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AAPD HONORS AWARD WINNERS

CHICAGO – May 28, 2017 – The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), the leading authority on children’s oral health, announced this year’s winners of several prestigious awards during AAPD’s record-breaking 2017 meeting in National Harbor, Md.

Opening Ceremony and Keynote Address Friday, May 26

- Award Recipients recognized include: Drs. Sarat Thikkurissy, Vineet Dhar, Homa Amini and Timothy Wright

Pediatric Dentist of the Year: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Sarat “Bobby” Thikkurissy.*

Established in 1998, this annual award honors a pediatric dentist who has made significant contributions to the dental profession and the specialty of pediatric dentistry through clinical practice, academics or policy development over the past year. Recipients will also have devoted extensive volunteer leadership service to the dental profession and the specialty. This award is sponsored by NuSmile.

Bobby Thikkurissy is a Professor and Division Director at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. He is also the Director of the residency program. He received his D.D.S. from New York University in 1998, and his Certificate and Masters in Pediatric Dentistry from The Ohio State University in 2003. He served as director of the pre-doctoral program in pediatric dentistry at OSU from 2006-2011, and has served as program director at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital since 2013. He has published in the areas of morbidity associated with dental disease, and procedural sedation. He has served on the ADA Council of Dental Education and Licensure from 2013-2016, and Chair of the AAPD committee on General Anesthesia and Sedation from 2012-2016. He has presented CE courses in over 15 states as well as in China and Serbia. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and serves on the Qualifying Examination

Committee and on the Oral Examination. Thikkurissy is also a national spokesperson of the AAPD.

Jerome B. Miller "For the Kids" Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Vineet Dhar.*

This award is presented annually to an up-and-coming clinician, researcher or academician in pediatric dentistry for their outstanding efforts directed to children's oral health and welfare. The Miller Award was established in May 2007 by Healthy Smiles, Healthy Children: The Foundation of the AAPD (HSHC), to honor former AAPD and HSHC President Dr. Jerome B. Miller for his many years of service to children, philanthropy and giving back to the profession of pediatric dentistry. This award is sponsored by Procter & Gamble Professional Oral Health/Crest Oral B.

Dr. Dhar is an associate professor serving as division chief and graduate program director in the Division of Pediatric Dentistry, University of Maryland School of Dentistry and as the current State President of Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. He serves the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry as Member, Editorial Board of Pediatric Dentistry; Member NE District, Council on Post-doctoral Education, Chair, vital pulp therapy guidelines workgroup. He serves American Board of Pediatric Dentistry as a consultant/examiner on the Oral Clinical Exam and Qualifying Exam subcommittees. Dr. Dhar was the co-recipient of the 2016 Paul P. Taylor award for his systematic review evaluating effectiveness of current therapies for ECC. He recently served ADA as member, Expert Panel for ADA center for Evidence-Based Dentistry update of the Evidence-Based Clinical Recommendations for Use of Pit and Fissure Sealants. Dr. Dhar has been involved in multiple research projects and has also directed thesis work for masters' students as advisor or co-advisor. His areas of research interests are prevention of dental caries and evidence-based dentistry.

Dr. Lewis A. Kay Excellence in Education Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Homa Amini.*

This award, established in 2011, honors the director of the pediatric dental program determined to best exemplify the dedication and values set forth by Dr. Lewis A. Kay: outstanding leadership; commitment to educating pediatric dental residents to provide children with comprehensive quality oral health care; and contributions to society and the profession of dentistry which bring recognition to their program. This award is sponsored by Pediatric Dental Associates, Ltd.

Dr. Homa Amini is the program director for Advanced Education in Pediatric Dentistry and Professor of Clinical Dentistry at the Ohio State University. She also serves as the section chief for pediatric dentistry at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Her areas of interest include advocacy training and prevention of early childhood caries.

Manuel M. Album Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Timothy Wright.*

The Manuel M. Album Award is presented annually to the individual or organization that has made the greatest contribution to the oral health of children with special needs. The award, established in 1997, honors Manuel M. Album, who devoted an entire career in pediatric dentistry toward improving the oral health of children with special needs.

Wright completed his D.D.S. degree from West Virginia University and then pursued his pediatric dentistry residency and a National Institute of Health Postdoctoral Fellowship in Caries Research at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. He joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1990 and currently is the James Bawden Distinguished Professor in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and is the director of Strategic Initiatives for the UNC School of Dentistry. Wright has received numerous awards and honors including an American Dental Association Teacher Training Fellowship, the William J Gies Award from the Journal of Dental Research, and was a Robert Gorlin Visiting Professor. His research is directed at advancing our understanding of mineralized tissues and developmental defects of teeth and bone through his characterization and study of human hereditary conditions. He has had research funding from the National Institutes of Health and other organizations for his genetics studies since 1987 and has published over 200 scientific manuscripts, chapters and books. Wright has served as Chair for the American Dental Association's and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's Council on Scientific Affairs. He has served on several ADA committees providing systematic reviews on fluorides and non-fluoride caries therapeutics. Wright is a Fellow in the American Association of the Advancement of Science. Wright has an active private practice.

Awards Recognition and General Assembly Sunday, May 28

- Award Recipients recognized include: Drs. Anupama Tate, Timothy Wright, N. Sue Seale and James Coll

Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Anupama Tate.*

The Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award is presented to an AAPD volunteer who has provided exemplary leadership service in the volunteer structure of the organization over the past year. This award, established in 1998, honors the memory of Merle C. Hunter, AAPD executive director from 1968-1986.

Anupama Rao Tate, is an associate professor of pediatrics at the George Washington University School of Medicine. She is a faculty member in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Children's National Health Systems where she serves as the director of Advocacy and Research. She also is co-director of the District of Columbia Pediatric Oral Health Coalition. She is the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Healthy Smiles, Healthy Children Foundation and chairs the Grants and Program committee. She also serves on the Evidence-Based Dentistry Committee, Council of Clinical Affairs, and the Chairs the Consumer Review Committee of the AAPD. She is the Public Policy Advocate for District of Columbia for the AAPD as well as a national spokesperson of

the AAPD. In addition, she is a research fellow for the AAPD Pediatric Oral Health Research and Policy Center. She received her D.M.D. from Harvard School of Dental Medicine and her M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She received her Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry from Children's National Health Systems.

Paul P. Taylor Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Timothy Wright.*

The Paul P. Taylor award is given to the lead author of the most prestigious journal article in *Pediatric Dentistry* from the previous year. This award is determined by the AAPD Editorial Board and the AAPD Awards Committee. The Baylor Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Fund graciously supports this award.

This year's award was presented to Dr. Timothy Wright, lead author of the article, "Sealants for preventing and arresting pit-and-fissure occlusal caries in primary and permanent molars", published in the July/August issue of the journal.

Evidence-Based Dentistry Service Award: *The 2017 award recipients are Drs. N. Sue Seale and James Coll.*

The Evidence-Based Dentistry Service Award established in 2016 by the AAPD's Evidence-Based Dentistry Committee (EBDC) recognizes pediatric dentist(s) who have made a major contribution, on a national or international level, to the dental profession and the specialty of pediatric dentistry through evidence-based clinical practice, academics or policy development over the past year. Nominees are solicited from the membership and considered by the EBDC, which shall make the final selection.

Coll is a clinical professor at the University of Maryland Dental School in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a former member of the State Board of Dentistry of Pennsylvania and has been in private practice for 39 years in York, Pa. He has published numerous articles on primary tooth pulp therapy, and is a member of the Editorial Board and section editor for pulp therapy for *Pediatric Dentistry*.

Seale is a regents professor, Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Baylor College of Dentistry, Texas A&M Health Science Center in Dallas, Texas. She was chairman of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Baylor from 1986 until 2009 where she still teaches weekly. She served on the board of trustees of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry from 1999-2002, was named AAPD Pediatric Dentist of the Year in 2001 and received their Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award in 2003. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a fellow in the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. She is currently editor-in-chief of *Pediatric Dentistry* and has published 85 articles in peer-reviewed journals and mentored numerous Master's students.

President's Farewell Dinner
Sunday, May 28

- Award Recipient recognized: Dr. Paul Reggiardo

Distinguished Service Award: *The 2017 award recipient is Dr. Paul A. Reggiardo.*

The Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious award given by the AAPD. Presented only when the AAPD Board of Trustees identifies a truly worthy recipient, the award recognizes individuals who have made a major contribution, on a national or international level, over their entire career to advocacy for children, improvement of children's health or to a health profession related to children. The Miller Foundation supports this award.

Reggiardo serves the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry as chair of the Committee on Dental Benefit Programs, represents the AAPD on the American Dental Association Procedure Code Maintenance Committee, ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics, ADA Maintenance Committee of the Systematized Nomenclature of Dentistry (SNODENT), and is member of the Advisory Board to the AAPD Pediatric Oral Health Research and Policy Center. He has previously served on over 20 AAPD councils and committees, 10 as chair, and was president of AAPD in 2003-2004. From 1999 - 2003 he chaired the Task Force on Best Practice Models under a Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Partnership Grant to the AAPD and later served as the Regional Oral Health Consultant to Head Start and Early Head Start programs in California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. In 2015 he was the recipient of the AAPD Pediatric Dentist of the Year award. Reggiardo has served as president of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry and has been the state chapter's appointed Public Policy Advocate since 2014. He is twice the recipient of the CSPD Exceptional Service Recognition. In 2015 he was appointed by the California Department of Health Care Services as the sole dentist representative to the Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel, a consultative body established by the state legislature. He also currently serves on the Oral Health Program Advisory Committee to the California Department of Public Health and on the Department's Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Project Advisory Board. He is presently a member of the DHCS' Medicaid Dental Transformation Initiative Small Workgroup Advisory Panel. Reggiardo maintains a clinical practice of pediatric dentistry in Huntington Beach, California, and has held a faculty appointment as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Dental Public Health and Pediatric Dentistry at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of the University of Southern California since 1973.

About the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry is the recognized authority on children's oral health. As advocates for children's oral health, the AAPD promotes evidence-based policies and clinical guidelines; educates and informs policymakers, parents and guardians, and other health care professionals; fosters research; and provides continuing professional education for pediatric dentists and general dentists who treat children. Founded in 1947, the AAPD is a not-for-profit professional membership association

representing the specialty of pediatric dentistry. Its 10,000 members provide primary care and comprehensive dental specialty treatments for infants, children, adolescents and individuals with special health care needs. For further information, visit the AAPD website at <http://www.aapd.org> or the AAPD's consumer website at <http://www.mychildrensteeth.org>.