

## Joint Meeting of the IFDAS 17th Triennial Congress and the ADSA Annual Session Held in Las Vegas

In conjunction with the 2024 Annual Session of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology (ADSA), the International Federation of Dental Anesthesiology Societies (IFDAS) held its 17th International Dental Congress on Anesthesia, Sedation, and Pain Control from March 15 to 16, 2024, at the Aria Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. Held every 3 years in various locations around the globe, IFDAS meetings are exciting opportunities for members of international dental anesthesia societies to present cutting-edge research and initiatives and exchange clinical advances in the areas of anesthesia, sedation, and pain control for dentistry.

With a diverse array of presenters from Europe, Asia, Australia, Canada, and the United States, the congress drew over 1,000 attendees to its training courses, which included sessions for general anesthesia/deep sedation, minimal/moderate sedation, and pediatric sedation and a course for assistants. A highlight was the ADSA High-Fidelity Human Simulation Course held at the Clinical Simulation Center of Las Vegas, a state-of-the-art educational facility located at University of Nevada, Las Vegas's Shadow Lane Campus, where international colleagues observed the usefulness of immersive simulation training for advancing patient safety.

The IFDAS General Assembly also celebrated the achievements of some exceptionally distinguished professionals. The Horace Wells Award, IFDAS's highest award, was given to Dr Idit Matot from Israel, Dr Kazu-Ichi Yoshida from Japan, and Dr Karen Crowley from the United States for their outstanding service. The Kubota Award was bestowed posthumously upon Dr Douglas Stewart, honoring his legacy of excellence. Dr Daniel Haas, an internationally renowned expert in dental anesthesiology and former dean of the University of Toronto faculty of dentistry, was honored by giving the Brienza Memorial Lecture.

The ADSA's highest achievement, the Heidbrink Award, was bestowed posthumously upon Dr Stuart Lieblich. A revered figure in the community for his contributions to the advancement of patient safety in anesthesia for dentistry, Dr Lieblich was a former president of the ADSA and a long-serving board member of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. With a distinguished career that included teaching at the University of Connecticut and contributions to over 20 textbooks and 45 peer-reviewed papers, his impact on the field was immense. Dr Lieblich was instrumental in advancing ambulatory anesthesia and opioid reduction strategies in oral surgical procedures, leaving a

lasting legacy that continues to influence practices worldwide. Sadly, he passed away recently following a months-long battle with cancer. His contributions were recognized posthumously with Dr Bob Bosack accepting the award on his behalf.

A significant highlight of this joint meeting was the debut of the new Ten Minutes Saves a Life collaborative learning modules. Part of a unique educational collaboration between the ADSA and the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), these modules aim to enhance patient safety in dental sedation through team-based training. The Ten Minutes Saves a Life application featured in these modules provides an interactive platform for emergency drill practice that was highly praised by international attendees for its innovation and practical relevance.

Adding to the international scope of innovative training solutions, Dr Kenji Seo, professor at Niigata University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Division of Dental Anesthesiology, shared details about a similar project being worked on at his university. Similar to the ADSA/ASA collaboration, the Japanese project also focuses on using simulation-based training to improve dental anesthesia safety and emergency preparedness.

The meeting featured numerous other informative lectures spanning a broad range of topics. Several other notable experts were present, including Dr Nigel Robb, dean of the Griffith University School of Medicine and Dentistry, whose lecture highlighted an international perspective to mitigating sedation risks. In addition to the rich discussions and presentations, the meeting also featured over 30 poster and abstract submissions from around the globe. The top 5 submissions were selected to present their research and clinical innovations in dental anesthesia live at the meeting.

The congress concluded with a critical and insightful panel discussion titled "Adverse Events Around the Globe & Implications for Safety." The panel featured experts from Canada, Israel, Brazil, India, Japan, and the United States. Each panelist shared their experiences and perspectives on managing safety in dental anesthesia, illustrating the universal challenges and collaborative solutions being developed worldwide.

It was also announced that the next IFDAS triennial congress will be held in Berlin, Germany, in the fall of 2027.

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**Figure 1.** International Federation of Dental Anesthesiology Societies President Jason Brady presents the Horace Wells Award to Dr Karen Crowley.



**Figure 2.** Dr Greg Mahoney accepts the Y. Kubota Distinguished Service Award presented posthumously to Dr Doug Stewart.



**Figure 3.** Drs Lucia Santos, Andra Rettman, and Ariana Carillo, the top 3 International Federation of Dental Anesthesiology Societies poster presenters.

