Developing a Culture of Safety in Dentistry

1 Hour CDE Credit

Clinical Excellence Series 2023: Presented by Zufall Health and Delta Dental





Wednesday, September 13, 2023

6:00 - 7:00 PM EDT (one hour)

- 6:00 6:05: Introduction
- 6:05 7:00: Educational Content

Zoom Events (Registration required and space is limited)

Free; dental credits offered

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MEET THE SPEAKER

Steve Geiermann, DDS, is a retired Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service, who recently retired from the American Dental Association where he served as the Senior Manager for Access, Community Oral Health Infrastructure and Capacity. He serves on the boards of the American Institute for Dental Public Health; the Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention; the Dental Lifeline Network, the Dental Patient Safety Foundation and the National Oral Health Connection Team of the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network. He is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. Safety in dentistry is an ongoing passion.

OVERVIEW

"We don't know; what we don't know!" By and large, the practice of dentistry is safe; but being human, there are instances where near misses or adverse events do occur. Hopefully, we learn from them and move on with little to no lasting harm to patients, staff or providers. In an ideal world, such challenging events would get reported in an anonymous, non-discoverable manner, so that oral health professionals could learn from the experience of others without having to experience the adverse incident ourselves. In reality, dentists hesitate to report such incidents for fear of increasing liability and embarrassment to themselves and their practice. How can we move beyond individual safety practices to a more systemic approach to protecting ourselves and those we serve. What can we learn from other healthcare disciplines who have been working on their own cultures of safety for over three decades? What steps can we take as a profession to ensure that we are providing the safest dental visit? What is the role of transparency in such a culture of safety in dentistry?

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

- 1. Clearly state why a culture of safety is essential and not optional in dentistry
- 2. Understand why reporting of near misses and adverse incidents is important, so that we might learn from the experience of others without having to experience the adverse incident ourselves
- 3.Describe what the Dental Patient Safety Foundation is and why its role as the only dental Patient Safety Organization is important

Questions? Contact Elizabet Barajas, Administrative Assistant, Dental Services, at **ebarajas@zufallhealth.org**





Delta Dental of New Jersey