible to buy the rights to post the full article on our Web site. However, extra print copies are available on request from the College.

If you want additional copies of PEAK articles, please contact:

Aurore Sutton

Communications Assistant
phone: 416-961-6555, ext. 4303
toll-free: 1-800-565-4591
e-mail: asutton@rcdso.org

CURRENT PEAK ARTICLE INDEX

The Two-Way Relationship Between Diabetes and Periodontal Disease

by Debora C. Matthews, DDS, MSc, Diploma in Periodontics
Fall 2005 Dispatch

Is There A Link Between Periodontitis and Cardiovascular Disease?

by H. C. Tenenbaum, DDS, Dip Perio, PhD, FRCD(C); Jim Yuan Lai, BSc, DMD, MSc(Perio), FRCD(C); Avi Shelemay, DDS, MSc(Perio), FRCD(C); and Michael B. Goldberg, MSc, DDS, Dip Perio
Summer 2005 Dispatch

An Overview: Introduction to the RCDSO Symposium – Oral Health: A Window to Systemic Disease

by Michael Glogauer, DDS, PhD and Christopher A. McCulloch, DDS, FRCD(C), PhD
Spring 2005 Dispatch

Dentists' Use, Misuse, Abuse or Dependence on Mood-Altering Substances

by Bruce H. Seidberg, DDS, MScD, JD and Thomas H. Sullivan, DDS
Winter 2005 Dispatch

Duty to Treat, Dental Law in Canada

by Fiona Bergin
October/November 2004 Dispatch

Orthodontics. Part 7: Fact or fantasy in orthodontics

by P. Williams, D. Roberts-Harry and J. Sandy
July/August 2004 Dispatch

The American Academy of Periodontology Statement Regarding Gingival Curettage

April/May 2004 Dispatch

Advisory Statement: Antibiotic prophylaxis for dental patients with total joint replacements

from the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
January/February 2004 Dispatch

Purchasing, installing and operating dental amalgam separators – Practical issues

by Kevin R. McManus, MA, MBA and P.L. Fan, PhD
October/November 2003 Dispatch

Crown fractures in the permanent dentition: pulpal and restorative considerations

by Steven Olsbrugh, Thalia Jacoby, Ivo Krejci
Department of Operative Dentistry, Endodontics and Pedodontics, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland
July/August 2003 Dispatch

Ageing and oral health for the 21st century

by Linda C. Niessen, DMD, MPH, MPP and Gretchen Gibson, DDS, MPH
April/May 2003 Dispatch

Emergency Drugs

by Daniel A. Haas, DDS, PhD, FRCD(C)
January/February 2003 Dispatch

Laboratory evaluation of amalgam separators

by P. L. Fan, PhD; Hanu Batchu, MS(Chem.Eng.); Hwai-Nan Chou, MS(Chem.); William Gasparac, Dip.(Electrical); Jim Sandrik, PhD; and Daniel M. Meyer, DDS
October/November 2002 Dispatch

Porcelain Veneer Restorations: A clinician's opinion about a disturbing trend

by Mark J. Friedman, DDS
July/August 2002 Dispatch

Combating oral cancer – The dentist's role in preventing, detecting a deadly disease (Special JADA supplement)

April/May 2002 Dispatch

Recommendations for Clinical Practice: Fissure Caries (Operative Dentistry)

January/February 2002 Dispatch

Minimal intervention: A new concept for operative dentistry

by Graham J. Mount, AM BDS, DDSc, FRACDS and Hien Ngo, BDS, MDS
January/February 2002 Dispatch

Sexual boundaries in dental practice – Parts I & II

by Dr. Chiodo and Dr. Tolle
October 2001 Dispatch

Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Dentistry: A Review and Practice Recommendations

by Darryl C. Tong, BDS, MSD and Bruce R. Rothwell, DMD, MSD
June 2001 Dispatch