From the President

One of the benefits of having to write for the newsletter is that it gives a reason to reflect on the first nine months of my Presidency: a useful exercise.

It has been a busy time with Trustees representing SAAD on a number of committees looking at the provision of conscious dental sedation in the UK. It does seem a difficult time for dentistry as a whole, and sedation in particular. I hope that our political masters get a grip on provision of care for our patients if the oral health of the nation is not to deteriorate. As part of that political drive a small group, Paul Howlett, Christopher Holden and Paul Averley, have produced a Framework Tool for Guidance of Commissioning NHS England Dental Conscious Sedation Services. The guidance has been disseminated to regional commissioning teams and rolled out across the UK. The main recommendations detailed in the document include a framework through which high quality, safe and effective conscious sedation services for dentistry can be organised, commissioned and delivered. We hope this will be useful for those members involved in commissioning services. The document can be found on our website.

The second advanced sedation course took place in Bristol facilitated by David Craig.

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Christopher Holden and Nigel Robb. This pilot course got participants involved from the start as they had to give presentations to each other in the morning. This was followed by practical training in the use of infusion pumps and real life scenarios in the Bristol Simulator centre. The feedback from participants was excellent and they have now gone on to practise advanced sedation techniques in a suitable clinical environment. Of course the difficulty with these courses is providing that hands-on experience after the course. We will review the results of the pilot courses before offering any further courses.

Another teaching success for SAAD has been the dental therapist and hygienist course in Inhalational Sedation. It was anticipated that the numbers wanting this training would decline over time but the June course was oversubscribed and 16 participants took part. The course takes place alongside the dentists’ and dental nurses’ courses meaning that lectures and experiences can be shared with the other two groups. This is an important step in providing sedation for patients who are undergoing potentially unpleasant periodontal procedures; certainly many of my patients are more anxious about scaling than extractions.

We now offer free membership of SAAD to UK undergraduate dental students. This gives reduced rates for the symposium and online access to the Digest. We did consider offering this for only clinical students but with BDS courses changing around the UK the distinction between clinical and preclinical is less defined. If you know any students who are interested in sedation then please encourage them to join. In this competitive job market any addition to one’s CV can only be helpful.

This letter also contains details of our conference on the 21st September. Thanks to Sadie Hughes and Paul Howlett, our newest Board members, who were tasked with organising speakers. It will be an interesting day and I encourage as many of you as possible to attend.

It is with great sadness that I have to announce the death of Board member Michael Wood. I first got to know him as a postgraduate student in the Department at Guy’s where he undertook an MSc in Sedation and Special Care Dentistry in 1999. He took these skills to his practice and established one of the few dental practices treating special care patients. Michael was the first General Dental Practitioner to be recognised as a specialist in Special Care Dentistry and has been a driving force in the area of paediatric sedation for many years. He was a valued member of the SAAD Board and was an active participant in our discussions and a member of the Editorial Board. He was particularly helpful when we set up the PhD studentship in paediatric sedation. Michael was a great lecturer and spoke at many of our symposia. Those that were there will never forget his ‘crap towns’ description of Luton! Michael will be sadly missed in the field of dental sedation and by his friends on the SAAD Board. A full obituary will appear in the next edition of the Digest.

Carole Boyle
President of SAAD

Carole Boyle
President
Secretary’s Report

This has been a busy period for the Society, not least in the volume of correspondence that reaches me through a number of routes. Email is by far the easiest to deal with, as it allows me to reply ‘out of hours’ and where appropriate to attach documents or other relevant information.

CORRESPONDENCE
Some examples of recent queries that have found their way to me by email:

1. I have been asked whether a trained sedation nurse is necessary when providing dental care using sedation. If you are providing both the conscious sedation as well as the operative dental treatment then it is essential to have the support of a trained dental sedation nurse.

2. Whilst fasting before conscious sedation has been a controversial subject over the years, contemporaneous guidance states that fasting is not required, unless there are specific indications. Patients should eat normally on the day of their appointment, avoiding alcohol and large meals. Food and fluid intake should be recorded (SDCEP Conscious Sedation in Dentistry, Dental Clinical Guidance 2012. Section 2.2.6).

3. Who is responsible for ensuring that the cylinders are replenished on the RA machine before use? Ultimately, the sedationist is responsible and systems should be in place to check that this has been done prior to the sedation session. A written protocol may specify which member of the sedation team is nominated for this task, and a written pre-procedural checklist which includes checking cylinders should be completed in the preparatory phase for sedation to avoid oversight of this matter.

4. A colleague who provides intravenous sedation asked what protocol should be in place in the event of the fire alarm sounding during an episode of sedation. After establishing that the alarm represents a genuine emergency, it may be one of those occasions when the use of flumazenil may be considered in order to safely and speedily escort the patient to a designated assembly point. As it will not initially be obvious how long the evacuation will last, it may be appropriate to transport the patient by wheelchair, with portable monitoring equipment and a source of oxygen, where immediately available.

MENTOR’S LIST
The Mentor’s List is periodically updated, and may be accessed by SAAD members through the website. I am occasionally asked for advice about how mentoring should work, and I usually advise people initially to read two relevant articles in the 2006 and 2010 editions of SAAD Digest (both accessible on the website) written by Derek Debuse, and me, respectively.

RA LOAN SCHEME
The RA Machine Loan Scheme gives a small number of dentists who have completed the SAAD course the opportunity to loan RA equipment for a period of one year, following submission of an application and satisfactory project plan. Details of this scheme are on the website.

WEBSITE
The website has been re-launched since the last newsletter, for which much credit is due to Fiona Wraith. The new format is easy to use and provides access to extensive useful information and documents. It is possible to register online for SAAD courses, to pay subscription fees, purchase SAAD literature and gain verifiable CPD online. SAAD has a #tag, SAADuk, with a link from the website.

CONTACTS
Contact may be made with SAAD in the first instance through the AAGBI at saad@aagbi.org. Fiona Wraith, our Executive Secretary, may be accessed at fiona@saad.org.uk. Toni Richman, who is the Course Administrator, is at toni@saad.org.uk. I am at franciscollier@btinternet.com.

My work as Honorary Secretary is made immeasurably easier with the support I receive from our Executive Secretary, Fiona Wraith. I also very much appreciate the advice from SAAD Board colleagues with whom I discuss the more complex enquiries which arise.

Francis I Collier
Honorary Secretary

The SAAD Editorial Board are interested in receiving original papers or case studies for publication in the SAAD Digest

Submission deadline 15 August 2013

Please refer to the guidelines for authors at http://www.saad.org.uk/saad-digest/

contact: fiona@saad.org.uk

SAAD Newsletter
Published annually in July by the Society for the Advancement of Anaesthesia in Dentistry.
All correspondence should be addressed to SAAD Newsletter, 21 Portland Place, London W1B 1PY
Telephone: (01302) 846149 email: fiona@saad.org.uk
The SAAD annual scientific symposium will take place on Saturday 21st September 2013. The SAAD board would like to invite you to join us for what should be an interesting and enjoyable day at the Royal Society of Medicine in central London.

SAAD members are also actively encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held immediately following the scientific programme.

The first part of the day looks at commissioning sedation services and the sedation politics that are influencing this area, which will be highly relevant to many of our members. This is followed by a session looking at sedation in a specialist practice providing sedation and some common medical problems seen frequently in special care sedation but also encountered in a general practice setting.

The final session takes a look at the delivery of sedation in the armed forces and the rapidly increasing problem of safely sedating the bariatric patient. To end the day there will be a question and answer session. We hope that you will bring along any burning questions you have regarding sedation for our expert panel. Questions will be anonymously submitted on the day and any questions not answered at the symposium will be published on the SAAD website.

We are grateful that we have the support of some relevant trade stands, who will be present to offer advice about equipment. This support means the day can be offered at a very reasonable rate. The symposium provides verifiable CPD and an opportunity to meet others who share an interest in dental sedation.

Online registration is available at the SAAD website where further information and a registration form can be downloaded.

Sadie Hughes, Paul Howlett and Nigel Robb
Symposium Organisers

SAAD funded PhD in Paediatric Dental Sedation: an update

I have recently completed my first year as a PhD student within the School of Clinical Dentistry at the University of Sheffield. Just to recap, the aim of the research project funded by SAAD is to develop and evaluate a patient decision aid for children undergoing dental treatment with sedation or general anaesthetic. These decision aids are being increasingly used throughout healthcare to help people become more involved in the decision-making process, and they have been shown to reduce decisional conflict, increase knowledge and improve accuracy of risk perceptions among patients when compared to standard care. As my background is based in psychology, I have spent a good portion of this first year observing children receiving sedation for their dental treatment at Sheffield, Liverpool and Manchester Dental Hospitals. This has proved extremely useful in helping me gain a better understanding of dental sedation, which has been vital in further developing the study protocol. It has also given me insight into the care pathways for these children. Following this I have also had a frantic few weeks, which have included an end-of-year presentation, a successful upgrade viva, and a research ethics committee review meeting, and I am now very much looking forward to conducting patient interviews for the first stage of the study, which I hope to start in the next month.

Joe Hulin
SAAD funded PhD Student
University of Sheffield

SAAD Notices

RA Machine Loan
A scheme for practitioners to trial inhalational sedation in the practice setting is being facilitated by SAAD.

A twelve-month loan (at no charge) of an inhalational sedation machine is available to members who have attended a recent SAAD National Course.

There will be the option to purchase at a discounted rate at the end of the trial.

For further details please contact fiona@saad.org.uk

National Course
Conscious Sedation for Dentists, Dental Nurses, Hygienists & Therapists
Online registration: www.saad.org.uk/courses/details

Course Dates:
8 & 9 March 2014
13 & 14 June 2014
8 & 9 November 2014

For further details or to download an application form please go to: www.saad.org.uk

Enquiries: toni@saad.org.uk
07583 039309 (text message)

Research Grants
Grants are available to aid research in pain and anxiety control in dentistry
Please contact fiona@saad.org.uk

Essay Prizes
Dental Students - £300
Dental Nurses - £300
Drummond-Jackson Prize - £500
Closing date 31 March 2014
Details at www.saad.org.uk

Student Memberships
Student membership of SAAD is free for dental and medical undergraduates registered at a university in the UK or Ireland.
www.saad.org.uk/saad-membership/
# Diary Scan

Compiled by Dr Chris Mercer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Society for Education in Anaesthesia Annual Scientific Meeting</td>
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No responsibility can be taken for any errors or omissions however caused. The Diary Scan is continually updated at www.saad.org.uk/events.