American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics
70th Annual Meeting: October 21 – 24, 2023
Omni San Diego Downtown, San Diego, California

Program Speaker – Candice Zemnick

Title

Aligning Digital with Traditional Approaches to Accommodate the Evolving Patient

Abstract

The specialty of maxillofacial prosthetics has always involved the need for creative reconstruction and adapting to changing conditions. Digital avenues and applications have become more inclusive to address these needs, allowing for the virtual development of tissue, tooth and implant borne prostheses as well as custom trays, bite blocks, jigs, guides and more. Independence exists to rapidly design and 3D print if desired, especially when trying to create an optimal prosthesis under suboptimal conditions. What should primarily be considered is that digital software has the potential, when coupled with traditional approaches, to readily respond to the morphological variables of healing, treatment sequelae and rehabilitation while supporting precision, functionality and patient acceptance.

The goal of this presentation is to dispel the myth that digital must replace analog approaches, and that instead, a strong validation arises from maintaining that connection and providing optimal solutions to address the comprehensive and complex needs of patients with maxillofacial defects. The objective is to provide insight on existing synergistic workflows that glean the advantages of CAD/CAM without changing the way one practices.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the advantages of a digital workflow for removable and fixed prosthodontics that emulates traditional analog approaches
- Identify how to integrate CAD software options including in-house printing and laboratory-fabricated options.
- Evaluate different potential levels of digital commitment and where it can provide the most benefit for maxillofacial patients
- Review additional CAD restorative options such as custom trays, bite blocks, jigs, guides and model surgery.

Biography

Dr. Zemnick is a Maxillofacial Prosthodontist who received her MPH from New York Medical. She attended Tufts University and then received her Prosthodontics training at Columbia University followed by the Maxillofacial Prosthetics Program at Columbia University Medical Center and the VA Medical Center. At Columbia University and NYPH she remained for over 18 years as an Associate Professor and served in such roles as Director of the Division of Prosthodontics, Director of Predoctoral Prosthodontics, Director of Digital Dentistry and Director of the Maxillofacial Prosthetics Clinic. Along with providing courses in Digital Dentistry and Maxillofacial Prosthetics for different universities and professional organizations, she has received multiple faculty and student teaching awards and inductions. She is additionally published in peer-reviewed journals and has served as a reviewer for publications including the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* and the *Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Journal*. Dr. Zemnick has worked in various faculty practices and private practices and currently at the JJP VA Medical Center for nearly 20 years, including as Director of the Maxillofacial technician training program. She is most enthusiastic about also serving as a digital technology and prosthetics liaison, committed to providing avenues that bridge the analog and digital realms using versatile software and advanced milling options for curriculums, clinicians and cancer treatment centers, nationally and internationally.

Has disclosed Affiliation/Financial Interest with the following company: Stoneglass