

Official Newsletter of
Sri Lanka Dental Association



SLDA

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FOCUS

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Fostering Oral Care, Updates & Science

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Editor's Note



Dear Members,

It is with great pleasure that I present this edition of the Sri Lanka Dental Association newsletter, SLDA FOCUS. Following a prolonged pause, we are delighted to reintroduce this platform as a cornerstone of communication, collaboration and knowledge sharing within our professional community.

This newsletter aims to serve as a reflection of the Sri Lanka Dental Association's dedication to fostering excellence in dentistry, promoting scientific learning and celebrating the achievements of our vibrant community. In this edition, we bring you a mix of insightful articles, updates on SLDA activities, member achievements and glimpses into international dental events.

Reinstating this newsletter is a testament to our commitment to strengthening the bond between

members and ensuring everyone stays informed and inspired. We hope this initiative encourages active participation and collaboration, making this a collective voice for all of us.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported the revival of this initiative and warmly invite your active participation in shaping future editions. I hope you find the content both enriching and inspiring as we navigate the exciting opportunities ahead. Thank you for your continued engagement and dedication to the field of dentistry.

Dr Dhanushka Leuke Bandara

Editor
Sri Lanka Dental Association

President's Message



Dear Members,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I provide this message as the President of the Sri Lanka Dental Association. As we reflect on our journey and look forward to the future, I am reminded of the vital role that professionalism, ethics, evidence-based dental practice and research play in shaping the future of dentistry in Sri Lanka.

Professionalism and ethics lie at the very heart of our noble profession. They define not only how we interact with our patients but also how we uphold the dignity and trust placed in us by society. As dental professionals, it is our responsibility to embody the highest ethical standards in our practice, ensuring that patient care remains our foremost priority. I encourage all members to continue fostering an environment of integrity and accountability in our profession.

Equally important is the integration of evidence-based dentistry into our clinical practice. In a rapidly evolving field like dentistry, staying informed about the latest research and advancements is critical. Evidence-based dentistry empowers us to make clinical decisions that are scientifically sound, ensuring the best possible outcomes for our patients. I urge all of you to embrace this approach, balancing clinical expertise with the

best available evidence and patient preferences.

Research is also a fundamental pillar of progress in our profession. Through research, we not only expand the boundaries of our knowledge but also contribute to global advancements in oral healthcare. I am proud to see the increasing interest in dental research among our members and encourage you to pursue this with vigour. The SLDA is committed to supporting research initiatives and fostering a culture of inquiry and innovation.

As we move forward, let us work together to uphold these principles in our practice, education, and community service. The SLDA will continue to provide platforms for professional development, promote ethical practice, and support evidence-based approaches through workshops, conferences, and collaborative initiatives.

I look forward to your active participation in our upcoming activities and to hearing your ideas for advancing our profession. Together, we can ensure that dentistry in Sri Lanka remains a beacon of excellence, integrity, and innovation.

Warm regards,

Prof Ruwan D Jayasinghe

President

Sri Lanka Dental Association

Insights & Opinions: Featured Article 1



Prof Lakshman Samaranayake

Hon DSc (Pera), Hon Dr (Yerevan Uni. Armenia), DDS, FRCPath
FDSRCS FRACDS, FDSRCPS FCDSHK
High Potential Professor Chulalongkorn University,
Bangkok, Thailand and Professor and Dean Emeritus of Dentistry,
University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Empowering Dentistry: Harnessing the Potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI): A Concise Review

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the healthcare industry, including dentistry and could empower the potential of our profession beyond imagination. Indeed, the integration of AI technologies in dentistry is already transforming how oral diseases are managed, diagnosed, and treated. This short review, comprising two sections, provides a bird's eye view of the future potential of AI in dentistry and outlines the current use of AI in our profession.

I. The Profound Impact of AI on Dentistry

The general impact of AI on dentistry could be discussed under the following headings:

- Enhancing diagnostic accuracy
- Streamlining treatment planning
- Improving patient experience
- Advancements in imaging, prosthodontics, and

implant dentistry

Enhancing Diagnostics

One of the primary areas where AI is making a significant impact in dentistry is in diagnostics. AI-powered systems can analyse radiographs, scans, and other images with incredible precision and speed. For instance, AI algorithms can detect early signs of dental issues such as caries, periodontal disease, and even oral cancer, often with greater acumen than humans. The new generative AI systems can analyse vast amounts of data to identify patterns and anomalies that might be missed by the human eye and develop algorithms that are effective and efficient. This not only helps in early disease detection, but also enables dentists to provide more personalized treatment plans. The latter personalized dentistry, in parallel with personalized medicine, will lead to better outcomes and improved patient satisfaction.

Streamlining Treatment Planning

Another key locus where AI will assist dentists is to streamline treatment planning. As AI can collate and analyse patient data, including medical history, imaging results, and even genetic information, such algorithms generated can help dentists develop more effective and tailored treatment plans.

Furthermore, AI, due to an accumulating vast database derived from numerous local, regional, and international resources, will be in a position to predict much more accurate treatment outcomes and assess the long-term success of various procedures much better than humans. By leveraging this predictive capability, dentists will be able to make more informed decisions about the most suitable treatment options for their patients. A such databases garner more information in the fullness of time, the predictive accuracy of AI is bound to increase going into the future.

Improving Patient Care

By removing the 'human factor,' AI technologies

are also enhancing the overall patient experience in dentistry. For instance, virtual assistants powered by AI can help patients schedule appointments, receive reminders, and access important information about their treatment plans. These tools not only improve communication between patients and dental clinics but also help in providing continuous care and support beyond the clinic setting.

Additionally, AI-enabled devices such as smart toothbrushes and oral health trackers (see below) can monitor patients' oral hygiene habits at home and provide real-time feedback on brushing techniques and overall dental health. By empowering patients to take control of their oral health, these technologies contribute to better preventive care and long-term oral health outcomes.

Advancements in Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry

AI is of particular value in these two fields. AI algorithms can assist in designing custom dental prosthetics and implants that perfectly match the patient's unique oral anatomy. This precision not only improves the fit and comfort of these devices but also reduces the risk of complications and the need for adjustments post-implantation.

Moreover, AI-powered robotic systems are already in use in the USA, China, and Hong Kong for implant surgery without human intervention and will provide greater precision and efficiency in implantology. These robotic assistants can also enhance improved surgical outcomes and faster recovery times for patients.

II. Contemporary Use of AI Technology in Dentistry

AI-Powered Image Analysis

AI algorithms can analyse dental radiographs to detect dental caries, periodontal disease, and abnormalities in tooth structure with high accuracy. Additionally, AI tools can assist in analysing 3D CBCT scans for precise evaluation of dental anatomy and conditions such as impacted teeth or jaw abnormalities. Further, such systems could detect incipient bone pathology, which even experienced human radiologists may be unable to decipher, leading to better prognosis of the condition.

CAD/CAM Systems

AI-driven Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided

Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) Systems are used for designing and fabricating dental restorations such as crowns, bridges, and veneers with high precision and efficiency. Although digital versions of such systems are already available, the new AI-powered systems are better than their older-generation counterparts.

Virtual Treatment Planning

3D virtual treatment planning AI tools can help dentists plan complex treatments, such as orthodontic interventions or dental implant placements, by simulating treatment outcomes and optimizing procedures. By scanning a large database derived from numerous internationally linked resources, these AI treatment planning software are far superior to those concocted by even very experienced specialists in the field.

Patient Management Systems

AI-powered patient management systems are particularly useful for tasks such as appointment scheduling, patient reminders, treatment follow-ups, and personalized patient communication as there is no human error involved. Nevertheless, oversight by an appropriately trained professional is essential when such systems are used, as even the AI systems may fabricate unnecessary interventions on rare occasions (such episodes are called AI hallucinations!).

Smart Dental Devices

AI-enabled smart toothbrushes can track brushing habits, provide real-time feedback on brushing technique, and monitor oral hygiene practices to the patients without the assistance of a dentist. In the same vein, wearable devices that monitor oral health metrics called Oral Health Trackers are now available. These have the ability to measure salivary pH levels and composition, bacterial counts to assess oral health status.

Tele-dentistry Platforms

AI-Driven Teleconsultation Platforms are now available. These use AI for remote consultations, diagnosis, and treatment planning, enabling patients to access dental care from anywhere. Such trackers are particularly useful in countries and regions where dentists are unavailable in remote locations.

Predictive Analytics

AI algorithms can now analyse patient data to predict treatment outcomes, assess risks, and recommend personalized treatment plans based on historical data

and patterns.

Robotic Assistance

AI-Powered Robotic Systems are already available to assist dentists in performing surgeries with enhanced precision and dexterity, particularly in complex procedures. As mentioned above, these robots are particularly useful in implant placements.

Drug Interaction Analysis

AI tools can help dentists identify potential drug interactions and contraindications when prescribing medications for dental procedures or conditions. These are of extreme value when treating complex cases with several systemic diseases and when patients are on a multitude of drugs.

Overall Data Analytics and Insights

AI-driven data analytics tools can analyse large datasets to provide insights into patient trends, treatment outcomes, and operational efficiencies within dental practices and also on a country or region-wide basis. Such 'Big data' analyses are currently the province of highly time-consuming and expensive digital technologies. With the advent of AI, the analytical efficiency and the cost of such will be drastically reduced, with outcomes available within minutes rather than hours or days.

III. Challenges and Ethical Considerations

While the benefits of AI in dentistry are profound, there are also concomitant challenges and ethical considerations that users of AI should be aware of. These include privacy and data security, which are significant concerns when handling sensitive patient information. Ensuring the confidentiality and integrity

of patient data should be a top priority for dental practices adopting AI solutions.

Moreover, there is a need to ensure that AI systems in dentistry are transparent, explainable, and free from bias. Dentists and researchers must carefully validate AI algorithms to prevent unintended consequences and ensure that these technologies are used responsibly to benefit patient care.

IV. Conclusions

In conclusion, the impact of AI on dentistry is profound and transformative. By leveraging AI technologies, dentists can enhance diagnostics, streamline treatment planning, and improve overall patient care. While challenges exist, the future of AI in dentistry holds immense potential for improving oral health outcomes and revolutionizing the field of dentistry as we know it.

Further Reading

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Insights & Opinions: Featured Article 2



Prof Ruwan Jayasinghe

BDS, MS, FDS RCPS

Senior Professor and Chair, Specialist in OMF Surgery
Dept. of Oral Medicine and Periodontology,
Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya,
President / Sri Lanka Dental Association 2024/25

Professionalism, Ethics, and Evidence - Based Dentistry: Foundations for Excellence in Practice

As dental professionals, the foundation of our work is grounded in professionalism, ethics, and the integration of evidence-based practices. These elements not only define our day-to-day interactions with patients but also serve to elevate the dental profession as a whole. Upholding the highest standards of conduct ensures that we foster trust, respect, and confidence in the care we provide to our patients and communities.

What Defines a “Profession”?

A profession is typically an occupation that requires formal qualifications, extended training, and a strong intellectual component. It is distinct from manual or physical labour as it focuses more on mental work. The evolution of a profession occurs through a combination of education, apprenticeships, examinations, the emergence of regulatory bodies, and a certain degree of monopoly rights over practice.

Within this framework, the question arises: If dentistry is primarily a mechanical profession, can we still consider ourselves professionals? It is essential to recognize that while dentistry involves significant manual skill, it is ultimately a profession that demands the intellect, judgment, and compassion of its practitioners.

The Essence of Professionalism

Professionalism encompasses both predictable and less predictable qualities that define a person’s behaviour in their field. Key predictable traits include compassion, understanding, empathy, honesty, competence, commitment, and humanity. Less predictable qualities might include courage, creativity, a sense of justice, respect, optimism and grace.

The principles that underpin dental professionalism are not unlike those in the medical profession. According to the American Dental Education Association, dental professionalism is based on core values such as:

- **Competence:** Continually acquiring and maintaining the specialized knowledge and skills required to practice dentistry.
- **Fairness:** Demonstrating consistency and even-handedness in all interactions.
- **Integrity:** Being honest and ensuring alignment between one’s values, words and actions.
- **Responsibility:** Acknowledging accountability for one’s actions and fulfilling the special obligations that come with being part of the profession.
- **Respect:** Recognizing the inherent worth of others.
- **Service-Mindedness:** Acting with compassion and working towards the well-being of others.

The Role of Ethics in Dentistry

Ethics, or moral philosophy, refers to the moral principles that guide an individual’s behaviour. As dental practitioners, we are held to a high ethical standard in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for our patients. Core ethical principles include:

- **Beneficence:** Acting in the best interest of the patient and promoting their health.

- **Non-maleficence:** Avoiding harm and practicing with care and precision.
- **Autonomy:** Respecting a patient's right to make informed decisions about their own care.
- **Justice:** Ensuring fairness and equity in the delivery of dental services.

These principles are the backbone of our professional responsibilities and the trust that society places in us.

The Importance of Evidence-Based Dentistry (EBD)

Evidence-Based Dentistry (EBD) integrates the best available research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values to inform decision-making. It plays a crucial role in improving patient outcomes and ensuring that treatments are based on the latest scientific evidence. By remaining current with ongoing research and advancements, we ensure that the care we provide is of the highest quality, helping to reinforce patient trust and satisfaction.

The process of EBD involves several key components:

1. **Best Available Evidence:** High-quality research findings such as clinical studies, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses.
2. **Clinical Expertise:** A dentist's own judgment, skills, and experience.
3. **Patient Values:** Taking into account the preferences, concerns and needs of the patient during the decision-making process.

EBD improves the quality of care and minimizes the risk of harm by ensuring that dental treatments are grounded in scientific evidence. It also helps to build trust with patients, as they are empowered with informed options about their care.

Overcoming Barriers to EBD

While the benefits of EBD are clear, there are several challenges in implementing it within dental practice. These include a lack of access to current research or relevant databases, time constraints in a busy practice and limited training in critically appraising research. To overcome these barriers, it is crucial for dental professionals to engage in continuing education, participate in workshops and stay informed about the latest developments in the field.

The Future of EBD

As technology continues to advance, the future of EBD looks promising. Innovations in technology and data analytics are expected to further enhance access to evidence, while a growing emphasis on patient-

centered care will align closely with the principles of EBD. While challenges such as misinformation and evolving patient expectations persist, they also present opportunities to reaffirm our commitment to ethics and professionalism.

The Role of the Sri Lanka Dental Association (SLDA)
The Sri Lanka Dental Association plays a critical role in supporting dental practitioners on their professional journey. The SLDA is dedicated to providing resources, training and workshops that focus on ethics and evidence-based practice. A newly established subcommittee further emphasizes the importance of continuous professional development and upholding the values of professionalism, ethics and evidence-based care.

Collaboration and Advocacy

Collaboration is essential for strengthening dental practice and maintaining ethical standards. By sharing insights and experiences, we can foster a culture of continuous improvement. Furthermore, advocacy for policies that promote ethical practices in dental education and service delivery will help ensure that the integrity of the profession is upheld.

Embracing the Future

As we look to the future, it is important that we embrace innovation and advancements in technology while remaining steadfast in our ethical commitments. We must also focus on mentoring the next generation of dental professionals, ensuring that they are equipped with the knowledge and values necessary to uphold the high standards of our profession.

A Call to Action

We urge each dental professional to reflect on their practice and commit to upholding the highest ethical standards while integrating evidence-based approaches into daily work. By doing so, we can create a supportive environment that not only benefits us as practitioners but also enhances the health and well-being of our communities. Together, we can continue to elevate the dental profession and strengthen the trust placed in us by society. Let us continue our journey towards excellence, guided by professionalism, ethics and evidence-based practices.

Further Reading

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2. ADEA Statement on Professionalism in Dental Education. <https://www.adea.org/For-Sorting/Pages/ADEA-Statement-on-Professionalism-in-Dental-Education-11546>.
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At a Glance: SLDA Activities

Annual Scientific Sessions 2024

The 91st Annual Scientific Sessions of the Sri Lanka Dental Association were held from 26th to 28th June, 2024, at the hotel Taj Samudra in Colombo, under the theme “Novelty, Innovation, and Technology”.

The event included four pre-congress workshops focusing on:

- Endodontics
- Tooth Whitening
- Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT)
- Lasers in Dentistry



These sessions were well-attended and provided hands-on experience in emerging dental technologies. The main sessions attracted over 350 participants, including dental surgeons, interns and undergraduates. The scientific program featured; 10 guest lectures, three symposia, a keynote address and free paper sessions with oral and poster presentations.



The inauguration ceremony on the evening of 27th June included the prestigious S.B. Dissanayake Oration and was graced by the honourable Minister of Health, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana. The sessions also welcomed esteemed international speakers, fostering an enriching exchange of knowledge and expertise among participants.

The 91st Annual Scientific Sessions showcased SLDA’s dedication to enhancing dental practice through education and innovation, offering professionals an opportunity to engage with the latest research and clinical advancements.

Monthly clinical meetings

The SLDA organizes a Continuing Education Programme every month, exclusively for its members. These sessions are held on the second Friday of each month, from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at the SLDA Auditorium. To ensure wider accessibility, the programme is also live-streamed via Zoom, enabling participation from members across various locations.

Don’t miss out on this invaluable chance to learn, grow and connect with peers! Your participation not only enhances your expertise but also contributes to the collective growth of the dental profession.



Sri Lanka Dental Association
Continuing Professional Development Programmes
Monthly Clinical Meeting

“Minimizing unwanted effects in Orthodontic treatments”

Resource person:
Dr W M Senadeera
Senior Consultant in Orthodontics

13TH SEP | **8.00 pm**
FRIDAY
SLDA AUDITORIUM

zoom
<https://slda.lk/SLDAClinicalMeeting>
Meeting ID: 830 0691 8298 | Passcode: 651672

Re-Initiating the SLDA Research Grant

The Sri Lanka Dental Association is pleased to announce the re-initiation of the SLDA Research Grant, aimed at fostering innovation and supporting impactful research in dentistry. Stay tuned for further details and application guidelines.

Outreach Programmes conducted by Sri Lanka Dental Association

As part of the outreach programmes, a tobacco control initiative funded by the FDI was conducted by the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. The programme was held on 5th October 2024 in Bulathsinhala, Kalutara District, aiming to raise awareness and promote tobacco cessation within the community.

Two tobacco cessation programmes, organized by the SLDA in collaboration with the FDI, were successfully conducted on 30th July 2024 at the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, and on 17th August 2024 at the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, respectively.

Sri Lanka Dental Journal

The Sri Lanka Dental Journal (SLDJ), the official publication of the Sri Lanka Dental Association, is a peer-reviewed journal committed to advancing dental science and clinical practice. It serves as a platform for disseminating original research, case reports, reviews and scientific insights, fostering knowledge exchange and innovation in dentistry.

We invite our members to contribute to the journal and play an active role in enriching the scientific community. By submitting your research, you contribute to advancing dental science and practice, while fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among professionals.

Visit Sri Lanka Dental Journal to learn more about submission guidelines and explore the latest published works.



Mark your calendars and join us for future events!

The first programme for the year 2025 will be held on 10th January 2025 at 8 pm. Monthly clinical meetings held;

Date	Resource Person	Topic
9 th August 2024	Dr. Dhanushka Leuke Bandara	Decoding Periodontal Health: Best Practices for Diagnosis and Optimal Care
13 th September 2024	Dr. W M Senadeera	Minimizing unwanted effects in Orthodontic treatments
11 th October 2024	Dr. Dilan Fernando	Peri-operative management of impacted teeth
8 th November 2024	Dr. Chanaka Dissanayake	Tips & tricks for successful Implant Prosthodontics

92nd Year President induction ceremony 2024



The President SLDA welcoming the Chief Guest

The Sri Lanka Dental Association hosted its 92nd Year President Induction Ceremony on 27th September 2024, at the Hotel Earl's Regent, Kandy. This momentous event brought together members, dignitaries and distinguished guests to commemorate the induction of the SLDA President for the year 2024/2025.

The ceremony was graced by Prof. Terrance Madhujith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya, as the Chief Guest and Prof. Shyama Banneheka, Dean of the Faculty of Dental Sciences, University of Peradeniya, as the Guest of Honour.

The evening concluded with a fellowship gathering, providing an opportunity for attendees to celebrate this significant milestone.

SLDA 92nd Anniversary Celebration

The Sri Lanka Dental Association marked its 92nd Anniversary with a memorable celebration on 6th December 2024, held at the OPA Auditorium. The event brought together members and dignitaries to acknowledge the association's history, achievements and ongoing contributions to the field of dentistry.

The evening featured an insightful guest lecture on "Agriculture and Food Security in a Changing Climate", delivered by Prof. Buddhi Marambe, Senior Professor, Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya.



Prof Ruwan Jayasinghe being ceremoniously inducted as the President of the SLDA (2024/2025) by the outgoing President, Prof Hemantha Amarasinghe



The 92nd Anniversary celebration was a true testament to the SLDA's longstanding contributions and commitment to advancing dentistry, with a hopeful outlook for continued growth and success in the years ahead. We extend our warmest wishes to the association for achieving many more milestones in the years ahead!



Prof Marambe receiving the token of appreciation from Prof R Jayasinghe

The Sri Lanka Dental Association Kandy Branch plays a pivotal role in advancing the dental profession in the Central Province. The annual academic session was successfully concluded in 18th & 19th October, 2024 including a pre-conference workshop, academic sessions and oration. This event brought together dental professionals to engage in academic discussions and learn about the latest advancements in dentistry.



Lunch time talks

In addition to the academic sessions, the Kandy Branch hosted lunchtime talks and multiple guest lectures for dental surgeons and dental undergraduates.



Regional activities

Sri Lanka Dental Association - Kandy Branch



Health camps

Looking ahead, the SLDA Kandy Branch has exciting plans to further its impact on both the profession and the community. Health camps and oral health promotion programs are planned to raise awareness about oral health in underserved communities. The branch also looks forward to celebrating Oral Health Day with special events that highlight the importance of good oral health.



Council 2024/2025 - SLDA Kandy Branch

Upcoming Event: Sri Lanka Dental Association Northern Branch Regional Scientific Sessions 2025

Regional scientific sessions of SLDA Northern Branch will be held on 24th and 25th January 2025 at the Hotel Thinnai, Jaffna, under the theme “New Trends in Dentistry”. The event features an exciting lineup of local and international speakers, including a pre-conference workshop on dental implants.

We warmly invite our members to attend this event to expand their knowledge while taking advantage of the wonderful opportunity to experience the charm of the city of Jaffna.

Member Spotlight

Celebrating Prestigious Appointments

The Sri Lanka Dental Association is delighted to celebrate the remarkable achievements of two of its members who have been appointed to prestigious leadership positions at the University of Peradeniya.



Professor Ranjith Pallegama has been appointed as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Peradeniya. With his profound experience, Professor Pallegama is poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the university.



Professor Shyama Banneheka has been appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Dental Sciences, bringing his extensive academic expertise and unwavering dedication to advancing dental education.

Congratulations!

The SLDA extends its warmest congratulations to both Professor Banneheka and Professor Pallegama on these well-deserved appointments. Their achievements reflect their exceptional commitment to education and the dental profession and we wish them every success in their new roles.

Global Dental Updates

Collaborations between Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Sri Lanka Dental Association

On 15th August 2024, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) and the Sri Lanka Dental Association signed a Letter of Intent to establish a long-term partnership aimed at advancing dental education, training and accreditation in Sri Lanka. This collaboration builds on the visit of the RCSEd delegation, including Dental Dean; Professor Philip Taylor, Vice-Dean; Professor Grant McIntyre and Convener of Dental Education; Dr. Lochana Nanayakkara, who attended the 90th Year SLDA International Dental Conference in the year 2023. This visit aimed to foster closer ties and collaborative efforts between RCSEd and Sri Lankan dental professionals.



The key initiatives under this partnership include:

- Mutual promotion and support
- Joint participation in events and programs.
- Encouragement for SLDA members to undertake

RCSEd specialty examinations such as MFDS, MOMS, MOrth, MRD and MAGDS.

- Support for local training programs to seek accreditation through RCSEd's established channels.



This collaboration intends to strengthen existing relationships between institutions in the UK and Sri Lanka, enhance dental training in Sri Lanka and foster inclusivity by involving local institutions, thus marking a significant step forward in fostering global collaboration to elevate dental standards and training.

SLDA Delegates at FDI World Dental Congress 2024



The Sri Lanka Dental Association was proudly represented at the FDI World Dental Congress held in Istanbul, Turkey from 9th to 15th September 2024 by its key delegates: the President; Prof R. Jayasinghe, Hon.

General Secretary; Dr S. Wickremathilake, Immediate Past President: Prof H. Amarasinghe and the National Liaison Officer (NLO); Dr N Ratnayake. Key discussions at the World Dental Parliament focused on enhancing oral health care across member states, resulting in impactful decisions to advance global oral health standards.



Prof Jayasinghe and Dr Ratnayake representing World Dental Parliament

This global event provided an invaluable platform for the SLDA leadership to engage with international dental professionals, exchange insights and stay updated on the latest advancements and initiatives in the field of dentistry. Their participation reflects SLDA's dedication to fostering global collaboration and contributing to the advancement of oral health worldwide.

AECC Dubai 2025

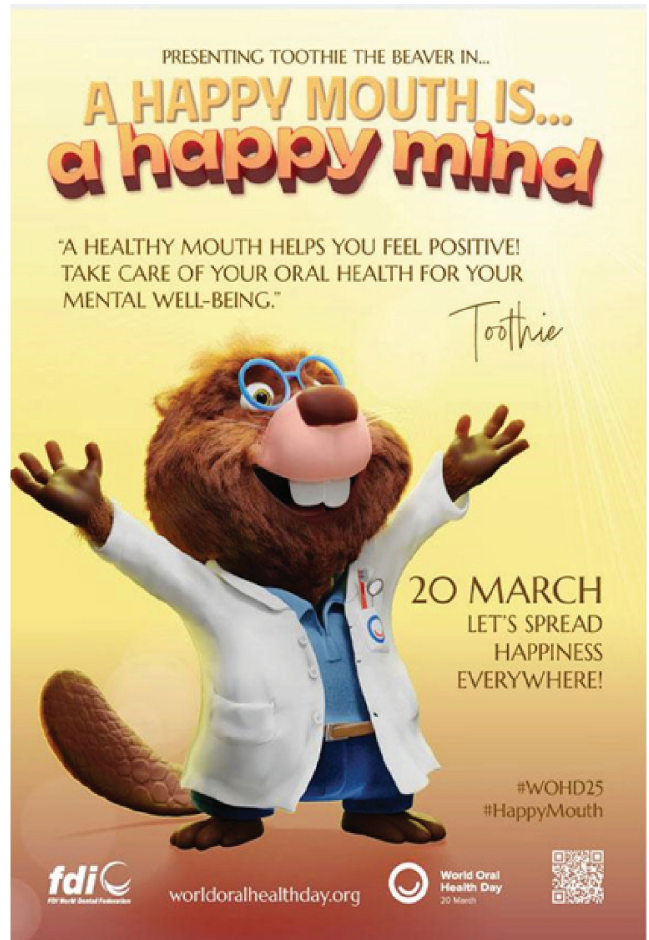
The AEEDC Conference 2024 is scheduled to take place from February 6th to 8th, 2024, at the Dubai World Trade Centre. This premier event offers a comprehensive scientific program that delves into the latest advancements and research across various dental specialties. Renowned speakers from around the globe will share their expertise, providing attendees with valuable insights into cutting-edge treatment modalities, emerging dental technologies and current trends in oral health research.

The event also features an extensive exhibition, showcasing the latest products and services in the

dental industry, offering participants a holistic view of the field's future directions.

For more information, please visit the [official AEEDC Dubai website](#).

World Oral Health Day 2025 "A Happy Mouth is...A Happy Mind"



The World Oral Health Day for the year 2025 will be based on the theme, "A Happy Mouth is a Happy Mind", emphasizing how maintaining good oral health contributes significantly to overall happiness and mental wellness.

Sri Lanka Dental Association will also organize a series of engaging programmes to celebrate this global initiative, aiming to raise awareness and promoting better oral health practices within our communities. These events will include awareness programmes, mobile dental programmes and community outreach activities tailored to highlight the connection between oral health and mental well-being.

We invite all our members to actively participate in these programmes, contributing to this important



event. Your involvement will not only help make a positive impact but also reinforce our collective commitment to improving oral health awareness.

Stay tuned for updates on the upcoming activities and let's come together to support this vital campaign. Remember, a happy mouth truly is a happy mind!

46th Asia Pacific Dental Congress (APDC 2025) Manila



46th Asia Pacific Dental Congress will be held on May 12-16, 2025 at the SMX Convention Center Manila.

SLDA Council 2024/2025



Prof Ruwan Jayasinghe
President



Dr Ananda Rathnayaka
President Elect



Dr Ravipriya Ranawake
Vice - President



Prof Hemantha Amarasinghe
Imme. Past President



Dr Saranga Wickremathilake
Hony. General Secretary



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