



Dr. Richard Kao

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EDUCATION

- 1972-76 University of California, Berkeley, A.B., honors, Bacteriology
- 1976-80 San Francisco State University, M.A. distinction in scholarship, Cell Biology
- 1978-82 University of California, San Francisco, D. D. S., Dentistry
- 1980-84 University of California, San Francisco, Ph.D., Experimental Pathology
- 1984-86 University of California, San Francisco, Post-doctoral Fellow, Pathology
- 1989-91 University of California, Certificate Periodontics, San Francisco, California

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

- 1982-90 General Dentistry practice, 564 Market St., #414, San Francisco, CA
- 1993-present Periodontal practice, Cupertino, CA
- 1982-present Adjunct Clinical Professor, Division of Periodontology., UC San Francisco
- 1992-present Adjunct Clinical Professor, Dept Periodontology, University of Pacific

## AAP Update: Science, Education, and Camaraderie

President of AAP, Cupertino, CA  
Dr. Richard Kao

The American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) and Japanese Society of Periodontology (JSP) have enjoyed a fruitful, cooperative relationship for many years. Both organizations remain committed to advancing the science of periodontics and equipping their respective members with the tools and resources needed to facilitate clinical treatment. With more than 740 million people affected by periodontal disease worldwide, including nearly half of American adults age 30 and older, it is crucial that the AAP continues to collaborate with the JSP and other international organizations to help reduce the global burden of disease.

To that end, one of the AAP's most recent undertakings is the broad dissemination and integration of the June 2018 publication of the proceedings of the World Workshop on Disease Classification of Periodontal and Peri-Implant Diseases and Conditions. The Workshop, which was held in November 2017, brought together periodontal experts from 22 countries (including Japan) to establish an updated disease classification system that can be universally utilized by all periodontists.

A significant result of the Workshop was the introduction of a multi-dimensional staging and grading framework for periodontitis classification. This novel, personalized approach to disease diagnosis and management echoes what is commonly seen in medicine and provides practitioners with a framework for developing comprehensive treatment strategies based on a patient's specific needs. The AAP is actively working to create materials that guide periodontists and other dental professionals on using the staging and grading system.

Another scientific endeavor planned for 2019 is a Best Evidence Consensus (BEC) meeting on changing gingival phenotype in preparation for orthodontic and dental implant treatment. The AAP's unique BEC model relies on current, high-quality published literature and expert opinion to provide guidance on innovative topics for which there is insufficient evidence to arrive at definitive conclusions. The gingival phenotype BEC panel will offer direction on treatment planning and identify areas where further research is needed. Panel proceedings will be published in the *Journal of Periodontology* later this year.

Additionally, the AAP is excited to welcome periodontists from around the world to its hometown of Chicago, Illinois, for the 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. To be held November 2-5, the meeting will bring together a world-class line-up of speakers discussing some of the most innovative topics in the specialty, including regenerative therapies, soft tissue management, and immediate implant placement. The AAP is also looking forward to 2020 when the 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held in collaboration with the JSP and the Japanese Academy of Clinical Periodontology in Honolulu, Hawaii. The event is shaping up to be a celebration of the AAP's longstanding friendships with its fellow periodontal experts in Japan.

As the AAP looks to the future, partnerships with the JSP and other international periodontal societies will become increasingly important. With more than 1,600 international members, 21 percent of whom are from Japan, the AAP works diligently to be a respected resource for its colleagues around the globe. The AAP looks forward to continuing to work with its Japanese peers as we make strides in periodontal science, education, and camaraderie.