

THE HOTSEAT

SUMMER EDITION 2024

ORTHODONTIC DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



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LETTER FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

To all our alumni, faculty, students and staff,

The end of the academic year is here, summer has arrived, and another orthodontic residency class has completed the requirements to become Eastman orthodontists. Needless to say, all great occasions, but most importantly for our residents is that the Graduation Ceremonies occur on Friday, June 28, 2024. This celebration of their successes will lunge the senior class into a new world of full-time orthodontic practice. Judging from our assessments throughout the program I am confident that the senior group has received the necessary education to provide them a positive introduction as practicing orthodontists. Without catching a breath, we also welcomed our new resident class on June 17th and our existing first year class will now take the lead as seniors on July 1. I have been privileged to see numerous graduating classes over the years and the excitement accompanying each occasion is still as special as the first one I attended. Graduation remains a wonderful experience as one reflects on the beginning where neophytes come into the program and then complete the course to become fully fledged orthodontists; the proverbial caterpillar turning into a beautiful butterfly. Also, a satisfying observation knowing that each new orthodontist will take a piece of Eastman Orthodontics with them for guidance as they negotiate the future.



Our departmental staff, under the guidance of Linda Stauber, enthusiastically support our clinical activities. We are lucky to have such a dedicated group. Some temporary shortages exist now, but the process is in motion to recruit additional staff to enhance our administration and clinical assistance for the residents. Our residents are exposed to a diversity of malocclusions, which will not only ensure that all CODA requirements are met, but also that the experiences gained will serve them well in future practice. A testament of the high standard of our tutelage is that our senior class all passed the ABO written exam and the residents are in the process of registering to sit for the ABO

scenario-based clinical exam in September 2024. Four of the Class of 2023 as well as some members of previous years became board certified this year. A first place was awarded to our senior class for a well-treated case exhibited as part of the annual CDABO endeavor at the 2024 AAO conference. We are very proud of the contributions of our residents.

Our accomplishments are second to none! All our residents and preceptors participated in the annual AADR section event at EIOH on June 4 and again excelled with research presentations on topics including Invisalign treatment effects including that in combination with orthognathic surgery, TMJ problems, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, toothpaste effect on resin color stability and roughness, and weight related changes during treatment. Results from a paper published in the Angle Orthodontist on what happens to second molars and its management were featured in an ADA New Letter to the profession. Moreover, all the senior resident projects

were published. One preceptor and three residents defended their Master's research projects successfully and will be awarded Masters degrees and where applicable, their orthodontic certificates at the Graduation Ceremony. We will continue to provide useful material to our discipline literature.

The resident clinic is manned by a very experienced group of faculty members who oversees the clinical treatment; moreover, their presence is invaluable to the education of our residents. We recently added another, Dr. Lea Peres, who will join the existing faculty to continue enhancing the clinic teaching. In addition to the latter faculty, we also had excellent presentations by visiting faculty including Dr. Bart Iwasuik, Dr. Mark Hatala and all the way from Italy, Dr. Angelo Miraldi. In addition, recent alumni visits, accompanied by presentations, included, Dr. Walker Shivar, Dr. Pedro Santiago and Dr. Fares Alshuraim. It is our pleasure to host these alumni visits.

After recruiting for more than a year we were fortunate to appoint a superb faculty member, Dr. Nadia Abou Kheir, who will be serving as Clinic Director. Nadia is a graduate from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL and she is ABO certified. We look forward to a very successful career at EIOH for Dr. Abou Kheir

New Orleans was an exciting destination for the 2024 AAO Annual Session which included our Alumni function. Meeting with our alumni is always a much-enjoyed opportunity. I cannot thank our alumni enough for the contributions to the Subtelny Fund and Orthodontic Gifting Fund which are utilized to enhance Eastman Orthodontics.

Consider sharing some of your practice experiences with our residents either by an in-person visit or through Zoom. I look forward to hearing from you or seeing you soon at Eastman Orthodontics.

Best Regards,

Dr. P. Emile Rossouw.

A message from our Program Director, Dr. Dimitris Michelogiannakis

Dear Eastman Orthodontics family,

This past year has been one of wonderful memories and accomplishments for our Orthodontics department. We are so very proud of our graduating senior class as well as for the upcoming new seniors! Our group of faculty and staff have all worked very hard to ensure our students are well prepared for their future professional endeavors and ensuring they all become excellent orthodontists and ambassadors in our field. I am pleased to inform you that all our senior residents successfully passed the ABO Written Examination, completed and published their research projects in peer-reviewed journals, and presented at conferences such as the 2024 AAO Annual and AADOCR (Rochester Chapter) meetings. A true highlight for our program is that Eastman Orthodontics received 1st place in the 2024 Case Display of the American Board of Orthodontics (CDABO) in New Orleans, LA amongst all orthodontic programs in US/Canada! This is just one of the examples demonstrating the superb clinical and educational training our residents receive. As program director, my goal is to maintain and further grow our excellent orthodontic program. This year, we established for the first time, an ABO Mock Boards Case Display, during which seniors presented several of their clinical cases to a panel of faculty. I believe this exercise will help preserve our high clinical standards and prepare residents for the ABO Scenario-based Clinical Examination. With the addition of our new Clinical Director (Dr. Nadia Abou Kheir) in our ranks of full-time faculty, and new part-time faculty such as Dr. Leah Peres I am excited about the future of our program. I am looking forward to working with all of you and our new students as we start what I hope will be another wonderful academic year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dimitrios Michelogiannakis



We want to congratulate and acknowledge **Dr. Dimitris Michelogiannakis('17)** on the following positions and accomplishments!

Currently serves as Chair of the Section on Orthodontics (SOO) of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA).

Elected to serve as Treasurer-Secretary, of the Society of Educators (SOE) of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO).

Appointed as CODA Site Visitor for Advanced Dental Education Programs in Orthodontics.

Nominated to present in an expert panel titled: "Mentoring the mentor" at the 2024 Ravindra Nanda Educational Leadership Conference, Society of Educators meeting, American Association of Orthodontists | New Orleans, LA (May 2024).

Served as a Reviewer at the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists, North Atlantic Component annual meeting in Quebec, Canada (March 2024).

Nominated to present at the 45th EHASO Angle Biennial meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico (Oct 2023).

Recognized/elected as a "Gold Star" human subject research Principal Investigator by the Office for Human Subject Protection at the University of Rochester for a good Routine Quality Review outcome, for serving a challenging subject base, demonstrating attention to regulatory compliance/protocol adherence, demonstrating great respect for the subjects and their families, and having organized study-related documentation, investigator oversight, consenting processes, and inclusion/exclusion criteria documentation.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR CURRENT SENIOR CLASS:



Dr. Christopher Burns: Today marks a monumental achievement as our time in residency comes to an end. I have enjoyed every second of my time at Eastman and I'm forever grateful to call myself a graduate of this prestigious program. The mentorship and guidance I have received profoundly shaped my personal and professional life. The faculty have imparted invaluable knowledge, expertise, and have inspired us with their passion for orthodontics. As we celebrate this milestone, let us extend heartfelt thanks to our mentors for their time, efforts and belief in our potential. Their mentorship has been instrumental in preparing us for the challenges ahead. Congratulations to my fellow graduates on reaching this significant milestone, and may we continue to carry forward the lessons learned here at Eastman and make a positive impact in the field of orthodontics.

Dr. Atheer Ganem: During my orthodontic residency, I immersed myself in a wealth of experiences that have profoundly shaped my professional journey. From invaluable hands-on learning to memorable educational trips, each moment contributed to my growth and passion for orthodontics. I cherished the camaraderie of my fellow residents, with whom I accomplished significant milestones. Despite the warm community I found in Eastman and Rochester, I now feel drawn to return to Saudi Arabia to pursue an academic career. While I dearly missed my home and family during my time abroad, the connections I formed here will forever hold a special place in my heart.



Dr. Fraser Hart: It's hard to believe that my time at Eastman and in Rochester is already coming to a close. I'd like to thank all of the faculty and staff for their continued effort and commitment to making our program what it is today. I'll always be grateful to have had the chance to work with and learn from all of them! Also, a special thank you to my co-residents, who've become lifelong friends, for making Eastman feel like home. Along with the day-to-day, they made all the various experiences and courses throughout our time memorable. I'll miss seeing them every day, but look forward to regular reunions in the near future! After many years away, I'm looking forward to beginning my career a little closer to home in Calgary, Alberta.



Dr. Benjamin Levenson: Finally achieving the title of orthodontist is a significant milestone for me, but what I cherish most is proudly declaring myself an Eastman orthodontist. Eastman has been my home for the past two years, and I am grateful for the invaluable experience it has provided me. I extend heartfelt thanks to the dedicated faculty and alumni whose unwavering commitment to this program has enriched my journey with their knowledge and expertise. Their guidance has empowered me with the confidence to deliver exceptional patient care. I am thankful to my co-residents, who have not only been outstanding teammates but also cherished friends since day one. I eagerly anticipate staying connected with all of you in the future! Upon graduation, I am excited to announce that I will be remaining in Rochester and embarking on a new chapter as an associate in Buffalo, NY.





Dr. Stacy Rosenberg: So thankful to have spent the last two years in residency at Eastman Orthodontic Department! I realize how transformative these years have been in both my professional and personal growth. The journey has been marked by rigorous academic and clinical challenges, valuable mentorship, and profound experiences with patients. I will be forever grateful to the faculty members who shared their knowledge and experience that made such a positive impact on my training. I am looking forward to honing my skills as an orthodontist in private practice!

Dr. Cody Wiktorski: As I reflect on the past two years in Eastman's orthodontic program, I realize how much I have learned and grown. The rigorous curriculum and hands-on experience have deepened my understanding and skills in orthodontics. I am incredibly grateful to God, my family, mentors, and fellow classmates who have supported and guided me throughout this journey. Their encouragement and expertise have helped tremendously, and I am thankful for the collaborative and enriching environment they provided. I look forward to the next chapter in my life and helping positively affect my patients' lives in private practice.



OUR FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS, CLASS OF 2025



Dr. Luay Jabr's journey is truly inspiring. Born and raised in Baghdad, Iraq, he earned his BDS from the University of Baghdad. After obtaining a certificate in cosmetic dentistry from the prestigious British Academy, he pursued and completed his master's degree at Eastman in 2022 upon arriving in the USA in 2014. Dr Jabr is genuinely passionate about research and has proudly published 12 articles. In 2023, he embarked on his Orthodontic residency, a significant milestone that he confidently attributes to the unwavering support of his family. Luay is grateful for being part of the Eastman family. He describes his journey with genuine love and loyalty to his mentors. Luay enjoys traveling, sitting on the beach and meditating, exploring new areas, and learning about other cultures.

Dr. Maria-Panagiota (Maripeny) Kouskouki was born in Athens, Greece, and raised in Argos, a town in southern Greece. Coming from a family of dentists, she followed in the footsteps of her father and brother, earning her DDS degree from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. During her time as a dental student, she was part of a soccer team, learned Italian, and started playing tennis. After five years of dental school, Maripeny returned to her hometown and worked as a general dentist alongside her father. Outside the clinic, she loves playing sports, travelling, and exploring new cultures. She is honored and grateful to be part of the Eastman community, where she is specializing in Orthodontics and pursuing a Master's degree in Dental Sciences. What Maripeny enjoys most at Eastman is learning from remarkable mentors, being surrounded by wonderful people, and building lifelong friendships. While she plans to continue her orthodontic journey in the US, the possibility of returning to Greece to practice always remains open.



Dr. Eftixia (Elyssa) Rizov was born in Toronto, ON, Canada, where she attended the University of Toronto for her Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Health degrees. After shadowing in a dental office, she quickly realized that dentistry combined her passion for science and art, motivating her to pursue a career in the field. She obtained her dental degree from New York University and actively participated in various leadership roles, academic clubs, and teaching assistant positions. During her time at NYU, Dr. Rizov had the opportunity to shadow the orthodontics clinic and was inspired by her own orthodontist to pursue a residency at the Eastman Institute for Oral Health. Outside of her professional pursuits, she enjoys hiking, cycling, traveling, and spending quality time with friends and family. She feels privileged for the opportunity to learn and train as an orthodontic resident at Eastman.

Dr. Abdallah Michail; American/Jordanian, born and raised in the United Arab Emirates. Dr. Michail graduated with a DDS degree from Ajman University in 2011. He has since worked as a clinical faculty member and part-timed in private clinics. In 2020, he moved to the United States to further his education. Dr. Michail, earned a fellowship degree in community dentistry in 2021 and a certificate in advanced education in general dentistry in 2023. Currently, Abdallah is a first-year orthodontic resident, soon to be a senior. He feels fortunate to be surrounded by great leaders in orthodontics, that he looks up to. Looking ahead, he plans to work in private practice while contributing part-time to academia and teaching the next generation of dentists. In his free time, Abdallah enjoys scribbling, painting and enjoys discovering new hiking destinations.



Dr. Atoosa Pahlavani was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. She received her DDS from Azad University Dental in Tehran, Iran. After graduation she worked as a general dentist in Iran for a year and moved to Los Angeles, California to follow her dream of being an orthodontist. She completed the two years international dentist program in the University of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and graduated with honors. She worked in Los Angeles as a general dentist for almost two years. She continued her dental career by completing a GPR at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital, New York. She attended Eastman at the University of Rochester to do her MS of Dental Science along with orthodontic preceptorship, this opportunity opened the doors for her dream, and she got accepted in the orthodontic program class 2025. Atoosa is very grateful and honored for the opportunity to study orthodontics at Eastman.



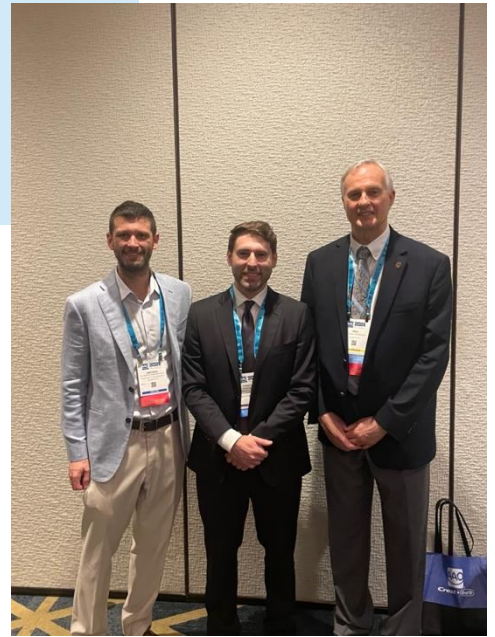
Dr. Corey Stein is originally from Syracuse, NY where he went to Fayetteville Manlius high school. He continued his education at SUNY Geneseo for his undergraduate degree prior to attending the University at Buffalo for dental school. Corey was very excited and honored to get into Eastman and he has had an amazing experience learning orthodontics and he looks forward to learning more.



Welcome to our new **Class of 2026** (from top left to lower right): **Dr. Madhuli Bhave,**
Dr. Emilie Ponton, Dr. Jack Slaymaker, Dr. Meredith Rogers, Dr. Sabrina Blaskovic, and
Dr. Luis Mendez

DEPARTMENT NEWS AND EVENTS

Senior resident **Dr. Christopher Burns** won first place at the CDABO Case Display Competition at the 2024 AAO Meeting in New Orleans.



We want to congratulate **Dr. Nadia Abou Kheir** on her new position as **Clinic Director!** Dr. Nadia Abou Kheir joined the Orthodontic Department at Eastman Institute for Oral Health in January of 2024. She finished her orthodontic residency from the University of Alabama and became American Board Certified after that. Immediately after finishing her residency, she worked as a faculty at the University of Alabama. Dr. Abou Kheir enjoys doing research on Digital Dentistry and has published several articles on the topic. Before becoming the Clinic Director at the Orthodontic Department at Eastman, she used to work in private practice in Oman. She relocated with her family to Rochester, NY. During her free time, she enjoys cooking and learning about astronomy.

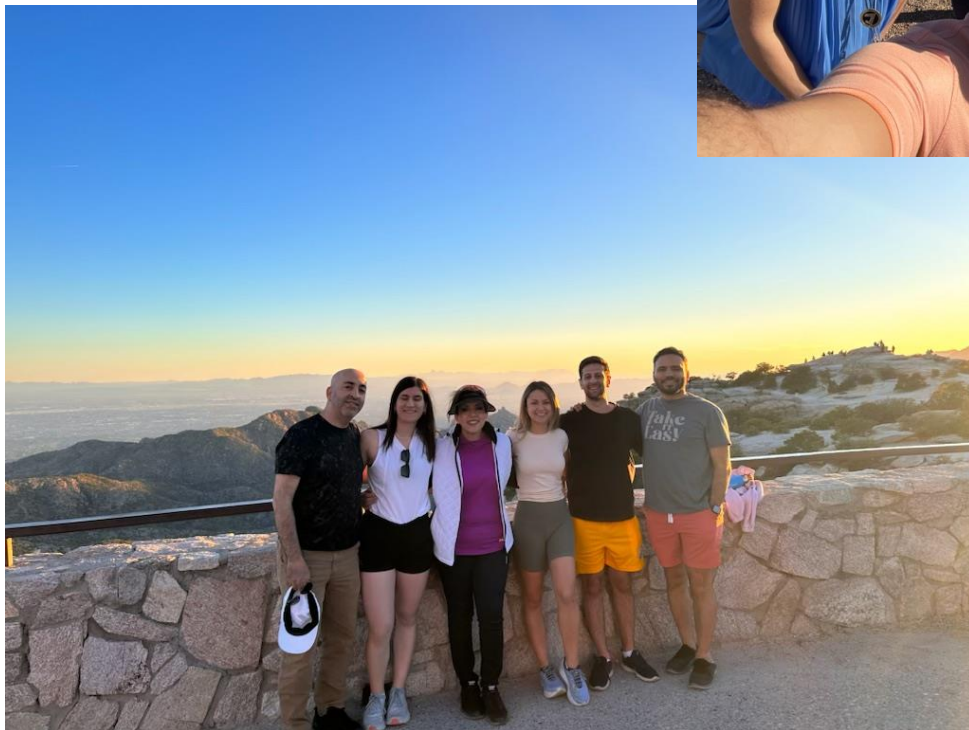


Visiting alumni: **Dr. Angelo Miraldi ('95)** gave a great lecture about the cutting-edge technologies in our field and clear aligners.



Eastman Resident BBQ at **Dr. Leah Peres'** home

Charles H. Tweed Foundation course in Tucson, AZ in 2024 with our junior residents and one of their instructors, **Dr. Francesca Pietri!** ('21)



GORP 2023 – St Louis, Missouri

Great Lakes 2023 – Buffalo, NY



The Eastman family always together at the 2024 AAO meeting in New Orleans



NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI AND EASTMAN FAMILY



Drs. Darren Morgan ('23-top left), Matthew Sawaged ('23-top right), and Daisy Salazar ('23-bottom) successfully passed the ABO Scenario-based to become ABO certified orthodontists. Congratulations doctors!



Dr. Bruce Haskell ('75) has recently had one of his papers accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of the Journal of Dental Sleep Medicine. The manuscript is titled, "A Novel Method for Pre-selectivity of Oral Appliance Palliative Pharyngeal Airway Outcomes in Obstructive Sleep Apnea: A Pilot Study."





Dr. Taylor Squires ('21), was elected as the President of the Monroe County Dental Society and will be serving a two-year term in that position!

Dr. Joel Brodsky, Dr. Ron Bellohusen, Dr Rossouw, Dr Shiva Khatami, Dr Dimitrios and Dr Hilton Wasilewsky (left to right), at the recent Angle North-Atlantic conference in Quebec City, Quebec.



Dr. Francesca Pietri ('21) was elected as the South Florida District Dental Association Secretary, she was invited to teach at the Charles Tweed Foundation course in Tucson, AZ in April of 2023, she became board-certified and she was inducted as a fellow of the Pierre Fauchard Academy!



Dr. Tim Calnon ('15) was honored at the 7th District Annual Awards Dinner and received the Frederick J. Halik Award which recognizes a new dentist for outstanding leadership and significant contributions to dentistry and the community! He was joined by his amazing wife, **Dr. Lauren Vitkus ('16)**.

Dr. Miraldi's ('95) son, Emanuele, was awarded "Best Under 16 Italian" while playing for his water polo team. Below is when their team won the Under 16 Italian Championships on August 22nd, 2023!



Dr. Joel Schacher ('80) is in the middle of his term as the President of the Ontario Association of Orthodontists (OAO). On March 8th, 2024, he was awarded a Fellowship in the International College of Dentists (ICD).

Dr. Bart Levenson ('63) is enjoying life in Sarasota, FL at the outstanding age of 91! His secret? Playing golf, tennis, exercising, and bike rides of about 25 miles per week. He is gradually adopting a plant based diet and he wishes the best to all!

Dr. Vesco ('13) was elected President of the Guatemalan Association of Orthodontists for '23-'24! He has also served as Chair of the Orthodontic Department at the San Carlos de Guatemala National University since '21.



BABIES



Congratulations to **Dr. Karthik Kommuri ('21)** and his wife Komala Rompivalasa for the birth of their youngest daughter (Ishana) seen here with her older sister, Nina!

Congratulations to **Dr. Aliaa Al-Khateeb ('21)** on her beautiful baby boy, Jad, and her soon-to-be baby girl coming July 2024!



WEDDINGS



Dr. Camille Leong ('22) and her husband Ben Maimon got married in California on October 22, 2023!

Natacha Jolene Photography



Dr. Darren Morgan got married to a beautiful OMFS resident, Dr Deepika Mann, in August 2023 in Vancouver!

Eastman Publications this year!

Wiktorski CA, Michelogiannakis D, Rossouw PE, Javed F. The Effect of Charcoal-Based Dentifrice and Conventional Whitening Toothpaste on the Color Stability and Surface Roughness of Composite Resin: A Systematic Review of In Vitro Studies. *Dent J (Basel)*. 2024 Mar 1;12(3):58. doi: 10.3390/dj12030058. PMID: 38534282; PMCID: PMC10969454.

Levenson BM, Rossouw PE, Michelogiannakis D, Javed F. Probing the antinociceptive and therapeutic potential of probiotics in managing temporomandibular joint arthritis. *J Taibah Univ Med Sci*. 2024 Feb 3;19(2):372-378. doi: 10.1016/j.jtumed.2024.01.004. PMID: 38357582; PMCID: PMC10864793.

Ganem A, Rossouw PE, Michelogiannakis D, Javed F. Antinociceptive Efficacy of Shamanic Healing for the Management of Temporomandibular Disorders: An Evidence-Based Review. *J Relig Health*. 2024 Apr;63(2):942-953. doi: 10.1007/s10943-023-01844-1. Epub 2023 Jun 3. PMID: 37269379.

Burns C, Michelogiannakis D, Ahmed ZU, Rossouw PE, Javed F. Influence of psychostimulants on bone mineral density and content among children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. A systematic review. *Bone*. 2024 Feb;179:116982. doi: 10.1016/j.bone.2023.116982. Epub 2023 Nov 24. PMID: 38006907.

Javed F, Michelogiannakis D, Rossouw PE. Editorial bullying: an exploration of acts impacting publication ethics and related environment. *Front Res Metr Anal*. 2024 Feb 21;9:1345553. doi: 10.3389/frma.2024.1345553. PMID: 38450043; PMCID: PMC10915017.

Alshuraim F, Burns C, Morgan D, Jabr L, Rossouw PE, Michelogiannakis D. The second molar dilemma in orthodontics: to bond or not to bond? *Angle Orthod*. 2024 May 1;94(3):320-327. doi: 10.2319/071223-487.1. PMID: 38195055; PMCID: PMC11050455.

Salazar D, Rossouw PE, Javed F, Michelogiannakis D. Artificial intelligence for treatment planning and soft tissue outcome prediction of orthognathic treatment: A systematic review. *J Orthod*. 2024 Jun;51(2):107-119. doi: 10.1177/14653125231203743. Epub 2023 Sep 29. PMID: 37772513.

Al-Jewair T, Michelogiannakis D, Khoo E, Prevost R. Potential Impact of Long COVID-19 on Orthodontic Treatment. *Eur J Dent*. 2024 Feb;18(1):387-391. doi: 10.1055/s-0043-1768467. Epub 2023 Jun 19. PMID: 37336480; PMCID: PMC10959594.

Kotsailidi EA, Michelogiannakis D, Barmak AB, Madianos P, Caton JG, Tsigarida A. Root coverage surgery for dentin hypersensitivity reduction: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. *Quintessence Int*. 2023 Jun 26;54(6):484-497. doi: 10.3290/j.qi.b3931397. PMID: 36853626.

We would like to thank all of our alumni and the following orthodontics companies for their support and donations to the Eastman Department of Orthodontics:

SPEED System Orthodontics

Align

Infinitas TADS

American Orthodontics

World Class Technologies

Ormco

Thank you!

We look forward to reconnecting with all our alumni and Eastman family in the near future!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have announcements to be published in the next HOTSEAT publication or if you are interested in contributing by writing, please contact Linda Stauber at linda_stauber@urmc.rochester.edu

2024 Editor: Cody Wiktorski

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