

Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD) Communique



Dear fellow OTOD members,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and ready for the holidays! I am excited and honored to be your chair this year. We had a successful virtual educational seminar by Dr. Jerry Bouquot in November and are working to put together an in-person educational session during March 2026 ADEA annual session in Montreal, Canada. We are also working to arrange a formal OTOD meeting during the upcoming AAOM meeting in Dallas in April 2026.

We have expanded our membership and organized a member listserv. To invigorate our organization, we encourage you to reach out and invite diagnostic-minded colleagues involved in teaching oral diagnosis, oral medicine, oral pathology, oral radiology and orofacial pain to join OTOD.

Please feel free to send me any comments or suggestions you may have.

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year!

Warm regards,



**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Mahnaz Fatahzadeh, DMD, MSD, DABOM, FRCP(Edin)
Chair, Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD)
Councilor, ADEA Section of Oral Diagnosis & Oral Medicine
fatahza@sdm.rutgers.edu



2026 ADEA Annual Session & Exhibition

March 21-24, 2026 | Montréal, Canada

Bridging Pathways, Advancing Access



**** SAVE THE DATE ****

2026 ADEA ANNUAL SESSION: OTOD SEMINAR

WHO: Dr. Martin T. Tyler

WHAT: “Erythema Multiforme East versus West—*Oui ou Non.*”

WHO: Dr. Andres Pinto

WHAT: “Orofacial Pain in Head & Neck Cancer: Challenges & Opportunities “

WHEN: Sunday March 22, 2026, 5:30 PM

WHERE: Palais des congrès de Montreal

WHY: Learning & fellowship

MORE WHY: Dinner and beverages included.

COST: FREE for OTOD members and it is not too late to join!

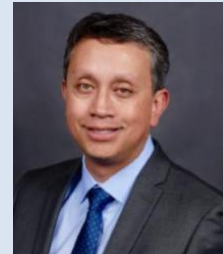


The Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD) will hold its annual Diagnostic Sciences Faculty Development session on **Sunday March 22, 2026 at 5:30 PM** during the ADEA annual conference. We are truly honored to have Drs. Martin Tyler and Andres Pinto as our featured speakers.



Dr. Tyler is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Medicine as well as the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology. Dr. Tyler served as the chair of Oral Medicine & Oral Radiology at McGill University for 22 years and was the recipient of W.W. Wood Award, a national distinction for teaching excellence in Canada. Dr. Tyler has published many scientific articles, contributed to book chapters in medical and dental literature and maintained a private practice limited to oral medicine in Montreal, Canada for 37 years. Dr. Tyler will present a talk titled “Erythema Multiforme East versus West-*Oui ou Non.*”

Dr. Pinto is the Chair of Oral & Maxillofacial Medicine & Diagnostic Sciences at the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Pinto has a versatile and distinguished career with numerous funded projects and significant contribution to the oral medicine literature. His clinical expertise covers mucosal diseases, dental sleep medicine, orofacial pain and pediatric oral medicine. Dr. Pinto maintains a clinical service that sees over 200 patients per week. Dr. Pinto gives a talk titled “Orofacial Pain in Head & Neck Cancer: Challenges & Opportunities”



Anyone interested in teaching diagnostic skills in dentistry is welcome. Complimentary food & beverage will be served. Come and join us for fellowship and exchange of experiences/ideas. If interested, please email Dr. Fatahzadeh at the following address (fatahza@sdm.rutgers.edu) to confirm your attendance. One of the main goals of OTOD is to encourage communication and collaboration among diagnostic dental disciplines relative to oral & maxillofacial lesions by sharing clinical cases which enhance teaching skills of our members. To that end, we are also trying to secure diagnostic sciences faculty to present their interesting/unusual cases in short power point presentations, stimulate interactive discussion & learning from each other's clinical experiences.

ADEA DIAGNOSTIC SCIENCES FORUMS

- **Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology Members' Forum** Saturday March 21st, 2026, 7-8 am
- **Oral Diagnosis & Oral Medicine Members' Forum** Monday March 23rd, 2026, 7-8 am

ADEA PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

ODOM section: “Bridging the Emergency-Training Gap with Simulation: A blueprint to Advance Access to Safe Care”
Sunday March 22, 2026, 2-3PM



ADEA ORAL DIAGNOSIS ORAL MEDICINE SECTION

The mission of Oral Diagnosis/Oral Medicine (ODOM) section is to promote quality instruction so that upon graduation the dental student is knowledgeable in basic pathologic processes and competent in systematic patient assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning and patient management. The ODOM section has the responsibility to develop curricular guidelines and establish competencies in the discipline as well as promote better collaboration by working with other sections. Members are encouraged to seek membership with the American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) and support the Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD) meetings.



Officers of ODOM section held a highly successful forum during the 2025 ADEA annual section with many members participating in the discussions. Dr. Sahar Mirfarsi chaired ODOM Forum & Dr. Andre Davila was unanimously elected as the secretary for the ODOM section

Dr. Andres Davila

The section collaborated on the submission of multiple programs with other sections & sponsored a well-attended 60-minute seminar titled *“Empowering Predoctoral Students’ Knowledge and Competency in TMD Diagnosis and Management”* presented by Dr. Katherine France and Dr. Jeffrey Shaefer. Dr. Jasjot Sahni moderated the session.



2025 ADEA ANNUAL SESSION: OTOD SEMINAR

The Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD) held a networking event sponsored by the American Academy of Oral Medicine during last year's ADEA annual session. The event took place on March 9, 2025, at the Gaylord National Resort and Conference Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Dr. Mahnaz Fatahzadeh hosted the event and anyone interested in teaching oral diagnostic disciplines (oral medicine, oral pathology, oral radiology & orofacial pain) was welcome to attend. The keynote speaker was Dr. Ronald Brown, Professor Emeritus at Howard University College of Dentistry in Washington, DC. Dr. Brown is a long-standing clinical research associate at NIH/NHLBI/NIH hematology branch and a prolific speaker both nationally & internationally with nearly 200 publications in referred journals. Dr. Brown presented a talk entitled **"Risk Benefit Analysis: Antibiotic prophylaxis as an example"**. Dr. Brown's talk was followed by case presentations of Dr. Mark Mintline (OMFP), Dr. Niranzana Selvam (OMFR) and Dr. Jeff Schaefer (TMD & OFP) The challenging cases they shared were focused on diagnostic skills and sparked much discussion amongst the faculty in attendance. Later, the group met for a complimentary dinner hosted by OTOD and enjoyed fellowship with each other.



From left to right: Drs. Niranzana (OMFR) Mintline (OMFP), Brown (OM & keynote speaker) and Schaeffer (TMD & OFP)

Fellowship & dinner after the OTOD session



Guest speakers sharing challenging cases from their clinical practice during 2025 OTOD session and sparking collegial discussions.

2025 AAOM MEETING: OTOD SESSION

The Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis (OTOD) is the pre-doctoral arm and a standing committee of the American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM). Many diagnostic-minded faculty are members of both OTOD and ADEA section on Oral Diagnosis and Oral Medicine (ODOM). Mutual members usually meet informally during the annual AAOM conference for exchange of ideas and development of educational programs to advance oral health education and scholarship. An example of such collaborations is the endorsement of OTOD case report award, an honor extended to select abstracts amongst many submissions to AAOM annual conference. The authors of following five abstracts were recipient of OTOD case report awards during the annual meeting of American Academy of Oral Medicine held in Las Vegas, Nv, in May 2025.

- Caique Mariano Pedroso, et al. Oral Mucosal Neuromas as a Pediatric Presentation of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia, Type 2B (MEN 2B). UNICAMP, Brazil
- Hedyeh Samady, et al. Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ) in a Patient with Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia and Rheumatoid Arthritis on Tocilizumab, University of Washington
- Wasif Qayyum, et al. A Case of Membranous Nephropathy Associated with Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid. University of San Francisco
- Laurel Henderson, et al. Eosinophilic sialodochtitis: A Rare Salivary Gland Disorder with Atopic Associations – Diagnostic Challenges and Therapeutic Insight Harvard School of Dental Medicine
- Colton Cannon, et al. Spontaneous Gingival Bleeding as the Initial Presentation of Acute Myeloid Leukemia. University of Pennsylvania



Dr. Caique Mariano Pedroso



Dr. Hedyeh Samadi



Dr. Wasif Qayyum



Dr. Colton Cannon



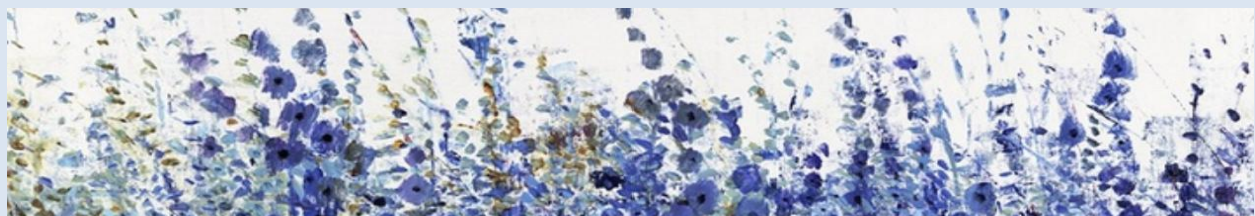
Dr. Laurel Henderson

2025 ADEA FALL MEETINGS

ADEA Fall meetings were held from October 15-17, 2025, at Colorado Springs, Colorado. ADEA Councils conduct their mid-year business and attend joint education sessions. The theme of this year's meeting was Converge, Collaborate and Connect. The first day of this event was dedicated to professional development and poster sessions. Officers of ADEA Oral Diagnosis/Oral Medicine section attended the fall meetings and represented our section at the ongoing activities and discussions.



ADEA Oral Medicine & Oral Diagnosis Section Officers
Left to right: Drs. Andres Davila (secretary), Dr. Sahar Mirfarsi (Chair), Dr. Mahnaz Fatahzadeh (Councilor) & Dr. Roopali Kulkarni (Chair-elect)



2025 OTOD VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

Last year, OTOD embarked on a new project to promote communication and collaboration between diagnostic sciences faculty across United States and beyond. The plan was to hold one or more virtual sessions for presentation of interesting/unusual cases pertinent to diagnostic disciplines and provide an opportunity for discourse amongst colleagues. Dr. David Klingman was the speaker at our inaugural virtual session in 2024.

The second meeting of this initiative was held on Thursday November 6th in the evening, and the virtual event was promoted through various list serves. Dr. Fatahzadeh, OTOD Committee Chair welcomed attendees and provided a brief historical perspective about this organization and its mission. The invited speaker at our inaugural session was Dr. Jerry E. Bouquot, Director of Maxillofacial Center for Education & Research, in Morgantown, West Virginia. Dr. Bouquot presented a virtual seminar titled “*Odd lesions with a twist*” to the faculty in attendance.



Dr. Bouquot received his D.D.S. & M.S.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota, with postdoctoral fellowships to the Mayo Clinic and the Royal Dental College in Copenhagen, Denmark. He holds the record as the youngest oral pathology chair in U.S. history & has chaired Diagnostic Sciences departments in WVU & the University of Texas at Houston & was one of the first to establish a private OMP biopsy service in the country. Dr. Bouquot has received more than 60 honors & awards, including WVU's highest awards for teaching and service to humanity and its alumni association's Lifetime Achievement Award. He has been President of the American Board of OMFP, ESTOP, WESTOP, and 6 regional dental societies. Dr. Bouquot has reported 4 dozen new oral path lesions & now works part-time for WVU and continues his research and CDE activities while enjoying his retirement.



We invite and welcome oral diagnosis, oral medicine, oral pathology, oral radiology and orofacial pain faculty to participate in the future virtual sessions. We hope to bring together diagnostic-minded dental educators in this national/international forum. Anyone interested in being a presenter in an upcoming session may contact Dr. Fatahzadeh (fatahza@sdm.rutgers.edu) regarding the specifics.



2026 AAOM CONFERENCE

“Immune Intelligence in Oral Medicine: Bridging Oncology, Autoimmunity, and Pain”

April 22-25, 2026

Hyatt Regency DFW

Dallas, Tx



The 2026 Meeting of the American Academy of Oral Medicine (AAOM) will be held in Dallas, TX from April 14-17, 2026. The annual conference will be a great opportunity for learning, fellowship and fun. Please consult www.aaom.com for details of the program. AAOM invites abstract submissions for the annual meeting. The Abstracts Committee will review and select submissions for poster and oral presentations at the meeting. Please consult [2026 Call for Abstracts](#) for details of submission process.

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

2026 AAOM CONFERENCE: OTOD Meeting

An informal meeting of OTOD members during the AAOM conference is being planned.

WHEN: Friday April 24, 2026, 7:30 AM

WHERE: Hyatt Regency DFW Breakfast area



MEMBERS' CORNER

Abstracts & publications

Selvam NP, Alamoudi AA, Syed AZ. Multilocular radiolucency in the mandibular ramus. *JADA* Sep 2025

Khoury, Zaid H., Mohamed S. Sultan, Tiffany Tavares, Maryam Jessri, and Ahmed Sultan. "AI-generated podcasts for health education." *Medical Teacher* (2025): 1-6.

Rokhshad, Rata, Zaid H. Khoury, Hossein Mohammad-Rahimi, Parisa Motie, Jeffery B. Price, TiffanyTavares, Maryam Jessri, Roxaqne Bavarian, James J. Sciubba, and Ahmed S. Sultan. "Efficacy and empathy of AI chatbots in answering frequently asked questions on oral oncology." *Oral surgery, oral medicine, oral pathology and oral radiology* 139, no. 6 (2025): 719-728.

Neubert JK, Allen K, Alliston T, Almarza AJ, Athanasiou KA, Donertas-Ayaz B, de Paula BB, Bavarian R, et.al. Preclinical perspectives on disorders of the temporomandibular joint: Tracing the past, navigating the present, and shaping the future. *J Pain*. 2025

Bailey T, Jelke S, Scarpa VL, Koch A, Vasilyeva D, Chan KC, Philipone E. Rapid Soft Tissue Overgrowth Following Mandibular Third Molar Extraction. *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology and Oral Radiology*, in press.

Mahmud Y, Scarpa V, Vasilyeva D. Pebbly Gingival Nodule in an Older Male. *New York State Dental Journal*, in press.

Vasilyeva D, Pinto A. Temporomandibular Complications of Intubation. *Orthopedic Nursing* 2025; 44(4): E18.

Wiener LY, Nassimi D, Clarkson E, Peters SM, Vasilyeva D. Intraosseous spindle cell lipoma of the maxilla: case report and review of the literature. *Int J Oral Maxillofac Surg*. 2025 Feb 27: S0901-5027(25)00054-2

Kowalski MB, Vasilyeva D, Philipone E. Custom Medicine Trays for Imiquimod Application: Design and Outcomes in Management of Proliferative Verrucous Leukoplakia. *American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology*, 2025.

Omolehinwa T, Davila A, Mahajan R, Sollecito TP, Stoopler ET, Kulkarni R. Oral complications associated with Trigeminal Trophic Syndrome: A case report. *Spec Care Dent*. 2025 Jan-Feb;45(1): e13085.

Boice RM, Mitchell CM, Sollecito TP, Kulkarni R. Oral hyperpigmentation secondary to radioactive iodine therapy. *JCEM Case Rep*. 2025 Jun 9;3(7): luaf112.

Omolehinwa T, Kulkarni R. Interprofessional practice activities at oral medicine clinic/care center for persons with disabilities at Penn Dental Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. *CareQuest Institute for Oral Health. From Silos to Synergy: Integrating Oral Health into Whole-Person Care through Interprofessional Practice: Use Cases*. Boston, MA: September 2025. DOI: 10.35565/CQI.2025/2009.

Scarpa V, Vasilyeva D, Housley Smith M, Valenti J, Philipone E, Neville B, Wright J. Expanding the histologic spectrum of granular cell ameloblastoma: A diagnostic pitfall. *American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology*, 2025.

Sangalli, L., Mirfarsi, S., Kramer, J., Elfatih, E., Miller, CS. "Managing Burning Mouth Syndrome: Current and Future Directions." *Journal of Drugs, Springer Nature. Review Article*.

Mintline, M., Elo, J., Zarrabi, N., Mirfarsi, S., Barghan, S., Lavasani, S. "Simple Bone Cyst with Unusual Root Resorption: A Case Report." *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, Oral Radiology*. Volume 140, Issue 3, e81-e82.

Sangalli, L., Manning, E., Mirfarsi, S., & Miller, CS. "Content Validity Assessment of a Virtual Patient Based Learning Platform for TMD Education among Orofacial Pain Experts." Original article. *Journal of Dental Education*.

Shah S, Spencer A. A Mandibular Radiolucency Leads to Discovery of Extra-Oral Findings and Multiple Myeloma Diagnosis. *American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology/American Academy of Oral Medicine*, 2025.

Fatahzadeh M and Shukla P. Delayed Diagnosis of Readily Visible, Advanced, Symptomatic Mucosal Melanoma. Poster presentation, Annual meeting of American Academy of Oral Medicine, Los Vegas, NV May 14-17, 2025.

Fatahzadeh M and Schwartz RA. Angina Bullosa Hemorrhagica An Elusive Localized Blood-Filled Vesiculobullous Condition of the Oral Mucosa. *Bratislava Med J* 2025; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44411-025-00287-2>

Fatahzadeh M. Learners' Perspective on Curricular Innovations for Empowering Tomorrow's Oral Physicians. Poster presentation: ADEA Annual Session. National Harbor, MD. March 8-11, 2025.

Mukherji G. The Immense Value of Video-Based Learning for Clinical Simulation. ADEA Fall Meeting Colorado Springs, CO Oct 15-17, 2025.

Naraghi A, White M, Mukherji G. To Xylitol or Not to Xylitol. Prevention of Dental Caries. *J Greater Huston Dental Society*. 2025: 18-19.

HONORS, AWARDS, VISIONS

Dr. Andres Pinto, Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences at the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine D was the recipient of the Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis “Distinguished Educator Award” at the President Reception during AAOM annual Conference in May 2025.



Dr. James Cade participated in numerous community service activities and presented many continuing education programs focused on oral-systemic health, oral cancer prevention and responsible prescribing at the Meharry Medical College.

Dr. Daria Vasilyeva was appointed Co-Director of DDS/MA in Science and Dental Education dual degree program between Columbia University College of Dental Medicine and Teachers.



Dr. Sahar Mirfarsi received the Award of Excellence in Biomedical Sciences and was part of the team honored with the Inter-professional Excellence Award at the Western University of Health Sciences, Office of the President. She was also an invited speaker at multiple meetings including the annual International Pemphigus & Pemphigoid Foundation (IPPF) and Scripps Oral Pathology conferences and Los Angeles Dental Meeting.



Dr. Andres Davila was appointed to the American Cancer Society's Illinois HPV Advisory Council Steering Committee. In this role, he'll contribute to strategic planning and clinical quality initiatives, policy advocacy, and community engagement efforts aimed at reducing the burden of HPV-related cancers.

Dr. Sonal Shah was awarded Honorary Fellowship Award from the American Academy of Oral Medicine in May 2025. She also served on a subcommittee of World Workshop of Oral Medicine focused on global predoctoral oral medicine curriculum.

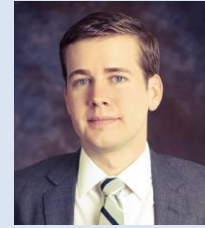


Dr. Iqbal Hasan successfully guided UPIKE School of Dental Medicine through its initial CODA accreditation. He also served on leadership panels at the 4th Becker's Future of Dentistry Roundtable and was featured in the Becker's newsletter. He also collaborated with two medical students on a interprofessional project presented at the Kentucky Association of Cardiac Care.

Dr. Roopali Kulkarni was the recipient of Young Alumni Award of Merit, Earle Bank Hoyt Award for dedication and excellence in teaching and Martin S. Greenberg Teaching Award in Oral Medicine from Penn Dental Medicine as well as Certificate of Merit from the American Academy of Oral Medicine. She was also listed as Top Dentist in Oral Medicine category in Philadelphia magazine.



Dr. Mark Mintline received Dr. Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award from the California Dental Association Foundation. He was also part of the team that received the Interprofessional Excellence Team Award from the Western University of Health Sciences, Office of the President.



Dr. Gargi Mukherji was an invited speaker on “Use of ADEA Data for Performance improvement” at the 2025 ADEA Annual Conference in Maryland. She also mentored a student on a summer research project presented at the American Associations for Dental, Oral & Craniofacial Research (AADOCR).

Dr. Mahnaz Fatahzadeh was the recipient of 2025 Rutgers Health Interprofessional Educator Award. She was nominated by faculty from medical, dental, nursing and physician assistant programs for this distinction. Dr. Fatahzadeh was also inducted into National Academies of Practice & Pierre Fauchard Academy.



Dr. Tiffany Tavares was Promoted to Clinical Associate Professor at UT Health San Antonio School of Dentistry. She was a collaborator & co-author on an article ed on the Application of AI in health education published in Medical Teacher Journal.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARDEES FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



GOALS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

- Inspire more colleagues to join OTOD
- Actively promote OTOD within AAOM
- Arrange a formal OTOD meeting at every AAOM annual meeting
- Continue virtual educational seminars to support junior faculty educators
- Encourage faculty participation as presenters in OTOD educational seminars
- Succession planning

THANK YOU FOR READING!

Thank you for taking the time to engage with this edition of OTOD newsletter. I hope the information shared in this communicate highlights the leadership, commitment and meaningful work of our remarkable members in practice, academia and research centered on oral diagnosis. Dedication and collective efforts of our community strengthen and elevate our organization and advance its mission.

**Newsletter respectfully submitted by
Dr. Mahnaz Fatahzadeh
Chair, The Organization of Teachers of Oral Diagnosis
Councilor, ADEA section of Oral Medicine & Oral Diagnosis
December 2025**

