

# 4/30/2026 CAE meeting

Casa Mia at the Hawthorne

## **Predicting Successful Endodontic Outcomes with Confidence: Finding a Protocol that checks all the boxes**

Presented by: Dr. Justin Kolnick

LECTURE AND 30 MINUTE Q&A, FOR 2.25 CE CREDIT CONTACT HOURS.

### Participants:

Dr. Kim Do, Dr. Ema Burke. Dr. Seth Kabakoff, Dr. Hisham Rafeay, Dr. Emily Sullivan, Dr. Michelle Spotto. Dr. Tom Goebel, Dr. Rikha Pawar, Dr. Mark Desrosiers, Dr. Jessica Tan, Dr. Jenny Olsen. Dr. Michelle Teng, Dr. Aniuska Tobin, Dr. Danna Saidon, Dr. Jacob Saidon, Dr. Ashkan Samad Zadeh, Dr. Alejandro Carrasco, Dr. Stanislav Moline, Dr. Arman Samad Zadeh, Dr. Brian Amoroso, Dr. Jyotika Tucker, Dr. Bruce Cha, Dr. Joel Chasen, Dr. Elinor Alon, Dr. Joshua Dembsky, Dr. Shimona Malik, Dr. Jason Alliger, Dr. Arash Safaverdi, Dr. Kate Husa.

Meeting started at 6:30 pm

#### 1. Dr. Danna Saidon - Secretary's report:

- Current balance reported.
- All current members' emails were updated. We also added non-member CT endodontists to the distribution list, as many as we could find.
- At the end of the lecture – please fill the evaluation form in your folders. On the back of the forms you will see a space where you can write the names / emails of other professionals you think might be interested in future lectures.
- Today's event was at no charge to the UCONN residents as we would like to encourage them to be an active part of this organization. We plan to keep doing that as long as funds allow.

#### 2. Dr. Bruce Cha – CTMOM report:



We sincerely appreciate everyone who has participated in the Mission of Mercy over the past 17 years. Due to a smaller venue this year, we were able to see fewer patients than usual. Last year in New Britain, we served more than 1,500 patients and provided services valued at \$1.7 million. This year, we treated approximately 900 patients, delivering care valued at just over \$1 million. Despite the reduced numbers, everyone

worked incredibly hard, and we believe we made a meaningful difference in the community.

Dr. Cha presented multiple slides highlighting the layout and participants of this year's event.

- The workflow design was quite efficient. The prosthodontics department successfully fabricated dentures overnight; however, patients were required to attend on the first day to receive their dentures on the second day.
- The endodontic team was smaller than usual. Typically, residents form the main workforce, but many were attending the AAE meeting. Notably, we had access to a microscope this year.
- We encountered many appreciative and happy patients, particularly those who received comprehensive anterior esthetic treatments, including root canals, posts, buildups, and crowns.
- We were able to utilize 3D imaging technology.
- Many pre-dental students volunteered and contributed to the event.
- We hope that you will all join us at CTMOM next year!

Save the date:  
April 2-3, 2027  
Floyd Little Athletic Center  
480 Sherman Parkway  
New Haven CT 06511

### 3. Dr. Mark Desrosiers – AAE report:



I currently serve as Treasurer of the AAE and would like to provide a brief update from the recent meeting in Salt Lake City.

The organization remains strong, with over 8,000 members, approximately 4,000 of whom attended the meeting. Membership goals continue to be met, and about 84% of all endodontists are AAE members—one of the highest participation rates among dental specialties, second only to oral surgery. Despite initial concerns about location, the Salt Lake City meeting was highly successful.

Public relations remain a top priority, as it directly impacts patient awareness and referrals. The AAE's strategic plan emphasizes consistent leadership and messaging, with public awareness identified as the number one goal—positioning endodontists as the first choice for care.

Our digital outreach continues to expand, incorporating AI-driven strategies and moving beyond traditional platforms such as Facebook and Google Ads. We have also

developed a misinformation toolkit to address inaccurate claims about endodontics that may circulate on social media.

Efforts to increase visibility include partnerships with social media influencers and national media engagement. Recent outreach by Dr. Katz, the immediate past president, generated millions of media impressions nationwide.

These initiatives are contributing to measurable growth. In 2020, endodontists performed 34.6% of all endodontic procedures, and that percentage continues to rise.

Advocacy also remains a key focus, as legislation directly impacts our profession. The AAE is actively engaged in representing members' interests at multiple levels.

Upcoming events include:

- **Apices August 14–15, 2026**, at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch in St. Louis, Missouri. The event features, free registration, complimentary housing, and educational sessions for early-career professionals.
- **Educator Workshop August 14–15, 2026**, in St. Louis, Mo., at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch. This workshop typically focuses on endodontic program directors, department chairs, and predoctoral directors
- **Insight Track November 12–14, 2026**, at the Hyatt Regency Grand Reserve in Puerto Rico. This focused, immersive event will cover trauma guidelines, CBCT in trauma diagnosis, and management of resorption.

#### [4. Dr. Tom Goebel presented Dr. Kolnick](#)

#### Education and Academic Achievements

Dr. Justin Kolnick earned his dental degree, graduating cum laude, from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. Notably, he became the first dental school graduate to ever receive the prestigious University Scholarship for Overseas Postgraduate Study. Pursuing further specialization, Dr. Kolnick completed his postdoctoral endodontic training at Columbia University in the City of New York.

#### Commitment to Endodontic Education

Throughout his career, Dr. Kolnick has demonstrated a strong dedication to endodontic education. He began his academic journey as an Associate Clinical Professor in Endodontics at Columbia University. He later served as an Attending at Westchester Medical Center as well as an Associate Clinical Professor in Endodontics at New York Medical College. Although he no longer holds these academic positions, Dr. Kolnick continues to be actively involved in education by lecturing extensively at local, national, and international events. In addition, he has published several articles focused on endodontics.

## Innovations in Endodontics and Laser-Assisted Treatment

Dr. Kolnick is devoted to advancing excellence in endodontics by promoting education and integrating the latest technological advancements. Over the past 20 years, his experience and expertise in laser technology have played a significant role in developing a comprehensive, laser-assisted treatment concept for endodontics.

### Current Practice

Dr. Kolnick currently maintains a private practice in Westchester County, New York, exclusively dedicated to endodontics.

*Disclosure: Dr. Kolnick has affiliations with Brassler and Vista Dental*

### 5. [Dr. Kolnick's Lecture](#)

#### **Predicting Successful Endodontic Outcomes with Confidence: Finding a Protocol that checks all the boxes**

##### **Introduction**

Accurately forecasting the prognosis of dental procedures, and root canal therapy in particular, is a fundamental concern for clinicians and their patients. Recent advancements in both research and clinical practice have significantly improved our understanding of the factors that contribute to the long-term success of endodontic cases. The outcome of each case depends on a complex combination of biological, structural, and procedural elements, making every tooth a unique challenge and every patient's journey distinct.

##### **The Importance of Predicting Endodontic Outcomes**

Endodontists are often called upon to predict the likely outcome of endodontic treatment. Patients who are confronted with a failing root canal are frequently uncertain about whether to pursue endodontic revision or opt for tooth extraction and replacement with an implant. Their decision is shaped by the endodontist's ability to confidently assess and predict the treatment's success.

##### **Factors Influencing Healing of Periapical Disease**

A wide range of factors have been reported to influence the healing process of periapical disease. Recognizing and addressing these factors is critical for improving patient outcomes and boosting confidence in prognosis.

##### **Laser-Assisted Treatment Protocol**

This presentation introduces a laser-assisted treatment protocol designed to enhance both clinical outcomes and the confidence with which those outcomes can be predicted. The protocol focuses on intra-operative elements crucial for success, including:

- Achieving patency at canal termini
- Supporting deep, three-dimensional disinfection
- Managing inaccessible and unfound anatomy
- Overcoming common complications encountered during endodontic therapy

### **ATP Biomarker Test Validation**

A newly introduced ATP assay method provides rapid identification of organic residues in root canal systems by detecting ATP, as well as its degradation products ADP and AMP, using a combination of luminescent reactions.

This innovative method addresses a longstanding challenge in endodontics: the need for a swift, sensitive, and user-friendly tool to evaluate root canal cleanliness at the point of care. By allowing practitioners to quantitatively assess biological contamination in seconds, the test bridges the gap between conventional cleaning techniques and real-time clinical verification, potentially raising the standard for treatment quality and patient outcomes.

#### **6. Evaluation forms collected**

Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm

Suggestions for future lectures:

- Surgical advanced techniques
- New Trauma guidelines
- Dr. Ricucci
- Dr. Matthew Davis – cracks and fractures
- Other professionals such as Perio or pros – what's new that we should know
- AI and endodontics

Suggestions for emails additions – were added to the list.