

ILLINOIS

Libby Graham, President

Pranav Patel, President-Elect

Ray Tsou, Vice President

Therese Galang, Secretary-Treasurer

Scott Prose, Immediate Past President

Kyint Chwa, Trustee

Andrew Clark, Trustee

Pamela Johnson, Trustee

Daniel Kelly, Trustee

Bronwen Richards, Trustee

Ben Youel, Trustee

Recent/Upcoming Meetings:

January 27, 2022

ISO Lecture for Doctors

Facial Asymmetry: What are the Limits? • Looking at bimaxillary protrusion from a different perspective • Game Changers in Open Bite Treatment.

Speaker: Dr. **Flavia Artese**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Dr. Flavia is the Chair of the 10th International Orthodontic Congress of the WFO that will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2025)

Chicago Midwinter

Ortho Talks lecture is sold out – will be a great collaboration with UIC faculty

April 23, 2023 in conjunction with AAO

Induction of officers

Addition of 2 new trustees

ISO Future potential meeting dates:

- November 2023 – Dr. **Maz Moshiri**, aligners
- April 2024 – Dr. **Hera Kim**, Director of the Graduate Orthodontic Program at University of Michigan
- October 25-26, 2024 – Instead of a competing meeting in fall 2024, ISO plans to encourage ISO membership to attend MSO in Rosemont

Illinois Updates:

2023 ISDS AGENDA

This year, ISDS will focus on a key issue dentists face when they practice: **dental insurance reimbursement.**

ISDS regularly hears from members about numerous issues they have with dental insurance companies. The 2023 legislative agenda includes the following dental insurance reform measures:

- Dental Loss Ratio
- Network Leasing
- Electronic Payment Fee Processing Ban

Teledentistry

ISDS has been seeking to implement further patient protections for teledentistry in Illinois. Teledentistry needs to be a safe and effective treatment option for patients. ISDS has been working on this issue over the last year and will continue to do so throughout the 2023 legislative session. ISDS is seeking the passage of legislation that will require strong patient protections when a dentist chooses to use teledentistry.

Medicaid Program - Orthodontic Standards

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) does not currently have a standard or automatic qualifier for when a patient can receive orthodontic care. The lack of a standard has caused administrative obstacles and denial of claims for orthodontic care. The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) established a committee that developed a comprehensive list of recommended auto-qualifiers and diagnostic documentation for medically necessary orthodontic care. ISDS is seeking the passage of legislation that would codify these standards in state law. This would help clarify the confusion created by existing administrative obstacles.

Current Bills in Illinois Legislature:

Dental Loss Ratio (support)

Synopsis: Creates the Dental Loss Ratio Act. The legislation requires beginning July 1, 2023, dental insurance companies to annually submit to the Department of Insurance a dental loss ratio filing. The legislation sets a dental loss ratio for dental insurance companies at 80% and provides a formula for the calculation of the ratio. Provides that the Department may adopt rules to implement the Act. Effective immediately.

Network Leasing Requirements (support)

Synopsis: Amend the Illinois Insurance Code. The bill prohibits a dental insurance company from automatically enrolling a provider in a leased network without the provider's written consent. Additionally, the legislation states that a dental insurance company that leases or assigns its network shall not cancel a network participating dentist's contractual relationship or otherwise penalize a network participating dentist in any way based on whether or not the dentist accepts the terms of the assignment or lease.

Unregulated Direct-to-Consumer Orthodontic Care (support)

Synopsis: Amends the Illinois Dental Practice Act. The legislation clarifies that a person who uses teledentistry is considered to practice dentistry under the Act. Additionally, requires that a dentist practicing teledentistry is subject to the same standard of care as if those services were being delivered in a clinic or office setting. The legislation requires that a patient receiving dental services through teledentistry shall be provided with the name, direct telephone number, and physical practice address of the treating dentist who will be involved in the teledentistry services. Defines “informed consent”. Furthermore, the legislation outlines requirements and patient protections for the sale of clear aligners to the public.

Electronic Prescription Requirement (support)

Synopsis: Amends the Illinois Controlled Substance Act. The legislation requires prescribers who issue prescriptions for Controlled Substances II-V to submit them electronically. The legislation provides exemptions from submitting prescriptions electronically if they do not issue more than 100 prescriptions during a 12-month period. Additionally, the legislation allows the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) to establish further exemptions. The bill also outlines various factors that IDFPR should consider for exemption such as prescribers who do not have electronic health records, temporary electrical failure, and when the prescriber does not know the pharmacy of choice for the patient.

Continuing Education Requirement: Cultural Competency (oppose)

Synopsis: Amends the Department of Professional Regulation Law of the Civil Administrative Code. The bill requires all healthcare professionals, including dentists, to complete mandatory cultural competency continuing education (CE) training. The bill requires that the cultural competency training includes information on sensitivity training relating to providing affirming care to people in the person’s preferred language, for people with disabilities, people who are intersex, people living with HIV, and people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. The legislation that requires at initial licensure and renewal a healthcare professional who has continuing education requirements must complete at least 5 hours in cultural competency training.

ISDS Position: *Oppose due the additional continuing education mandate.*

Department of Healthcare and Family Services Dental Medicaid Budget Proposal **(oppose)**

Synopsis: As part of the budget for the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (DHFS) they announced that they will “propose and work with the dental

community on a new [dental] assessment.” DHFS administers the dental Medicaid program in Illinois.

An assessment is a tax that is put on all providers, regardless of their participation in Medicaid, to generate money for the Medicaid program. The money collected then is returned to those Medicaid providers. Essentially, HFS is proposing to tax ALL dental providers, regardless if they are a Medicaid provider, to generate money for the Medicaid dental program in the form of rate increases. The Medicaid providers that generate and bill substantial Medicaid business will benefit the most from this program.

Licensure of Denturists (oppose)

Synopsis: This legislation sees to license denturists in the State of Illinois. The legislation outlines the qualifications, applications, examinations, and the creation of the Board of Dental Technology.

ISO

Board Meeting: ISO is focusing on quality speakers to improve attendance at ISO meetings. Live CE has been reinstated. We have changed format to a half day meeting, trying a Friday meeting versus Monday, changed venues to determine a good fit for our organization, hosted a wine and cheese social hour after one meeting, and are working on different types of speakers that are pertinent to a wider audience. Most recent meeting had a better turnout with an internationally known speaker. We are focusing on quality speakers and trying to determine topics that will be appealing to new and younger dentists.

Board Structure: The board is developing committees to simplify/streamline tasks for future officers. A “buddy system” for trustees to partner with officers to get exposed to each committee is being drafted. We are currently adding 2 new trustees to the board.

University Relations:

- University of Illinois Chicago (Dr. **Sath Allareddy**)
 - o 8 residents graduating May 5th
 - o 9 incoming residents
 - o Over \$70,000 in scholarships given to residents this year
 - o Endowment created
 - o Several professors getting promoted to professor, associate professor, and tenure track
- Southern Illinois University – new residency program, planning 2 residents

Dr. **Randall Markarian**, ISO and MSO member is serving as the 8th District Trustee to the ADA representing Illinois. We value his expertise representing orthodontics as well as the dental profession.

Bronwen Richards
Rock Island, Illinois