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Forum Offered at CDA North Gives Dentists a New Take on Technology Options

SAN FRANCISCO—A corporate forum at CDA Presents in San Francisco asks general practitioners to consider cone beam computed tomography (CBCT).

“Principles and Clinical Applications of CBCT in Dentistry—Time to Change Strategy,” presented by Carestream Dental and led by Nestor Cohenca, D.D.S, examines the clinical applications of CBCT and reviews potential benefits of the technology for diagnosis and treatment planning. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the impact of CBCT on treatment outcome and improved predictability.

The forum takes place 3:00-5:00 p.m., Friday, Sept. 5. Two Continuing Education (CE) credits are available to attendees of the course.

“You cannot treat what you cannot see,” Cohenca, the course instructor, said. “CBCT provides us with a more accurate diagnosis and treatment strategy, thus, increasing successful outcomes and avoiding further complications.”

Although CBCT technology has been available to dentists since the early 2000s—and has experienced a massive surge in popularity over recent years—most general dentists are still not trained to understand its benefits, indications and interpretation.

CBCT scans provide a complete visual image covering multiple planes, including axial, coronal and sagittal. They offer several benefits over both 2D and computed tomography (CT) imaging, such as higher-resolution images; more accurate linear measurements; faster acquisition times, which reduce the chance for patient movement and retakes; lower radiation; and even user-friendly software.

“A single radiograph is a two dimensional shadow of a three dimensional object,” Cohenca said. “Mathematically, that means we only see 66 percent of the actual anatomy. A CBCT, however, produces a three-dimensional digital image while providing significantly less radiation to our patients.”

These 3D digital images also serve as an excellent tool when discussing treatment options with patients. It is much easier to convince a patient to accept a treatment plan when the doctor is able to reveal an issue on a 3D image that actually looks like the patient’s mouth rather than a flat, 2D image with distortion and overlap.

Cohenca serves as professor of endodontics and pediatric dentistry at the University of Washington and Seattle Children's Hospital. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics and was one of the pioneers in the use of CBCT technology.

CDA Presents takes places in San Francisco, Calif. Sept. 4-6, Moscone South. Attendees are also encouraged to visit Carestream Dental in booth number 1312.

For more information on Carestream Dental's innovative solutions or to request a product demonstration, call 800.944.6365 or visit www.carestreamdental.com.

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