

SDM Shout Out

Weekly News Updates for SDM Faculty, Staff and Students

SDM's Alums Give Their Expert Advice on WNY Patients Going Back to the Dentist



Pictured l-r: Drs. Dennis A. Blair, '77 and Jordan R. Blair, '14

In early August, 2021, Drs. Dennis A. Blair, '77, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry and Jordan R. Blair, '14, were featured in The Buffalo News, Buffalo's daily newspaper. The father and son gave their expert advice on "What to Expect When You Go Back to the Dentist."

What to Expect When You Go Back to the Dentist

The average Western New Yorker might not even make it out once per year for their annual dental cleaning. In fact, around only 65% of adults had a dental visit in 2019, and that was before the pandemic.

But Lancaster resident Irene Colvin-Spencer is not one of those people. She usually schedules dental cleanings for herself not once, not twice, but three times yearly – that is, until last March.

Colvin-Spencer's root canal appointment was scheduled for March 2020 until pandemic closures forced her to

take to her own remedies: salt water and Listerine rinses five times per day, coupled with a “sparing” amount of Advil, she said.

“Miraculously,” Colvin-Spencer chuckled, the pain subsided over time with the exception of a “little twinge” she experiences every so often.

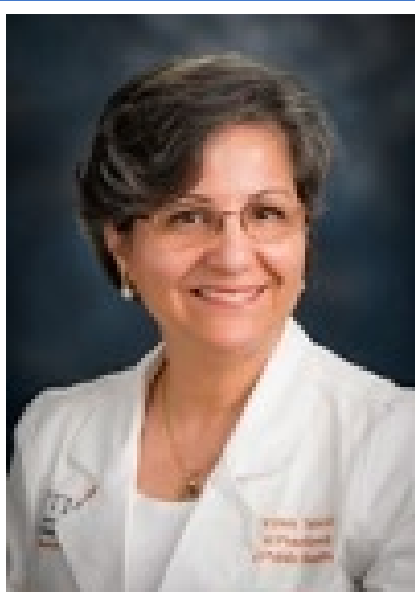
By November, she was able to get back to the dentist, but had already solved the issue herself. “I saw my primary dentist shortly after that. She was aware I hadn’t had (the root canal) done, but it made no sense at this point,” Colvin-Spencer said.

But according to local dentist Dr. Dennis Blair, some other Western New Yorkers were not as lucky – or diligent – with their oral health during Covid.

With people getting back into their health routines, Blair finds that his private practice patients in Orchard Park have a bit more of a “tough, intensive” time in their cleanings the first time back in the dentist chair.

[Click here to read full article](#)

SDM's Continuing Education ACDE Webinar Series



Maryam Tabrizi, RDH, DMD, MPH, faculty at The University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston (UTSD).

Geriatric Oral Health Platform Tuesday, September 14, 2021 7PM CST, 8PM EST, 5PM PST

*Featured Speaker: **Maryam Tabrizi, RDH, DMD, MPH**, faculty at The University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston (UTSD).*

In conjunction with the [Association for Continuing Dental Education \(ACDE\)](#), along with 30 of its member schools, we jointly present the “ACDE Webinar Series.” *This series features university-based key opinion leaders presenting numerous topics on multiple dates and times. Presentations are available to meet every dental health care professional’s schedule and interests.*

This course is designed to examine the impact of common chronic conditions on oral health in older adults. We will discuss relevant chronic diseases, including how poor nutritional intake relates to oral health in medically vulnerable elderly patients. The course will also evaluate the impact of the Age-Friendly Age System innovation on geriatric oral health and what the future of oral health in the elderly may hold.

Learning Objectives:

- At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:
- Understand how to treat healthy aging individuals and aging individuals with chronic diseases
- Recognize the 4Ms structure in the Age-Friendly Health System, a new platform for geriatric oral health

[Click Here for more information](#)

If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Kelli at natale@buffalo.edu.

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