



Endodontics

Ronald G. Linaburg, DMD, MS  
Jack E. VanDeVisse, DMD  
Renee R. Kalp, DMD

M. Dan Hickey, DMD  
Richard S. Smith, DDS  
Ronald V. Ferrari, DDS

Ronald E. Hand, DMD, MS  
Rebecca L. Watkins, DMD

# The Apex

Fall 2011

*A publication for ADS's Extended Dental Family*

## Dr. Renee R. Kalp



Dr. Renee R. Kalp is originally from Greensburg, Pa. She completed her pre-doctoral studies at The Pennsylvania State University in 2004 receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and a minor in Business. In 2008, she received a D.M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Kalp was valedictorian of her class and was named to the Dean's List with honors for four years. She was the recipient of the Ruth Semenov Friedman Scholarship, Rylands Award on behalf of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, O. H. Moore Scholarship, Gene

Lannon Scholarship, and an academic scholarship from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Dental Medicine. Upon graduation, Dr. Kalp was inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon, an honors society recognizing students with both exceptional academic and clinical skills. In 2010, Dr. Kalp completed the Post-Doctoral Endodontic Program at the University of Pittsburgh, Department of Endodontics, receiving her Endodontic Specialty Certification. After completing her residency in 2010, Dr. Kalp joined Associated Dental Specialists. She is currently serving as a member of the continuing education advisory board committee with Associated Dental Specialists. She maintains membership in the American Dental Association, Pennsylvania Dental Association, Western Pennsylvania Dental Society and the American Association of Endodontics.

## Diagnosis Update by Renee R. Kalp, DMD

An accurate diagnosis is the foundation for successful endodontic treatment. Although each individual may arrive at a specific diagnosis with varying subjective testing modalities and rationale, it is imperative that we as clinicians can communicate to each other in terms that best describe the condition of the tooth in question.

This terminology has varied throughout the years with confusion and difference in terms. There are many reasons for these discrepancies and inconsistencies, but in reality, there is a lack of biologically based terms that represent the actual status of the pulp and periapical tissue (1).

Due to this dilemma, a committee was formed by the Board of Directors of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE) to recommend the construction and adoption of consensus-driven, evidence-based classification system for endodontic diagnosis (1). The goals of this system are to provide consistency in terminology, improve communication to clinicians, and to provide quality and predictable treatment to patients (1). In 2008, after months of hard work, 64 selected individuals of the AAE Consensus Conference Committee were successful, and recommended the following diagnostic terminology:

### Pulpal

**Normal pulp** - A clinical diagnostic category in which the pulp is symptom-free and normally responsive to pulp testing.

**Reversible pulpitis** - A clinical diagnosis based on subjective and objective findings indicating that the inflammation should resolve and the pulp return to normal.

**Symptomatic irreversible pulpitis** - A clinical diagnosis based on subjective and objective findings indicating that the vital inflamed pulp is incapable of healing. Additional descriptors: lingering thermal pain, spontaneous pain, referred pain.

**Asymptomatic irreversible pulpitis** - A clinical diagnosis based on subjective and objective findings indicating that the vital inflamed pulp is incapable of healing. Additional descriptors: no clinical symptoms but inflammation produced by caries, caries excavation, trauma.

**Pulp necrosis** - A clinical diagnostic category indicating death of the dental pulp. The pulp is usually nonresponsive to pulp testing.

**Previously treated** - A clinical diagnostic category indicating that the tooth has been endodontically treated and the canals are obturated with various filling materials other than intracanal medicaments.

**Previously initiated therapy** - A clinical diagnostic category indicating that the tooth has been previously treated by partial endodontic therapy (eg, pulpotomy, pulpectomy).

*Continued*

### Bethel Park SOUTH HILLS

110 Fort Couch Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241  
(412) 833-8400  
Fax (412) 835-6070

### Monroeville EAST SUBURBS

4328 Northern Pike  
Monroeville, PA 15146  
(412) 856-9300  
Fax (412) 856-9555

### Oakland EAST END

3347 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
(412) 682-6900  
Fax (412) 682-6943

### Cranberry Twp NORTH HILLS

One Landmark North  
20399 Route 19  
Suite 100  
Cranberry Twp, PA 16066  
(724) 741-7400  
Fax (724) 741-7404

### McKnight Road NORTH HILLS

Arcadia Court  
9380 McKnight Road  
Suite 105  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
(412) 367-4800  
Fax (412) 367-3745

### Squirrel Hill PARKWAY EAST

Louis Building  
1824 Murray Avenue  
Suite 300  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
(412) 422-3636  
Fax (412) 422-3637

email: [doctors@ads-endo.com](mailto:doctors@ads-endo.com)  
web: [ads-endo.com](http://ads-endo.com)

### Apical

**Normal apical tissues** - Teeth with normal periradicular tissues that are not sensitive to percussion or palpation testing. The lamina dura surrounding the root is intact, and the periodontal ligament space is uniform.

**Symptomatic apical periodontitis** - Inflammation, usually of the apical periodontium, producing clinical symptoms including a painful response to biting and/or percussion or palpation. It might or might not be associated with an apical radiolucent area.

**Asymptomatic apical periodontitis** - Inflammation and destruction of apical periodontium that is of pulpal origin, appears as an apical radiolucent area, and does not produce clinical symptoms.

**Acute apical abscess** - An inflammatory reaction to pulpal infection and necrosis characterized by rapid onset, spontaneous pain, tenderness of the tooth to pressure, pus formation, and swelling of associated tissues.

**Chronic apical abscess** - An inflammatory reaction to pulpal infection and necrosis characterized by gradual onset, little or no discomfort, and the intermittent discharge of pus through an associated sinus tract.

**Condensing osteitis** - Diffuse radiopaque lesion representing a localized bony reaction to a low-grade inflammatory stimulus, usually seen at apex of tooth. (2)

#### References

- 1) AAE Consensus Conference on Diagnostic Terminology: Background and Perspectives. *J Endod.* 2009;35:1619-1620.
- 2) AAE Consensus Conference Recommended Diagnostic Terminology. *J Endod.* 2009; 35:1634.

## Past and Upcoming Seminars

**BEGIN ACQUIRING YOUR CREDITS FOR 2011-2013 NOW!** Associated Dental Specialists has recently been accredited as a PACE provider through the American Academy for General Dentistry to provide a compendium of core continuing education programs for the Pittsburgh dental profession.

**Calvin D. Torneck, D.D.S., M.S.** presented a continuing education program on **May 18, 2011** at the Pittsburgh Airport Embassy Suites entitled **Endodontic-Periodontal Relationships Revisited**. Dr. Torneck is a retired professor emeritus who teaches part-time in the graduate endodontic program at the University of Toronto and a visiting professor in the postdoctoral endodontic program at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.



*Dr. Ronald, G. Linaburg, Dr. Ronald E. Hand, Dr. Renee R. Kalp, Dr. Calvin D. Torneck, Dr. Ronald V. Ferrari, Dr. Richard S. Smith, Dr. Rebecca L. Watkins, Dr. Jack E. VandeVisse, Dr. M. Dan Hickey*

Dr. Torneck has authored or co-authored 60 scientific papers, five endodontic teaching manuals, and contributed chapters to 19 textbooks related to dental practice and dental science. He received his D.D.S. degree from the University of Toronto in 1958, M.S. degree and certificate of endodontics from the University of Michigan in 1959. He is a Life-Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists in Canada and a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics.

Dr. Torneck discussed how implants are a useful and effective treatment option for certain dental conditions and how the introduction of them into dentistry has resulted in the extraction of many teeth that might have been

successfully retained by more conservative treatment. This is typical of teeth with advanced atypical bone loss of endodontic origin and advanced localized bone loss of periodontal origin.

**R. John Brewer NREMT-P** presented an ADS continuing education program on **August 18, 2011** at the Doubletree Pittsburgh/Monroeville Convention Center entitled **Anesthesia and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office**. Mr. Brewer is a career paramedic with 30 plus years experience working in urban/suburban areas just south of Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. Mr. Brewer has worked extensively with the dental community over the past 12 years. He teaches more than 300 courses annually in BLS, ACLS and PALS. In conjunction with Henry Schein, these courses are presented in individual offices, for dental societies, PSOMS, and University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. In addition, Mr. Brewer conducts medical emergency courses, assists with helping offices purchase and organize emergency equipment, and lectures throughout Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and New Jersey.

Mr. Brewer discussed how medical emergencies can occur anytime in the office. This may be prior to, during, or after anesthesia. These emergencies are as likely to happen with oral sedation as with IV sedation. This course helped better prepare the office staff and doctor to handle such emergencies. In a systematic approach, course participants reviewed history and physical examination of the patient. Through lecture and case reviews, a variety of medical emergencies were discussed to better prepare office staff and the doctor on how to handle the emergency until EMS arrives.

**Our next scheduled seminar program will be presented on November 17, 2011 in the Cranberry Township area.** Details are being finalized and were not available at the time the Newsletter was going to print.

**Future Programs will include:** Lasers in Dentistry: From Fundamentals to Clinical Procedures, Technology in Your Practice: What is Here, What is Coming and How to Get Ready For the Chartless World, The Many Faces of Orofacial Pain, New and Expanding Horizons in Esthetic Dentistry, Useful and Pragmatic Oral Surgery for the General Dentist, Understanding and Managing Older Adults in Your Practice, Treatment and Planning and Simplification for Success: How, What, When and Why. If you have any questions or would like to register for any of our programs please contact our Bethel Park / South Hills Office at 412-283-1413 and speak with Dawn.

# Open House!

**WE HAVE EXPANDED!** Associated Dental Specialists is proud to announce the opening of two new offices in North Hills and Squirrel Hill. Now we offer two new locations for the convenience of your patients. The North Hills Office is located at Arcadia Court, 9380 McKnight Road, Suite 105, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. The Squirrel Hill Office is located at the Louis Building, 1824 Murray Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. If you

missed our Grand Opening Celebrations in June please feel free to contact Kathy at our North Hills Office (412-367-4800) or Natalie at our Squirrel Hill Office (412-422-3636) for a personal tour or to answer any questions you may have about the office. Stop by and see why our new offices are the best destination for your patients!

## March for Mason!

*Kristen Hischar, daughter-in-law of John Hischar, who is the Business Manager of Associated Dental Specialists, shares a story that changes the lives of our Associated Dental Specialist family forever. Associated Dental Specialists, along with two other company sponsors and hundreds of friends and families, raised the most dollars of any team in a recent March of Dimes Walk in honor of Mason Hischar. These funds will help to support research to improve the chances of survival for premature babies.*



I was 24 weeks pregnant with my second child on the day of my daughters 2nd birthday when I started to have terrible sharp pains in my stomach. I went to the hospital telling all the doctors and nurses that came into my room that I had to get back home to my daughter's party. After a number of tests it was determined that my water had

broken and I was in labor and would not be returning for Mia's birthday party. Five days later my son Mason Robert was born at 25 weeks and 1 day weighing just 1lb 13oz. He was immediately transported to the NICU at Magee Women's Hospital, where they worked on him all evening. At one point they brought my husband Rob and myself down to see our precious baby Mason. The doctors were not sure that our baby Mason was going to make it through the night. Needless to say Mason did make it, through the next couple of months; although we had our up and our downs. My husband and I had many sleepless nights, and much of our time was spent at the hospital. A very hard part of this process was that we also had a 2 year old little girl. Mia was wondering where Mommy was all day and why Daddy would come home from work and leave to go to the hospital. Mason was originally intubated, and went from a continuous positive airway pressure machine (CPAP), home oxygen and back again a number of times.

1st, the doctors and some of the nursing staff came into our room to sit us down and talk. They told us that our Mason was not going to get any better and that they had done all that they could do. They went over our options and from there Rob and I along with some of our family members had to make the decision on what to do with our little man. Rob and I made the final decision to end all of Mason's pain and suffering and take him off of all the machines; this was by far the worst day of our lives. At 7:00pm on March 2, 2011 Mason was taken off of all his machines. In the presence of all of our family members and some friends, Rob and I held our precious baby boy until he took his last breath.



While all of this was going on my best friend and sister in law, Valerie was looking into what we could do to help support parents with premature babies. That is when Valerie learned about the March of Dimes. Valerie formed a team in Mason's name before he had passed away. Valerie started to spread the word and get donations in honor of Mason for the March of Dimes. After Mason passed away we asked people in lieu of flowers to make a donation to the March of Dimes in Mason's name.

After 4 months at Magee Women's Hospital they re-intubated him and then transferred us to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh for a trache evaluation. Once Mason was settled into Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh his health only got worse. Mason did not make it for an evaluation and he was not healthy enough to undergo surgery. His oxygen levels continued to get lower and his carbon levels got higher which is not a good thing. On March

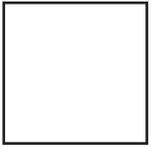


We raised over \$7,300 and had 100 walkers join us for the March of Dimes walk in honor of Mason. We were the top donating team in the Pittsburgh area and were recognized on the field before the Pirates game on the day of the walk. March of Dimes is an amazing organization with a great cause. The March of Dimes continues to do things everyday so that families like ours do not have to go thru what we did.



# Associated Dental Specialists

110 Fort Couch Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241-1030



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Office News... About our ADS Family

### **Dr. M. Dan Hickey**

ADS's Dr. Dan Hickey and wife, Alice, have two sons working in two far corners of the planet. Both were recently involved in rescue and humanitarian efforts during and after devastating natural disasters.

Their son, Jack, an Emergency Medicine Physician, was in the middle of a Class 5 Cyclone, Yasi, when it hit northeastern Australia in February, 2011. He served at an emergency hospital site during the cyclone after the hospital (Cairns Regional), its patients, and staff were evacuated and moved inland to avoid a direct hit. He helped treat emergencies and delivered quite a few babies who wouldn't just wait for the storm to blow over! A highlight for Jack afterward was meeting Prince William who was surveying the damage and thanking the people who served the public during the cyclone.

Then, the following month, their other son, Chuck, a DC1 (Damage Control 1st Class) with the US Navy, who is stationed at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan, was out to sea on the USS Mc Campbell when the Tohoku earthquake & tsunami hit Japan. He and his shipmates spent the next month on a search/rescue mission and delivering food and medicines via helicopters (helo ops) to the stricken people of Japan.

Dan's stories to Alice of his grueling days at ADS, with the super tough root canal cases – long, curved, roots with calcified canals – no longer have the same impact on her.

### **Dawn Lewis**

Dawn Lewis is the ADS Office Administrator. She resides in Venetia, with her husband, 2 children, a cat, a dog and a chinchilla. Dawn's husband Kurt is the owner of Lewis Fabricating located in Finleyville. Dawn's daughter Jordan graduated from Ringgold Senior High School with honors in June. She is currently attending West Virginia University on an Academic Scholarship. Her major course of study is yet undecided. Dawn's son

Cory is just entering High School. Upon completion of his middle school years, he was awarded the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence. He will be playing on the Ringgold High School Golf Team.

### **Cheryl Cherry**

Cheryl Cherry is the Monroeville Office Coordinator for Associated Dental Specialists. Cheryl has worked for general dentists & a periodontist since 1978. Cheryl is married and has 3 children. Her husband is an engineer/scientist at Bechtel. Cheryl's youngest daughter graduated with a 4.0 from Gannon University with a degree in Journalism/Communications, she will be employed by USIS in Grove City in a couple of weeks. Cheryl's son who is the middle child was married a few months ago in Oil City. He is a graduate of Clarion University with a degree in Communications and works for Joy Mining in Oil City. Cheryl's oldest son is a graduate of Grove City College with a degree in History/Political Science and works for the state of PA with Unemployment Compensation and recently has partnered with IBM to implement new computer systems for the state. He resides in Millerstown.

### **Carrie Durny**

Carrie Durny is the Marketing Coordinator for Associated Dental Specialists. She recently gave birth to a beautiful baby boy! Drew was born on May 27, 2011 and weighed 8 lbs 2oz, 22 inches. Things sure have changed... Drew is now 25 inches and 16 lbs. Carrie said that being a mom is "more happiness than I could ever imagined!"

### **Tina Dimtroff**

Tina Dimtroff our Clinical Marketing Coordinator for Associated Dental Specialists is proudly an Aunt for the fourth time! Newest baby "Zander" was born on June 6, 2011. He has an older brother Torin & 2 sisters Celina & Julia. Tina makes a lot of trips to Baby's R Us on the weekends!

## **3 Rivers Dental Meeting 2011 • Friday & Saturday, October 28 & 29 • Seven Springs Mountain Resort**

ADS will be one of the featured presenters in the "Learning in the Round" Program on Friday, October 28, 2011. The program will concentrate on the non-clinical aspects of the dental practice. Dawn Lewis, our Office Administrator, and John Hischar, Business Manager, will help doctors and staff learn how to efficiently manage their office. "Dental Office Efficiencies" will touch on Time Management, Goals, Audits, Recall, Pre-Authorized Payments, and Managing by the Numbers.

The 3 Rivers Dental Meeting is an annual event sponsored by the Dental Society of Western Pennsylvania. Registration information: DSWP at 412-321-5810.