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WHAT DENTISTRY GAVE ME - AND WHAT I HOPE I GAVE BACK

Reflections on a lifetime in the profession

Dentistry has given me far more than a career.

It has given me a way to serve people, to build relationships across generations of patients, and to participate in a profession that sits at the intersection of science, craftsmanship, and human care.

When I began my journey in dentistry many decades ago, I could not have imagined how deeply the profession would shape my thinking—not only clinically, but also philosophically. Like many dentists of my generation, my early years were focused almost entirely on developing clinical competence. After completing my postgraduate training in prosthodontics at Boston University, I returned to South Africa and began what would become more than five decades of clinical practice in Johannesburg.

Clinical dentistry teaches humility very quickly.

Every patient is different.

Every case carries responsibility.

Members wishing to read the complete article submitted by long-standing SADA member Dr Gerald Kaplan, please [click here](#)

If you would like to reach out to Dr Kaplan, he can be contacted via email at gkaplan@prosthodontist.co.za or visit his website www.prodentalcoach.com

DR GEORGE WRIGHT APPOINTED DENTAL DIRECTOR OF DENTAL PROTECTION

SADA extends a warm words of welcome and sincere congratulations to Dr Wright on his appointment. His extensive background in clinical practice, education, and regulatory engagement is impressive, and we trust that he will bring strong leadership to the role.

We also take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to Dr Raj Rattan for his contribution in his former capacity and wish him every success in his new role as Global Adviser at the Medical Protection Society.

We value the ongoing relationship between Dental Protection and the South African Dental Association and look forward to continuing and strengthening our collaboration under Dr Wright's leadership.

HPCSA ANNUAL FEES

The annual fees payable by persons registered with the HPCSA are due and payable by **1 April 2026**. Kindly note that the applicable fees are:

Code	Category	Fees payable
TT	Dental Therapist	R2515
OH	Oral Hygienist	R2515
DA	Dental Assistant	R1055
SDA	Supplementary Dental Assistant	R1055
DP	Dentist and Dental Specialist	R3349

PCNS ANNUAL FEES

The PCNS annual fee for 2026 is **R443.00** for Solus Practice HPCSA Professionals and is due by **31 March**. Members may view their balance or make a payment on the PCNS website at <https://www.pcns.co.za/Payment/CheckBalance>



SADA have had a request from Smile Foundation for practitioner assistance with four cases. If you are practising in the Randfontein, Brakpan, Palmridge or Alberton areas and are able to assist please contact Belinda Long who will be able to give you full details of assistance required.

Belinda Long

P: +27 10 753 3034

E: Belinda@smilefoundationsa.org

W: smilefoundationsa.org

Yours in Oral Health

KC Makhubele

SADA Chief Executive Officer



DENTAL & ORAL HEALTH CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION

21 - 23 AUGUST 2026

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CTICC

See you in
Cape Town
South Africa



**EARLY BIRD FEES
AVAILABLE
UNTIL**



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For
more
Information



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INFO@SADA.CO.ZA



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08
Apr

SADA KwaZulu-Natal Branch - 8 April 2026 (KZN068)

08
Apr

SADA Gauteng South Branch - 8 April 2026 (GS077)

08 Apr	SADA Special General Meeting - 8 April 2026
12 Jun	SADA Mpumalanga - Accommodation ONLY Booking Skukuza (MP023)
13 Jun	SADA Mpumalanga Branch – Skukuza Mini Congress (MP023) - 13 -14 June 2026
21 Aug	2026 SADA Dental & Oral Health Congress and Exhibition
22 Aug	SADA AWARDS & GRADUAND GALA DINNER 22 August 2026



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