

Heart & Gum: Unpacking the Inflammatory Bridge Between Periodontal & Cardiovascular Disease

with **Dr. Samuel B. Low**
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Dr. Samuel B. Low DDS, MS, MEd

Professor Emeritus, University of Florida, College of Dentistry; Advisor Member of the Pankey Institute. He is past President of the American Academy of Periodontology and the Academy of Laser Dentistry. Dr. Low provides periodontists, dentists, and dental hygienists with the tools for successfully managing the periodontal patient. He was selected "Dentist of the Year" by the Florida Dental Association, Distinguished Alumnus by the University of Texas Dental School, and the Gordon Christensen Lecturer Recognition Award. He is a Past President of the Florida Dental Association and past ADA Trustee.

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SCAN TO REGISTER



Monday, October 19, 2026
7-8:30pm MST |

On-line (Zoom)

Periodontal disease and cardiovascular disease share more than a statistical association — they share overlapping inflammatory pathways that connect the mouth to systemic health. This webinar explores the biological mechanisms linking periodontitis to atherosclerosis and cardiovascular events, including the roles of systemic inflammatory mediators, bacteremia, and endothelial dysfunction.

Participants will examine the current evidence base, understand where causality is supported versus where associations remain correlative, and gain practical guidance for managing the cardiovascular patient in the dental chair — from medical history assessment to appointment and treatment modifications. The session will also introduce how chairside inflammatory screening can help clinicians identify at-risk patients earlier and integrate periodontal care into a broader model of preventive systemic health.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe the biological mechanisms linking periodontal inflammation to atherosclerotic and cardiovascular disease processes.
- Differentiate association from causation in the current periodontal–cardiovascular literature, and characterize the strength and limitations of the evidence.
- Identify shared risk factors and inflammatory mediators (e.g., CRP, IL-6, neutrophil activity) that connect periodontal and cardiovascular pathology.
- Apply practical chairside management strategies for patients with cardiovascular disease,
- Evaluate how chairside inflammatory biomarker testing (e.g., PerioMonitor) can support early identification of at-risk patients within a DSO care model.



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