

COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE (COOP)

The Committee on COOP last met on October 31, 2020 in St. Louis. Due to the Covid pandemic it was a combination of in person and virtual attendance. At this meeting COOP was able to review several topics they have been working on. I will hit on some of the highlights of these topics.

- COOP has just completed a review of the CE lectures available to our members. There are over 500 hours of CE on our recorded lecture site. Lectures are divided into clinical, practice management, and staff topics. The ADA CERP requires a three-year review. COOP is now trying to figure out a way to streamline this process before the next ADA deadline for review in 2024.
- COOP has completed a review the ADA Submittal for Specialty. There were four questions that need to be answered in order to submit for recognition as a dental specialty organization to the ADA National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards.
- COOP has also completed a review of the educational bundles available to its members to determine if we are meeting needs and requests of our members.
- COOP has reviewed the informed consent video in the AAO library along with creating new informed consent articles pertaining to transfer patients, tele-dentistry, and orthognathic surgery issues that may arise in the orthodontic office. These have been submitted to the BOT for review.
- COOP also reviewed and made recommendations for staff appreciation week and improvements to our Annual Session to honor staff members. COOP recommended the creation of three areas of awards for staff; Staff Lifetime Achievement Award, Staff Rising Star Award and an Orthodontic Team Achievement Award. Application criteria and guidelines for the awards were given. The estimated cost of these awards/travel was estimated to be \$3750.00 starting in 2023. This was submitted to the BOT. The BOT decided not to proceed with this recommendation due to past poor attendance/involvement and did not feel added expense could be justified at this time. COOP will start to identify new ways to celebrate orthodontic staff at the Annual Session apart from the awards luncheon. One suggestion has been a Staff Pavilion at the Annual Session.

- COOP has completed their annual review of the AAO strategic plan, council budget and annual session reception. The Governance Committee will be making final decision on Annual Session reception.
- COOP has begun the process of re-working the office design manual on the AAO website. They are currently putting together a committee in conjunction with CONYM to review the current information and make recommendations to improve this resource for our members. Based on the AAO's current webpage resource for Office Design and the ADA's printed Office Design Manual, COOP feels the best use of resources for this topic would be to develop 30-minute Business of Orthodontic webinars with downloadable handouts and guides for members to access when needed. Experts in each topic would be invited to give a 30-minute presentation that could be taped and downloaded by our members. Each presentation would include visual aids as well as handouts for any member viewing their presentation.

COOP's next in person meeting is scheduled for October 2021 in St. Louis, however sub-committees of COOP will still be holding conference calls on specific topics currently being reviewed. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Ryan VanLaecken

Watertown, South Dakota