

College of Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry: Study Group Report

Background

At the Annual Session of the Academy in May 1989, a program was sponsored by the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Attendance was limited to members of the College, and each participant paid a fee.

Following the annual breakfast meeting, a lecture was presented by Dr. Jeffrey P. Okeson. His presentation was entitled *Temporomandibular disorders in the pediatric dental patient: what do we know?* Dr. Okeson has spent the past 15 years in dental education with his teaching and research efforts in the area of temporomandibular disorders. He is a professor and director of the Division of Masticatory Function at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry and is director of the College's Orofacial Pain Center, which he established in 1977. He has published more than 40 articles in the area of TM disorders and occlusion in various national and international journals. His textbook, *Management of Temporomandibular Disorders and Occlusion*, is used in two-thirds of the dental schools in the United States.

After Dr. Okeson's lecture, three groups of Diplomates met in morning workshop sessions. The workshops were organized around the following

themes: TM evaluation in the pediatric patient, management of the pediatric patient who presents with acute pain in the TMJ or muscles of mastication, and long-term management of the pediatric patient who manifests TMJ or masticatory muscle pain and dysfunction. Each workshop participant was sent a literature reading list prior to the session. All participants were asked to review the literature and come prepared to participate in the discussions. This special report includes Dr. Okeson's lecture and reports from the three workshops.

Several years ago, Dr. Samuel D. Harris, a past-president of the Academy, made a major gift to the College of Diplomates, specifically to fund such programs. Continuing gifts from Dr. Harris and other members of the Academy, plus a registration fee paid by the Diplomates, made this special annual program of the College possible without expense to the Academy. It is important to note that the text of the keynote lecture and the workshop reports published herein are now available to all members of the Academy and dental libraries throughout the world.

Joseph P. O'Donnell, DMD, MS
President-Elect, College of Diplomates