



Second District Dental Society Of New York

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The Second District Dental Society of New York



SDDS BULLETIN



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Peer Review Beats the Alternatives

By Drs. Jeffrey Galler and Sari Rosenwein

As practicing dentists, we all strive to produce excellent dentistry and generate large numbers of satisfied patients.

Despite our best efforts, every so often we will be faced with a disgruntled patient, and we utilize our very best interpersonal and clinical skills to assuage the situation. Sometimes, unfortunately, regardless of our efforts, a dissatisfied patient will choose to file a formal complaint.

In a recent publication, an author wrote: "Disgruntled patients have access to two methods of having their grievances adjudicated against a dentist: 1) by complaining to the state's licensing agency (Office of Professional Discipline), or 2) by bringing a suit against the dentist."

That information is incorrect. In New York State,

and in many other states, a disgruntled patient's best choice would be to file a complaint with their local dental society's Peer Review Committee.

Why is that true?

Looking at it from the patient's perspective, what a disgruntled patient usually desires, is to have the complaint taken seriously, have the complaint evaluated fairly, impartially, and expeditiously, and, if justified, have his fee returned.

What a dentist usually desires, is to have his work evaluated by unbiased peers and, in the event of an adverse finding, limit his financial liability to only the monies actually paid by the patient, without any additional liability for pain, suffering, or future corrective dental treatment; and, the dentist would also like for the incident to never be recorded in the National Data Bank.

The Peer Review process fulfills all these desires.

By contrast, consider the ramifications of an Office of Professional Discipline (OPD) complaint. This is an extremely stressful situation for the dentist. They might be faced with a permanent or temporary loss of the license to practice dentistry in New York State. Although some patients might experience satisfaction in "getting the dentist into trouble," patients who choose this route do not get their money back from the treating dentist.

Similarly, malpractice litigation has many drawbacks for both the patient and the dentist. The case is never resolved quickly. Litigation is often long, protracted, expensive, and stressful to both parties. The dentist is exposed to greater financial liability and the possibility of an adverse report in the National Data Bank. The pa-

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SDDS Presidents: A History

This Month: Drs. L.E. Brockway and Charles D. Cook

Dr. L. E. Brockway

Dr. L. E. Brockway was the 7th President of the SDDS in 1875. His friends knew him as a dentist who conscientiously performed his duties in private practice and as an officer of the dental society "without noise or parade." Dr. Brockway was also one of the 13 original founding members of the Brooklyn Dental Society. He was Vice President of the Brooklyn Dental Society in 1873. The founding members would tell stories of how they were present at the SDDS organization and were instrumental in its organization. Because of their influence at the organization of the SDDS, they felt that they even fathered the society.

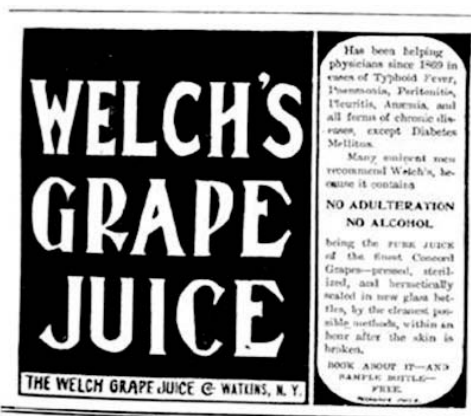
It was a tragic loss to the society when Dr. Brockway suddenly died of typhoid fever on September 7th, 1876, only one year after leading the SDDS. He was just 45 years old. In that year,

there were 325 deaths from typhoid fever in New York City. Typhoid fever is caused by the bacteria Salmonella Typhi, which is spread by ingesting contaminated food or liquids. The bacteria only live in people. The infected and carriers of the disease constantly shed bacteria in their feces. That is why hand washing is so important! Today, vaccines are available to take prior to visiting areas of suspected outbreaks. Antibiotics are also useful in the treatment of typhoid fever.

If treatment isn't received there is a 20% death rate. The infamous "Typhoid Mary" was the first asymptomatic carrier to be revealed. As a cook, in New York, she began infecting people in 1900. Unfortunately for Dr. Brockway, both the vaccine (1897) and the antibiotic treatment (1940's) were discovered too late.

There are no pictures of Dr. L. E. Brockway at the SDDS Headquarters and we don't

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Appeared in the Medical Brief 1898- ad for grape juice which was thought to help in the treatment of Typhoid fever.

SDDS – 2012 Children's Dental Health Month Poster Contest

Thursday, April 26, 2012 marked the culmination of SDDS Children's Dental Health Month activities. Members of the Oral Health Committee gathered at Second District headquarters to select the winners of the poster contest. This task proved to be challenging because of the many creative entries received in each category, which ranged from Pre-K to 12th Grade. Entries were judged by category and recipients of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize were selected from over 500 entries received from both Brooklyn and Staten Island. Such talent amongst the children of Second District.

The selection committee was comprised of the fol-



Seated (L to R) Drs. Angela DeBartolo, Sophia Scantlebury, Renaida Reyes (OHC-Chair), Sari Rosenwein. Standing (L to R) Dr. Juana Luster, Veronica Molina (SDDS Staff), Dr. Steven Gounardes, Dr. Scott Brustein.

lowing members of the Oral Health Committee, Dr. Angela DeBartolo, Dr. Sophia Scantlebury, Dr. Juana Luster, Dr. Sari Rosenwein, Dr. Scott Brustein, Dr. Steven

Gounardes Dr. Renaida Reyes (Oral Health Committee Chairman) and Veronica Molina (SDDS Staff).

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

JUNE

Monday 4	BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING	7:00 PM
Friday 8	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-16 Fort Hamilton Community Club, Brooklyn, NY "Bisphosphonate Therapy and Osteonecrosis: What Dentists Need to Know" Kenneth E. Fleisher, D.D.S.	9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON
Thursday 14	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-17 Fort Hamilton Community Club, Brooklyn, NY "ABCs of TMJ and OSA: Connecting the Dots in Clinical Practice" Michael L. Gelb, D.D.S., M.S.	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Friday 15	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-18 SDDS Headquarters, Brooklyn, NY "CPR and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office" Michael Kaliroff, Certified Instructor	9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Friday 22	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-19 Fort Hamilton Community Club, Brooklyn, NY "Risk Management" Leslie Seldin, D.D.S.	8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

JULY

Friday 27	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-20 SDDS Headquarters, Brooklyn, NY "CPR and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office" Michael Kaliroff, Certified Instructor	9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
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AUGUST

Friday 3	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE #12-21 Hilton Garden Inn, Staten Island, NY "CPR and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office" Michael Kaliroff, Certified Instructor	9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
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The Bulletin reserves the right to alter or reject any copy.

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The SDDS Bulletin and Website welcome advertising as an important means of keeping the dentist informed about new and better products and services for the practice of dentistry. Such advertising must be factual, dignified, tasteful, and intended to provide useful product and service information.

The publication of an advertisement is not to be construed as an endorsement or approval by the SDDS Bulletin and Website and/or its publisher, the Second District Dental Society, of the product or service being offered in the advertisement unless the advertisement specifically includes an authorized statement that such approval or endorsement has been granted.

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SDDS Presidents: A History

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even know what the initials L.E. stand for. It was common in that era to call people by the initials of their first and middle name and that would in effect become their name. This is still practiced in some parts of the United States and other countries. If anyone knows any more information on Dr. Brockway, please email me at eperiodr@aol.com.

Charles D. Cook, M.D.

Dr. Charles Delano Cook died of apoplexy on September 5, 1912. He was born 87 years earlier in Hardwick, Massachusetts. Dr. C.D. Cook was the 8th President of the SDDS for two terms in 1876 and 1877. He attained his professional education at Castleton College of Medicine in Vermont in 1853 earning an M.D. degree. Sometime between 1853 -1855 he settled in Brooklyn as an assistant to Dr. James E. Miller whose office was at the corner of Pacific and Henry Street. As Dr. Miller's apprentice, he learned the profession. The Baltimore College of Dental Surgery graduated the very first two dentists with a D.D.S. degree in 1841. Prior to that, there was no formal dental education. Dentists became apprentices, learning the profession under the guidance of an established dentist. This route to becoming a dentist and practicing in New York was slowly abolished by amendments to the state act and existed, in some measure, in New York until 1904. Many of the founding members of the DSSNY had no dental degree at all. SDDS Past Presidents Dr. L.S. Straw (2nd & 19th), Dr. A.N. Chapman (6th), Dr. L.E. Brockway (7th) and Dr. Cook all had no formal degree.

It is fascinating to note that Dr. James E. Miller, for whom Dr. Cook first apprenticed, was the fifth dentist to set up practice in Brooklyn. He also was the Treasurer of the first dental society in the Brooklyn area called the Long Island Association of Dental Surgeons (started in the autumn of 1853). This society, that predated the Brooklyn Dental Society, and the SDDS was more for social events than educational /scientific endeavors. They had no president, but a chairman that would preside at each meeting. The society lasted two to three years.

In 1899, there was much sickness in New York. Dr. Cook narrowly escaped death. Five years later, at the SDDS Board meeting on March 14, 1904, C.D. Cook was found to be one of the oldest and most honored members of the SDDS. The SDDS made him an honorary member for the rest of his life. Four years afterward, Dr. Cook, who was 83 years old, retired from private practice.



Charles D. Cook, M.D.

His private office was located at 162 Remsen Street (he had moved from 133 Pacific Street, where he practiced while President of the SDDS).

Dr. C.D. Cook was the second President of Brooklyn Dental Society in 1868. And was its first Vice President when it was organized

on December 14, 1867. He was also a charter member of the New York Institute of Stomatology, which held some of its meetings in his office.

Dr. C. D. Cook was also one of the first eight delegates chosen to represent the SDDS when the Dental Society of the State of the State of New York was first organized on June 30, 1868. At the national level, during the ADA's 18th Annual Session, C.D. Cook read his rather long report as Chairman of the Committee on Literature. This committee was tasked with describing publications and their relationship to dentistry.

Dr. Cook was a member of numerous societies that included the Kings County Medical Society, The National Geographical Society, the

Odontological Society of Great Britain and the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.

Stuart L. Segelnick, D.D.S., M.S.
131st President of the SDDS

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