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GHANAIAN DOCTORS & DENTISTS ASSOCIATION

GHANA INTERNATIONAL DENTAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2026



*Theme: Current Trends in Dental Science;
Transforming Dental Education. Advancing
Community Oral Health. Elevating Clinical Care*



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Post-Conference REPORT



By
**Dr Pamela Abban
Ohene Djan**



Dr Pamela Abban Ohene Djan

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FDS RCS ENG - **CONFERENCE CONVENER**

Welcome Message from the Convener



As we reflect on the remarkable success of the Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference 2026, I am filled with immense gratitude, pride, and optimism for the future of our profession.

Over three inspiring days, we witnessed the coming together of an extraordinary community of clinicians, educators, researchers, students, policymakers, and industry partners united by a shared commitment to advancing oral health and dental science. They explored current trends in dental science and their impact on education, clinical practice, and community oral health.

This year's theme provided a powerful framework for discussions that were both globally relevant and locally impactful. From groundbreaking innovations in digital dentistry and implantology to thought-provoking conversations on education, research, policy, and public health, the conference showcased the breadth and depth of talent within our profession.

Particularly encouraging was the strong engagement of students, early-career professionals, and emerging researchers. Their curiosity, passion, and commitment to excellence remind us that the future of dentistry is bright and in capable hands.

The conference also strengthened important international and interdisciplinary collaborations, reflecting our collective responsibility to contribute to the advancement of oral health in Ghana, across Africa, and throughout the global community.

I am deeply grateful to our distinguished speakers, workshop facilitators, researchers, sponsors, exhibitors, partners, organising committees, volunteers, and every delegate whose participation contributed to the success of this conference.

As you browse this booklet, I hope it serves as a reminder of the knowledge shared, the connections made, and the collective commitment we have to improving oral health and shaping the future of dentistry.

"The success of this conference reflects what we can achieve when expertise, innovation, and shared purpose come together."

Dr Pamela Abban Ohene Djan

Conference Convener

Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference 2026

Three Days. One Vision. Countless Possibilities.



In May 2026, the University of Ghana Dental School became more than an academic institution—it became a vibrant meeting point for ideas, innovation, leadership, and inspiration.

For three remarkable days, 7-9th May 2026, dental professionals, educators, researchers, policymakers, students, and industry leaders gathered from across Ghana and around the world for the Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference (GIDSC) 2026.

United under the theme:

“Current Trends in Dental Science: Transforming Dental Education. Advancing Community Oral Health. Elevating Clinical Care.”

participants shared a common purpose—to shape the future of oral healthcare and strengthen the profession for generations to come.

The result was a conference that not only informed but inspired.



A Conference with Global Reach and Local Impact



The 2026 conference represented another significant milestone in the growth of the Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference.

What began as a bold vision has rapidly evolved into an internationally respected scientific platform, bringing together expertise from Ghana, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Scotland, India, France, Cuba, Nigeria, Togo, and other parts of the world.

The presence of distinguished academics, clinicians, and leaders from prestigious institutions—including the Royal College of Surgeons of England and Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, University of Liverpool School of Dentistry, University of Dundee Scotland, Eastman Dental Hospital, London, Queen Mary University London, Saveetha Dental College and Hospital, India, and all the 5 deans of the five Dental Schools in Ghana, —highlighted the growing global recognition of the conference and its role in advancing dental science within Africa and beyond.

Yet despite its international reach, the conference remained firmly rooted in the realities and aspirations of Ghanaian oral healthcare. Every discussion, lecture, and workshop returned to a central question:

How can we improve oral health outcomes for our communities while preparing the next generation of dental professionals for an increasingly complex world?

DAY 1 - HIGHLIGHTS

Setting the Tone: Leadership, Vision and Purpose



The opening ceremony established an atmosphere of optimism and ambition.

Delegates were welcomed by leaders from academia, healthcare, and professional organisations who emphasized the urgent need for innovation, collaboration, and evidence-based practice.

In her opening address, Conference Convener **Dr Pamela Abban Ohene Djan** challenged participants to look beyond traditional boundaries and embrace opportunities for transformative change.

The conference, she noted, was not simply a gathering of experts—it was a movement committed to advancing knowledge, strengthening education, and improving patient care.

That message resonated throughout every session.

The conference was a movement committed to advancing knowledge, strengthening education, and improving patient care – Dr Pamela Abban Ohene Djan

The Future of Dental Education



One of the defining moments of the conference came with the keynote presentation by **Professor Albert Leung**, Foundation Head of the School of Dentistry at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

His lecture explored a revolutionary approach to undergraduate dental education built around community engagement, primary care, and continuous clinical exposure. Rather than focusing solely on hospital-based training, Professor Leung demonstrated how future dentists can be educated through integrated learning experiences that connect classrooms, clinics, and communities.

His presentation sparked lively discussion among educators and practitioners alike, highlighting opportunities to reimagine dental training in ways that better meet the needs of modern populations.

For many delegates, it was a glimpse into what the future of dental education could—and should—look like.

Innovation Takes Centre Stage

Innovation was a recurring theme throughout the conference.

From digital diagnostics and artificial intelligence-assisted planning to guided implant surgery and advanced orthodontic technologies, speakers showcased how rapidly emerging technologies are transforming clinical practice.

Delegates explored the growing role of digital workflows in diagnosis, treatment planning, and patient communication. Presentations demonstrated how technology is enabling clinicians to deliver more accurate, predictable, and patient-centred care than ever before.

Particularly well received was the session on digitally guided implant placement, which illustrated how three-dimensional imaging and virtual planning are revolutionising implant dentistry and improving clinical outcomes. The message was clear:

The future of dentistry is digital—and Ghana is ready to be part of that future.

Transforming Oral Health in Ghana

Beyond technology and education, the conference addressed one of the most pressing challenges facing healthcare today: equitable access to oral health services.

A landmark presentation on Ghana's National Oral Health Strategy outlined efforts to strengthen prevention, improve access to care, and integrate oral health into broader healthcare systems.

Delegates engaged in thoughtful discussions around oral health inequalities, workforce development, public awareness, and sustainable service delivery.

The conversations reinforced the reality that oral health is not merely a dental issue—it is a public health issue. Addressing it requires coordinated action across clinical practice, education, policy, and community engagement.



Supporting the World Health Organization's Vision for Oral Health

Setting the Tone: Leadership, Vision and Purpose



One of the defining strengths of GIDSC 2026 was its clear alignment with the World Health Organization's Global Oral Health Strategy 2023–2030 and the Global Action Plan for Oral Health.

For decades, oral diseases have remained among the most prevalent non-communicable diseases worldwide, affecting billions of people and disproportionately impacting vulnerable and underserved populations. Recognising this challenge, the World Health Organization has called for a fundamental shift from treatment-centred approaches to prevention-focused, people-centred oral healthcare systems that are integrated within broader health services.

The conference embraced this vision wholeheartedly.

Throughout the conference, discussions on dental education, workforce development, community oral health, innovation, and Ghana's National Oral Health

Strategy reflected the WHO's vision of improving access to care and reducing oral health inequalities.

By bringing together clinicians, educators, researchers, policymakers, and international partners, the conference created a platform for turning global oral health priorities into practical local action. The ideas, collaborations, and initiatives emerging from GIDSC 2026 will contribute to strengthening oral healthcare systems, workforce development, and advancing the shared goal of oral health for all.

"GIDSC 2026 was not only a forum for scientific exchange, but a catalyst for advancing the global movement towards better oral health outcomes for all communities."

GIDSC 2026 & the WHO Global Oral Health Strategy

The conference contributed to key WHO priorities by:

- Promoting prevention-focused oral healthcare
- Supporting workforce education and development
- Encouraging equitable access to oral health services
- Advancing evidence-based policy discussions
- Strengthening research and international collaboration
- Integrating oral health within broader healthcare systems
- Supporting progress toward Universal Health Coverage

Research: The Engine of Progress

Emerging scholars and experienced researchers alike shared innovative work spanning clinical dental science, case studies, healthcare ethics, antimicrobial stewardship, education, and public health.

The research sessions highlighted the growing strength of Ghana's academic dental community and the increasing contribution of young researchers to global scientific conversations.

Perhaps most encouraging was the enthusiasm of the next generation.

Young clinicians and academics demonstrated not only scientific excellence but also leadership, curiosity, and a commitment to improving patient outcomes.

Their contributions offered a powerful reminder that the future of dentistry is in capable hands.

Learning by Doing

While the lectures stimulated discussion, the workshops brought learning to life.

Across two days, delegates immersed themselves in practical experiences designed to strengthen clinical competence and build confidence.

Participants engaged in hands-on sessions covering:

- Live Guided implant placement
- Live Intravenous sedation
- Endodontic techniques
- Orthodontic retainer fabrication
- Paediatric dentistry – Hall Technique
- Periodontal set-up and instrument maintenance
- Simulation-based dental education tools
- Oral medicine and pathology
- Oral and MaxilloFacial surgery
- Reflective educational practice

The workshops transformed theoretical concepts into practical skills and created opportunities for mentorship, collaboration, and professional growth.

For many participants, the workshop sessions were among the most memorable aspects of the conference.



Building Connections that Matter

One of the conference's greatest achievements extended beyond the lecture halls and workshop rooms. It was found in the conversations.

Between sessions, during networking breaks, around exhibition stands, and over shared meals, relationships were formed and strengthened.

Senior clinicians connected with students.

Researchers met potential collaborators.

Educational leaders exchanged ideas.

Industry partners engaged directly with practitioners.

These interactions created new opportunities that will continue long after the conference has ended.

Because while knowledge is powerful, it is collaboration that turns knowledge into impact.

Celebrating Excellence

The success of the conference was made possible through the dedication of an extraordinary team of volunteers, committee members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, and partners.

Their collective effort transformed an ambitious vision into a world-class event.

The conference also celebrated excellence through recognition of outstanding research presentations and contributions to the profession.

These moments served as reminders that progress is driven by individuals who consistently strive for excellence and who willingly share their expertise for the benefit of others.





Location:
**University of
Ghana Dental
School, Korle Bu**



15+
International Speakers



Countries Represented:
**Ghana, UK,
Ireland, India,
France and others**



Scientific Lectures:
6



Research Presentations:
3



Hands-on Workshops:
10+

PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS REPRESENTED



Royal College
of Surgeons
of England

ADVANCING SURGICAL CARE



RCSI
ROYAL COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS
IN IRELAND



**MINISTRY OF
HEALTH
GHANA**



**UNIVERSITY
OF GHANA**



KNUST
Kwame Nkrumah
University of Science
and Technology



**MDC
GHANA**



**GHANA
HEALTH
SERVICE**



**AND
OTHERS**

01

EMBRACE DIGITAL DENTISTRY AS THE STANDARD OF CARE

From digital orthodontics to guided implant placement, technology is reshaping diagnosis, treatment planning, and patient care.

Digital dentistry is no longer an emerging trend—it is the standard for modern practice.

02

ALIGN DENTAL EDUCATION WITH EVOLVING HEALTHCARE DEMANDS

Modern dental education must equip graduates not only for clinical excellence but also for leadership, prevention, and community-centered care.

03

PRIORITIZE PREVENTION TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

Improving oral health outcomes requires sustained investment in prevention, early intervention, and public health initiatives rather than a primary reliance on treatment.

04

ELEVATE ORAL HEALTH AS A PUBLIC HEALTH IMPERATIVE

Oral diseases remain among the most prevalent health conditions worldwide. Addressing them requires coordinated action across healthcare systems, educational institutions, and policy frameworks.

05

ADVANCE INNOVATION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Frugal innovation and alternative simulation tools demonstrated that high-quality training can be delivered through creative, sustainable, and cost-effective approaches.

06

STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION TO ACHIEVE BETTER OUTCOMES

The most effective solutions emerge when clinicians, educators, researchers, policymakers, and industry partners align around shared objectives.

07

INTEGRATE MULTIDISCIPLINARY EXPERTISE TO DELIVER EXCELLENCE

Whether in aesthetics, oral surgery, orthodontics, or restorative dentistry, exceptional patient outcomes increasingly depend on coordinated collaboration across specialties.

08

LEVERAGE RESEARCH TO DRIVE CONTINUOUS PROGRESS

Evidence-based practice remains the foundation of modern dentistry. Research continues to inform clinical decision-making, educational advancement, and healthcare policy.

09

EMPOWER THE NEXT GENERATION OF DENTAL LEADERS

The enthusiasm and contributions of students, residents, and early-career researchers underscored a strong and promising future for dentistry in Ghana and beyond.

10

UNITE STAKEHOLDERS TO TRANSFORM ORAL HEALTH

The conference reinforced a collective commitment to advancing education, strengthening clinical practice, reducing inequalities, and improving oral health outcomes for all.



Keynote Address: Professor Albert Leung **Reimagining Dental Education for the Future**

As Foundation Head of the School of Dentistry at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Professor Albert Leung is helping to shape a new generation of dental professionals.

His keynote address challenged delegates to rethink traditional models of dental education, highlighting the value of community-based learning, early clinical exposure, and a primary care-focused approach. His insights sparked important conversations about how educational innovation can strengthen the dental workforce and improve access to care.

Key Message

"The future of dental education lies in preparing graduates to serve both patients and populations."



Dr Charlotte Eckhardt: Where Function Meets Aesthetics

An internationally respected orthodontist and Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Dr Charlotte Eckhardt demonstrated the power of multidisciplinary collaboration in achieving outstanding patient outcomes.

Her presentation highlighted the importance of integrating orthodontics, maxillofacial surgery, and aesthetic dentistry to create harmony between function, health, and appearance.

Key Message

"Great aesthetic outcomes begin with strong interdisciplinary planning."



Dr Kwabena Amoah: Leading Ghana's Digital Orthodontic Revolution

Dr Amoah showcased how advances in diagnostics, digital workflows, and treatment planning are transforming modern orthodontic practice.

His session illustrated how technology is enhancing precision, efficiency, and patient-centred care while preparing practitioners for the future of digital dentistry.

Key Message

"Technology is not replacing clinicians—it is empowering them."



Dr Clement Seeballuck: Innovation Through Simplicity

Passionate about educational equity, Dr Seeballuck explored how frugal innovation can expand access to high-quality clinical training.

His presentation demonstrated that meaningful educational transformation does not always require expensive solutions, but rather creativity, adaptability, and collaboration.

Key Message

"Innovation is most powerful when it is accessible to everyone."



Dr Nana Kofi Acheampong: Precision Dentistry in the Digital Age

A recognised expert in implant dentistry, Dr Acheampong highlighted the transformative impact of digitally guided implant placement.

Through practical examples and clinical cases, he demonstrated how digital workflows are improving treatment predictability, surgical accuracy, and patient outcomes.

Key Message

"Digital planning is redefining what is possible in implant dentistry."



Dr Ernest Konadu Asiedu: Shaping the Future of Oral Health in Ghana

As a key contributor to Ghana's National Oral Health Strategy, from the Ministry of Health, Dr Asiedu provided delegates with valuable insight into the country's oral health priorities.

His presentation underscored the importance of prevention, policy development, and equitable access to care in building healthier communities.

Key Message

"Improving oral health requires action beyond the dental clinic."



Dr Arvind Muthukrishnan: Connecting Oral Health and Systemic Health

A leading authority in oral medicine and pathology, Dr Muthukrishnan reminded delegates of the vital relationship between oral health and overall wellbeing.

His workshop highlighted the importance of recognising oral manifestations of systemic disease and reinforced the dentist's role in holistic patient care.

Key Message

"The mouth often tells the story of the whole body."



Dr Adejumo Adeyemi: Excellence in Clinical Training

Through her workshops on periodontal instruments and simulation-based learning, Dr Adeyemi demonstrated her commitment to high-quality clinical education.

Her sessions emphasised practical skills development, innovation, and the importance of preparing learners for contemporary dental practice.

Key Message

"Great clinicians are built through great training."



Dr Maxwell Addo: Reflecting to Improve Practice

An expert in educational development, Dr Addo encouraged delegates to embrace reflective practice as a powerful tool for professional growth.

His workshop explored how meaningful reflection can enhance teaching, learning, and leadership within dental education.

Key Message

"Reflection transforms experience into expertise."



Dr Nana Kofi Acheampong: Bringing Digital Implant Dentistry to Life

Dr Acheampong's live patient workshop on digitally guided implant placement provided delegates with a rare opportunity to observe the complete digital implant workflow in action.

Demonstrating the integration of CBCT imaging, intraoral scanning, and guided surgical techniques, he showcased how digital technology is improving precision, predictability, and patient outcomes in implant dentistry. The workshop offered practical insight into contemporary implant practice and highlighted the growing role of digital innovation in enhancing clinical care.

Key Message

Precision planning leads to precision outcomes. Digital workflows are redefining the standard of care in implant dentistry."



Dr Christopher Vondee: Enhancing Patient Comfort and Care

With extensive experience in sedation dentistry, Dr Vondee provided valuable insights into managing anxious patients and improving treatment experiences.

His practical demonstrations highlighted the role of sedation in expanding access to safe and effective dental care.

Key Message

"Patient-centred care begins with understanding patient needs."



Dr Mamta Thadani: Advancing Paediatric Dental Care

Dr Thadani's hands-on workshop introduced delegates to the Hall Technique, a minimally invasive approach to managing dental caries in children.

Her presentation reflected a commitment to evidence-based, child-friendly dentistry that prioritises both effectiveness and patient comfort.

Key Message

"Prevention and minimally invasive care are shaping the future of paediatric dentistry."



Dr Peter Puplampu: Workshop on orthodontic Aligners

Dr Puplampu's interactive workshop on orthodontic retainer fabrication gave delegates the opportunity to develop practical skills in constructing vacuum-formed retainers using contemporary materials and techniques.

Participants gained valuable insight into the clinical and laboratory processes involved, while also exploring the wider applications of these appliances, including bleaching trays and mouthguards. The workshop highlighted the importance of combining technical proficiency with innovation to support effective, patient-centred orthodontic care.

Key Message

"Practical skills and innovation remain essential in delivering effective orthodontic treatment."



Dr Malcolm Farr: Mastering the Fundamentals of Endodontics

With decades of clinical experience, Dr Farr delivered practical guidance on root canal preparation and obturation.

His workshop reinforced the enduring importance of clinical excellence and meticulous technique in achieving successful outcomes.

Key Message

"Excellence in dentistry is built on mastering the fundamentals."



Dr Josiah Eyeson: Advancing Oral Surgery Through Knowledge

A leading specialist in oral surgery, Dr Eyeson shared contemporary insights into the diagnosis and management of salivary gland tumours.

His session highlighted the importance of evidence-based decision-making and multidisciplinary collaboration in patient care.

Key Message

"Knowledge remains the most powerful surgical instrument."



Rev. Dr Matthew Owusu Boamah: Leadership in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

As clinician, educator, and researcher, Dr Boamah continues to contribute significantly to oral and maxillofacial surgery in Ghana. His expertise and dedication to patient-centred care have helped shape both clinical services and specialist training within the profession.

His session highlighted the importance of evidence-based decision-making and multidisciplinary collaboration in management of salivary gland tumours.

Key Message

"Clinical excellence and compassion must always go hand in hand."



Dr Wendy Thompson: Championing Antimicrobial Stewardship

An internationally recognised authority on antimicrobial stewardship, Dr Thompson challenged delegates to consider their role in combating antimicrobial resistance.

Her research continues to influence global policy and clinical practice in dentistry.

Key Message

"Every prescription carries a responsibility."



Dr Akua Obimah Adwedaa: A Rising Voice in Dental Research

Representing the next generation of dental leaders Dr Adwedaa presented research on the links between oral health ethics and well-being. Her study, The psychological impact of added sugars on mood and its implication for oral health of University of Ghana medical and dental students, examined how dietary habits affect mental well-being and oral health underscoring the need for a holistic approach to health promotion among young adults.

Her achievements reflect the growing strength of young researchers within Ghana's dental community.

Key Message

"Curiosity and research are catalysts for progress."



Dr Ruby Yayra Goka: Advancing Clinical Practice Through Research

As a clinician and academic leader Dr Goka's contribution to the research programme highlighted the importance of translating evidence into everyday practise. Her study, A comparative study of the softening abilities of three gutta- percha solvents used during endodontic re-treatment, evaluated materials used in root canal re-treatment providing insights that may enhance clinical efficiency and support evidence-based decision-making in endodontic care.

Her work continues to support improvements in oral healthcare delivery within Ghana.

Key Message

"Research has its greatest impact when it improves patient care."

PHOTO GALLERY

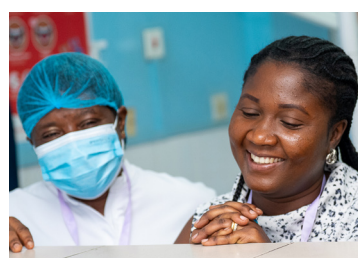
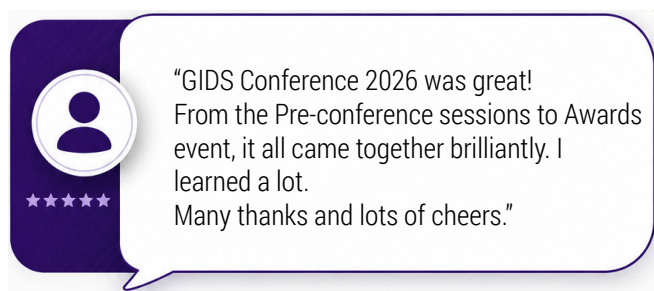
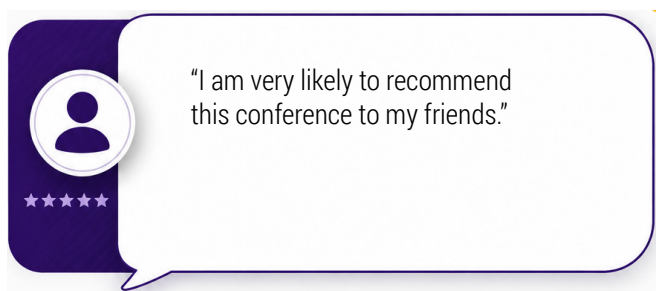
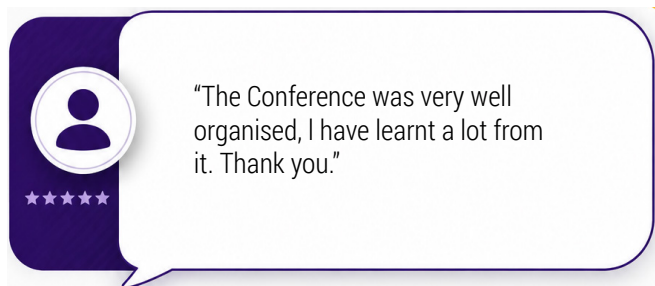


PHOTO GALLERY



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Contributors



As delegates departed, there was a palpable sense that this conference marked more than the conclusion of an event.

It marked the continuation of a journey.

The discussions initiated, partnerships formed, and ideas generated during these three days will influence classrooms, clinics, communities, and policy discussions across Ghana and beyond.

The Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference continues to grow in stature and significance.

More importantly, it continues to fulfil its mission.

OUR MISSION



▶ To advance dental science.



▶ To strengthen education and knowledge sharing.



▶ To enhance clinical and practical skills.



▶ To improve collaboration.



▶ To improve oral health.



▶ To inspire excellence.

A SHARED COMMITMENT



The story of GIDSC 2026 is ultimately a story of people—professionals committed to learning, educators dedicated to shaping future generations, researchers pushing the boundaries of knowledge, and leaders working to improve the health and wellbeing of communities.



Together, they demonstrated what is possible when expertise, vision, and purpose come together.



As we reflect on the achievements of this year's conference, we celebrate not only what has been accomplished but also what lies ahead.



**The future of dentistry
is being shaped today.**

**And GIDSC is proud to be
part of that journey.**



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who made this conference possible.

Bless Tademe – for website design and comprehensive IT support

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Curaden UK - for donating interdental brushes

University of Liverpool - donation of literature, educational material, instruments

University of Dundee - for their donation of patient education materials

Scottish Dental Education Online (SDEO) - for allowing us to use their dental education materials

Access Media – for exceptional event management services

Videl Media Agency – for media and audiovisual support

Dr Maxwell Addo - for donating the two first place prizes; dinner for two x 2

Dr Helen Wireko and Dr Gwendolyn Bayitse - for donating award plaques.

Our Lecturers, Workshop Facilitators, and Chairpersons – from the UK, India, and Ghana, for sharing their expertise generously

The Entire Conference Organising Team – for their hard work, drive, and passion

GCB Bank – for their continued and unwavering support

With Gratitude to Our Sponsors:

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And to All Our Donors, Sponsors, Supporters, and Participants – Thank You!

www.ghanaintdentesciconf.org



MISSION STATEMENT

The Ghana International Dental Scientific Conference (GID-SC) is committed to advancing dental excellence by promoting evidence-based knowledge sharing, enhancing clinical and practical skills, and fostering inclusive collaboration among dentists, researchers, students, dental care professionals, auxiliaries, policy makers, and industry leaders. Through lectures, dynamic workshops, research presentations, and professional networking, GIDSC serves as a catalyst for innovation and sustainable growth in oral healthcare.