

TMD for the DSM Dentist

Faculty Bios and COI Disclosures



Brijesh P. Chandwani, DMD, is a residency-trained orofacial pain specialist who specializes in complex facial pain conditions including TMJ disorders, trismus, jaw spasms, trigeminal neuralgia, atypical facial pain, trigeminal nerve injuries (neuropathic pain) and headache disorders. He is a licensed acupuncturist and often incorporates acupuncture, supplements and natural remedies as a first step in treatment, if possible. Dr. Chandwani's philosophy focuses on precision diagnosis and understanding underlying mechanisms and complicating factors. Dr. Chandwani has extensive training and more than 15 years of experience in modalities such as nerve blocks, trigger point injections, prolotherapy, TMJ injections, occlusal orthotics and other mouthguards. He has authored numerous scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and is an invited reviewer for Journal of American Dental Association and Annals of Otology, Rhinology & Laryngology. He teaches orofacial pain and sleep medicine to post-graduate residency programs and dental schools. He has lectured nationally and internationally on various topics of orofacial pain.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Emily Kahnert, DPT, CCTT is a physical therapist in the TMD, Orofacial Pain and Dental Sleep Medicine Clinic at the University of Minnesota (UMN) School of Dentistry and a UMN Rehabilitation Science PhD Candidate. Her 17 years of clinical practice have been exclusively focused on treating TMD and orofacial pain in multidisciplinary settings, and her PhD work is studying telerehabilitation for TMD. She earned her Certified Cervical and Temporomandibular Therapist designation through the Physical Therapy Board of Craniofacial and Cervical Therapeutics (PTBCCT) in 2019 and is part of the PT for TMD Clinical Practice Guideline development group.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Robert W. Mier, DDS MS graduated from the University of Detroit in 1984. He was in solo practice focusing on comprehensive general dentistry until 2011. In 2006 he began to focus on orofacial pain ending in a Masters degree from Tufts, and began on the faculty there in 2011 and was appointed Director of Advanced Education in Orofacial Pain in 2013 until January 2015. He then returned to private practice in Milwaukee, WI and Scottsdale, AZ limited to orofacial pain/TMD/dental sleep medicine. He is currently the president of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Mariona Mulet Pradera, DDS, MS, D.ABDSM is the Associate Program Director of the Orofacial Pain Graduate Program at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Mulet earned her dental degree from the University of Barcelona in 1998. She later completed her two-year master program in Orofacial Pain from the University of Minnesota in 2003. Dr. Mulet is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orofacial Pain and a Diplomate of the American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine. She provides care to patients with orofacial pain disorders in a multidisciplinary clinical setting at Health Partners Group in Minnesota.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Dan Tache, DMD is originally from Salem, Massachusetts and currently resides in Appleton, WI with his wife Kathlyn. He attended Dental School at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. After receiving his DMD degree he completed a General Practice Residency with the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, Texas. He continued as an adjunct clinical professor teaching management of TMD and Orofacial Pain disorders to until he moved to Wisconsin with his wife and family in 2000. His practice in Appleton, WI is limited to TMD / orofacial pain and obstructive sleep apnea.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Dania Tamimi, BDS, DMSc graduated with a dental degree from King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She trained at Harvard School of Dental Medicine and earned a doctorate of medical science and certificate of fellowship in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology in 2005. She is board certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (ABOMR). She is a reviewer and an Editorial Board member for Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology, Oral Medicine and Oral Radiology (OOOO), as well as a reviewer for DMFR, Oral Radiology, Head and Neck, Angle Orthodontist and AJO-DO. She is the lead author on two textbooks: "Specialty Imaging: Dental Implants" (which has been translated to Portuguese and Russian) and "Specialty Imaging: Temporomandibular Joint" (translated to Spanish) and a co-lead author on "Diagnostic Imaging, Oral and Maxillofacial" (translated to Spanish). She lectures nationally and internationally. She currently runs her oral and maxillofacial radiology private practice in Orlando, Florida.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.



Alex Vaughan, DDS, is a board-certified Orofacial Pain specialist and co-founder of Virginia Total Sleep in Richmond Virginia. Having started his dental career in the front office, he was "insurance minded" from the beginning. Seeing the urgent need for dental sleep medicine and orofacial pain services, he co-founded his practice with Dr. Michael Pagano on the foundation of medical billing and cutting-edge technology. By combining electronic medical records and his billing expertise, Virginia Total Sleep has reduced patient costs by 90% all while maximizing revenue and case acceptance rate.

No potential conflicts of interest to disclose.