

February 14, 2025

Head & Neck Cancer Half-Day Lecture

Dr. Omar Karadaghy, MD, MSCI

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM • Adams Pointe Conference Center of Courtyard by Marriott
1400 NE Coronado Dr. • Blue Springs, MO 64014

3 CE Credit Hours



Dr. Omar Karadaghy is originally from St. Louis, MO. He received his BA/MD at the combined program at the *University of Missouri - Kansas City* and completed his residency in Otolaryngology at the *University of Kansas*. Following this, he underwent additional fellowship training in Head and Neck Oncology and Microvascular Reconstruction at the *Massachusetts Eye and Ear - Harvard University Medical Program*. He is now an assistant professor at the *University of Kansas*. Dr. Karadaghy has a background in clinical outcomes research having published more than 20 peer review papers and contributed to more than ten textbook and clinical instruction videos. He is committed to providing excellent patient care and looks forward to corresponding with like-minded colleagues.

Upon completion of this course, attendees will learn how to:

- To increase familiarity with the evolving understanding of Oral Oncology
- To be familiar with management/treatment of this entity
- To understand the available resources for Head and Neck Cancer patients in the Kansas City area

March 21, 2025

Restoration Full Day Lecture

Dr. Marcos Vargas, DDS

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM • Adams Pointe Conference Center of Courtyard by Marriott
1400 NE Coronado Dr. • Blue Springs, MO 64014

7 CE Credit Hours



Dr. Vargas received his DDS from *Cayetano Heredia University* in Lima, Peru in 1985. He attended a two year AEGD program with emphasis on restorative dentistry at the *Eastman Dental Center* in Rochester, New York. He received a Certificate in Operative Dentistry and Master of Science degree from the *University of Iowa* in 1994.

Dr. Vargas is a professor in the Department of Family Dentistry at the *University of Iowa*. He teaches undergraduate and graduate students and has published in the areas of dental materials, adhesion, resin composites, and ceramics. He participates extensively in continuing education, nationally and internationally with many hands-on seminars with resin composites. He has published more than 100 articles in peer review journals and other clinical cases.

Dr. Vargas maintains a private practice limited to restorative dentistry with emphasis in esthetic dentistry.

Morning Session: Wow Your Patients with Your Resin Composites, the Easy, Predictable, and Profitable Way

This very practical and clinically-oriented presentation will provide you with the tools to allow you to do anterior resin composites in a fast and predictable way that will wow your patients. A step-by-step approach which includes: shade selection, cavity preparation for esthetics, material placement and contouring and polishing will be presented. Diastema closures, Class IV and resin veneers will be discussed.

Upon completion of this course, attendees will learn how to:

- Select the perfect shade within 15 seconds
- Prepare cavity preparation with an esthetic result in mind
- Know when and how to use layering for maximum esthetics
- Contour and polish resin composite to mimic tooth structure

Afternoon Session: Posterior Resin Composite Restorations and Bulk Fill – Make it Easy for Yourself

Taking too long? Not getting proximal contacts? Bad contours? Not getting gingival seal? Difficulty dealing with deep restorations?

If you answered yes to any of the questions, this presentation is for you. Get the knowledge to recognize what matrices, wedges, and rings to use, as well as get the knowledge to speed your procedures, maximize efficiency, predictability, and profitability.

Upon completion of this course, attendees will learn how to:

- Bulk-fill resin composites and how to use them
- Prep cavity preparation to facilitate placement and prevent white lines
- Deal with deep and extensive caries lesions
- Contour and polish posterior resin composites

*Sponsorships still pending.

June 13, 2025

OSHA Half-Day Lecture

Mary Govoni, CDA, RDH, MBA

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM • Adams Pointe Conference Center of Courtyard by Marriott
1400 NE Coronado Dr. • Blue Springs, MO 64014

3 CE Credit Hours



Mary is an internationally-recognized speaker, author and consultant on a variety of topics in dentistry, including infection control, OSHA and HIPAA compliance, ergonomics and team development. She brings over 40 years of experience to her speaking and coaching clients, including clinical assisting and hygiene, as well as practice administration and education.

Mary is a life member and past president of the *American Dental Assistants Association*, a member of the *American Dental Hygienists Association*, the *National Speakers Association*, the *Speaking and Consulting Network* and the *Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention*. She has published numerous articles and continuing education courses serves as a key opinion leader for many dental companies.

What's New with OSHA, CDC and Infection Prevention and Control?

OSHA requires that employees in dental practices participate in annual safety training, which includes general workplace safety, bloodborne pathogens, hazard communication, hazardous waste compliance requirements and any additional information that is pertinent to current infection prevention recommendations. This course will enable participants to review their safety protocols and make any necessary updates.

Upon completion of this course, attendees will be able to:

- Identify the OSHA regulations that apply to their dental practice
- Discuss documentation and training requirements for compliance with OSHA regulations
- Implement strategies for compliance with all federal, state and local safety standards
- Assess the practice's compliance with CDC infection control guidelines

*Sponsorships still pending.



Greater Kansas City Dental Society

Officers:

Dr. Jared D. Gerhardt, President
816.436.2150 gerhardtj@umkc.edu

Dr. Aaron M. Bumann, President-Elect
816.792.1118 aaron.bumann@gmail.com

Dr. Richard S. Campos, Vice-President
573.201.9262 rscampos987@gmail.com

Dr. Sam E. Hayes, Secretary-Treasurer
816.333.1393 samhayesdds@yahoo.com

Dr. Zachary L. Brown, Immediate Past-President
816.561.1115 zlbypb@gmail.com

Directors:

Thomas M. "Mac" Darnall, DDS
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Steven P. Billings, DDS
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Keerthana M. Satheesh, DDS

GKCDS Executive Director:

Sam Silvey 816.737.5353 gkcds@att.net

GKCDS Professional Liaison:

Dr. Wendy J. Weimer
816.877.0200 wendyweimer@yahoo.com

MDA Trustee:

Dr. Wendy J. Weimer
816.877.0200 wendyweimer@yahoo.com

Editor: Sam Silvey

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For more information, visit our website at www.gkcds.org or email us at gkcds@att.net or call 816.737.5353.

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The Greater Kansas City Dental Society is an ADA CERP recognized provider approved by the Missouri Dental Association. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. The Greater Kansas City Dental Society designates each activity for seven continuing education credits (with exception to the OSHA program, which is 3.5 education credits). Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to ADA CERP at www.ada.org/ce/p.



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Refund/Cancellation policy: Refunds will be given in full if cancellation is made 72 hours or more in advance. A 50% refund will be given if cancellation is made after the 72 hour mark, but only if attendee informs the Executive Director prior to the course. No refunds will be given for no-shows. If an unforeseen circumstance occurs and the GKCDS must cancel their program, refunds will be given in full.

Upcoming Meetings

Greater Kansas City Dental Society:

February 14, 2025 – *Continuing Education Meeting.* 8:30 AM-11:30 AM. Dr. Omar Karadaghy presents a head/neck cancer half-day lecture. Adams Pointe Conference Center; Blue Springs, MO. \$105 per member dentist/\$130 for non-member dentist/\$55 per staff member, if paying for individual course. Program included in Season Underwriter subscription. RSVP to Sam at gkcds@att.net or 816.737.5353.

March 21, 2025 – *Continuing Education Meeting.* 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Dr. Marcos Vargas presents a restorations lecture. Adams Pointe Conference Center; Blue Springs, MO. \$275 per member dentist/\$375 for non-member dentist/\$75 per staff member, if paying for individual course. Program included in Season Underwriter subscription. RSVP to Sam at gkcds@att.net or 816.737.5353.

June 13, 2025 – *Continuing Education Meeting.* 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Ms. Susan Govoni presents an OSHA half-day lecture. Adams Pointe Conference Center; Blue Springs, MO. \$105 per member dentist/\$130 for non-member dentist/\$55 per staff member, if paying for individual course. Program included in Season Underwriter subscription. RSVP to Sam at gkcds@att.net or 816.737.5353.

Other Meetings:

March 5, 2025 – *MDA Lobby Day.* Jefferson City, MO. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.modental.org/member-resources/advocacy-pac/voterveice>.

March 30, 2025 – *ADA Lobby Day.* More than 900 dentists and dental students will come together to Washington DC. Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/cb41bcce-29ce-4953-9d9d-a00cbffb6a03/summary>.

June 19-21, 2025 – *MDA Connect4Success Meeting & House of Delegates Meeting.* Come join us for the MDA's annual CE and Social meeting down at Margaritaville at the Lake of the Ozarks, then stay for the annual parliamentary House meeting. To register and for more information, visit: <https://www.modental.org/meetings-events/connect4success>

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Midwestern Dentist

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From the President . . .

I have entered a stage of life where I feel like an unpaid Uber driver as I constantly transport my children from one activity to another. As I was picking up my girls from dance recently, I was finishing a conversation with a friend from the GKCDs. When my children asked how I knew this person, the trip turned into an interrogation that landed on the topic of, "What is organized dentistry?" How do I explain organized dentistry to a couple of younger children? When my youngest daughter was five years old, we visited the Royal Gorge in Colorado on a vacation. When I told her that we bought tickets for America's highest suspension bridge that hangs 956 feet over the Arkansas River, her response was, "Wait, wait, wait... You mean to tell me that you spent \$150 so we can drive to the middle of nowhere and walk across a bridge?"

To a colleague, I can explain the Tripartite and the significance organized dentistry has had on me both directly and indirectly. I can acknowledge the social aspect and camaraderie that develops over shared experiences that only another dentist can relate. Do I discuss the benefits of having local continuing education? An adult would appreciate the impact organized dentistry has had in protection of dentists against insurance practices, legislation to help address work-force shortage with EFDA, and ways access to care has been improved for individuals through increased Medicaid reimbursements.

How do I define organized dentistry in terms a six-year-old and nine-year-old can understand without leading to more intense interrogation? How do I explain

its vital part in enabling our profession to remain strong for both dentists and the public? My simple answer was that it is a group of dentists that helps each other do their job better and works with our leaders to make improved laws that help everyone.



Dr. Jared Gerhardt

As we start the new year, I want to remind everyone of the value organized dentistry has had on our profession. We have accomplished so much with the tireless efforts of great leaders in our organization. However, the Tripartite is only effective when it represents more than half of dentists. Lawmakers aren't going to take a group representing only 10% of a profession seriously but will be much more amenable to an organization that represents 90% of a profession. Currently, around 58% of dentists in the state are members of the MDA. At the end of 2023, the number was 63.5%. I am "preaching to the choir," but if this number falls below 50%, we can't tell legislators that we represent the majority of dentists.

Make 2025 the year you encourage a non-member to join/renew, or the year you become more involved! Although our daily routines can make us feel exhausted a times, organized dentistry can provide some rejuvenation. March 5th is *Lobby Day at the Capitol* and *Connect 4 Success* at the Lake of the Ozarks starts June 20th. Locally, GKCDs is sponsoring seven CE events throughout the year. I hope to see you at our next event, whether it is a CE or social event.



Register for MDA Dental Day 2025

Join us on Wednesday, March 5
for Dental Day at the Capitol!

By this date, most bills will have been filed and assigned to committees, therefore making member visits more timely and effective.

- For efficiency, MDA Staff will make appointments for you between 8-11am. Your specific morning meeting time will be provided closer to Dental Day.
- Open to all members, spouses, dental team members and dental students. CE credits will be provided to participants.
- GKCDs is hosting a bus for free transportation to and from Jefferson City.
- Register here: <https://www.modental.org/member-resources/advocacy-pac/votervoic>



Dr. Wendy Weimer
MDA Trustee

MDA Report from your Trustee . . .

Happy 2025! Time for resolutions and reflections. I don't know about you, but I long ago gave up setting New Year's Resolutions and started making New Year's Maybes. I just had two and a half weeks off for the Holidays and ended up watching a lot of TikTok videos, you know, for research since I now work with dental students (yeah – my husband didn't buy it either). Anyway, I learned about manifesting, so this year I will manifest a good year where I am productive, keep my house clean, and never lose my temper (pause for laughter).

Now, on to reflections. 2024 was a very good year for the MDA. The big thing was getting the OPA (*Oral Preventative Assistant*) Pilot Project approved and on the books. The pilot started in December, and we have a few offices going through this and collecting data. There is still a lot of work to be done on it to make it official, but we are well on our way. We had a good legislative year and made some progress (See MDA website for a list of legislation for 2024).

Speaking of legislation, don't forget to sign up for the *MDA Day at the Capitol* on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. GKCDs will have a couple of buses to transport everyone down to Jefferson City and back. This day has historically been instrumental in the MDA being able to get legislation passed – legislation that impacts all of us positively. Plus, it is a lot of fun!

At the end of 2024, the MDA sent out an email regarding some legislation that we are working on for 2025. If you still have that email, take a few minutes to read over it. By the time you read this, the deadline for the first bit of legislation will have already passed (*Federal Corporate Transparency Act*). The second bill in that email is something that directly impacts dental offices. I will just quote the email for you: **“Missouri Legislation to Delay Minimum Wage & Paid Sick Leave Laws, HB 555** was introduced to **delay parts of the recently voter-enacted minimum wage and mandatory paid-leave law**. The bill pushes the \$15 per hour minimum wage requirement from 2026 to 2028 and changes the sick leave provision to require 32 hours worked, instead of 30, for one hour of leave. The current law increases the minimum wage to \$13.50 in 2024, with further changes to sick leave and wage indexing set to take effect in the coming years.” This is a great example of why we need to be talking to our law makers.

Finally, I want to welcome our new GKCDs President, Dr. Jared Gerhardt. I'm excited for this coming year under his leadership. I also want to thank our immediate past president, Dr. Zack Brown, for all his hard work in 2024.

Make sure to sign up for *Connect4Success* June 19-21, 2025, at Margaritaville Lake of the Ozarks.

Upcoming GKCDs CE:

February 14, 2025 – Head and Neck Cancer with Omar Karadaghy, MD, MSCI (half day)

March 21, 2025 - Restorative Dentistry with Marcos Vargas, DDS (full day)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at wendyweimer@yahoo.com or 816-812-6770.

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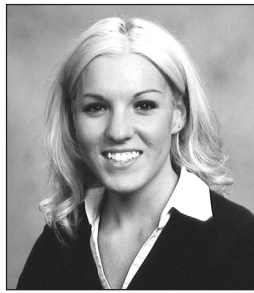
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Here & Now

by Sam Silvey
Executive Director, GKCDs



We have our traditional CE programs scheduled, but still, we are very open to trying out other new ideas, whether they be educational-based, trainings of some sort, social, networking, etc. The ADA and MDA have been spending an incredible amount of time and energy thinking about the evolution of the association and how it can develop and provide pertinent membership activities and benefits to its members, and we, too are trying to do the same locally. So, we truly welcome your honest feedback and input.

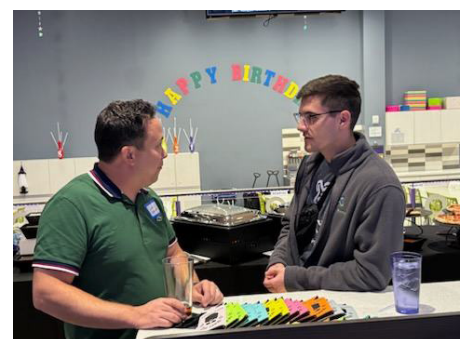
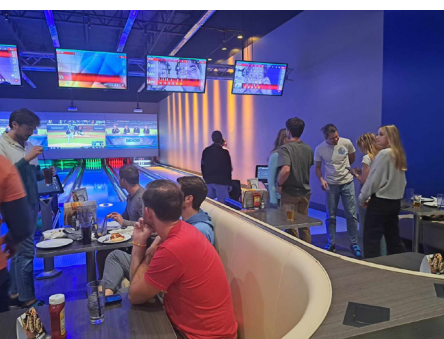
The Board meets next week and we will be brainstorming many ideas of how we can best be here for you, our members! If you have a desire to be on the Board or any of our committees, please reach out to us!

I hope the next twelve months bring you happiness, gratitude, fellowship and success.

Welcome to a new year! I hope your holidays were joyous and filled with love and laughter!

Now that we're officially midway through January (and further once this issue gets into your hands), the GKCDs leadership is knee deep into planning our 2025 programs and events, and we'd love your input on what you'd like to see more of!

New Dentist Night at Main Event North



Meet the Prez

Where did you receive your undergraduate degree? What degree was it?
Southwestern College – BS in Biology – BA Psychology



When and where did you graduate from dental school? University of Missouri-Kansas City 2008

Favorite course in dental school? Fixed Prosthodontics

Where do you practice? Full-time clinical instructor at UMKC

Family? My wife, Elizabeth, and I have one daughter who is 9 and another daughter who is 6. We also have a very spoiled Goldendoodle.

Hobbies? Bicycle riding, traveling, hiking, working in the yard, and anything related to food!

Favorite food? Seafood

Favorite holiday? Christmas

Most enjoyable thing about being a dentist? Enriching the lives of our patients.

Reason you are involved in the Tripartite?

The Tripartite enables dentists to unite together as a profession and work towards common goals. The Tripartite is our voice in communicating with lawmakers on how their decisions affect our patients and us. Many outside forces want to control the way we practice, and we have a responsibility to protect our profession and our patients.

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Member Moments

GKCDS Holiday Social Saturday, December 7th at Carriage Club

