

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

ADA COUNCIL ON ETHICS, BYLAWS AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

Submitted by Paul Teplitsky, DMD
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Ethics Continuing Education

1) SmileCon Scientific Sessions

At SmileCon 2025 in Washington D.C., CEBJA presented a 90-minute continuing education course entitled “Promoting Ethical Practices and Professional Integrity: Ethical Dilemmas Facing New (and Experienced) Dentists”. This course was also recorded and made available online at ADA.org via the online CE portal.

This year, at the 2026 Scientific Session in Indianapolis, CEBJA will not be providing an in-person CE course due to the reduced space available. However, we will be recording a continuing education course related to Precision Medicine and Oral Systemic Health, the topics being addressed at the 2026 Scientific Session. Once completed, the course will be made available online via the ADA CE portal and will be eligible for CE credit.

2) ADA – American College of Dentists Ethics Collaboration

The American Dental Association, through CEBJA, has entered into a collaboration agreement with the American College of Dentists to jointly create ethics programming. Two projects are currently underway:

a. “Dental Ethics 101” is a continuing education course consisting of three modules that will be presented by members of CEBJA and ACD. Each module will be eligible for one hour of continuing education credit.

b. The working title of the second project is “Dental Dilemmas, the Podcast Course”. It will consist of four recorded sessions based on podcasts produced by CEBJA, ACD, and the Student Professionalism & Ethics Association in Dentistry. These podcasts will address common ethical

dilemmas that dentists may be confronted with chairside. Each session will be eligible for one hour of continuing education credit.

Emerging Ethical issues

Recently, CEBJA developed and published two white papers on emerging ethics-related issues:

1) Ethical Considerations of Community Water Fluoridation

2) Clinical Autonomy in Dentistry – An Ethical Perspective

In addition, advisory opinions addressing clinical autonomy are being authored for inclusion in the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct.

CEBJA is also currently developing an additional white paper, tentatively entitled “Ethical Considerations of AI in the Practice of Dentistry”.

Member Conduct Policy

In response to comments from constituents and members, CEBJA has formed a task force that is reviewing the ADA Member Conduct Policy and how the process for bringing and deciding a Member Conduct Policy complaint is presented in the ADA Governance Manual.

Periodic Governance and Policy Reviews and Updates

Each term, CEBJA reviews assigned policies, portions of the ADA governance documents, the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct, and some of the statements and white papers previously authored by CEBJA to ensure that these documents remain relevant and editorially correct. Additionally, CEBJA is responsible for ensuring that all additions, deletions and revisions to the ADA Constitution and Bylaws, the ADA Governance Manual and the Code of Ethics are accurately incorporated and the documents are republished online and in print.

