



CADAT / CDAA Joint Annual Conference April 10 – 11, 2026



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Course: Xerostomia: When Things Get Dry – Recognition, Causes and Management of Dry Mouth

Course Description:

This course will cover what Xerostomia is, including its prevalence, causes and distinguishing it from salivary dysfunction. Also discussed will be the reasons to identify individuals with salivary dysfunction as well as how they are diagnosed. Management of salivary dysfunction, including palliative care, medications, infections, caries and individualized treatment will be covered.

Course Objectives:

1. How to assess the patient who complains of dry mouth
2. Discuss the importance of identifying affected individuals
3. Explore current management strategies.

Speaker Bio

Dr Ava Wu is a clinical professor at University of California, Berkeley.

University of California, Berkeley	AB	06/1982	Social Welfare
University of California, San Francisco	DDS	06/1986	Dentistry
Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center (Residency)	Certificate	06/1987	Dentistry
Veterans Administration Medical Center, St Louis, MO (Residency)	Certificate	06/1988	Dentistry
Clinical Investigations and Patient Care Branch, National Institute of Dental Research, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD	Certificate	06/1994	Clinical Research/Oral Medicine



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Department of Microbiology and
Immunology, Stanford University School
of Medicine (Postdoctoral Fellow, Hugh
O. McDevitt, MD)

Post-doc 06/2000 Immunology

B. Positions and Honors

Positions and Employment

- 2022-2024 Treasurer, Sjogren's Foundation, Executive Committee
2019-present Professor, University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry
2018-2024 Board Member, Sjögren's Foundation, Board of Directors, Reston, VA
2012-present Development of National Guidelines for the Management of Dry Mouth,
Committee Member
2000-2004 Visiting Scientist, Stanford University School of Medicine, Department of
Microbiology and Immunology, Stanford, CA
1997-2000 Post-doctoral Fellow, Stanford University School of Medicine, Department
of Microbiology and Immunology, Stanford, CA
1988-1990 Dentistry, General Dentistry, Private Practice, St. Louis, MO
1994-1995 Senior Staff Dentist, National Institute of Dental Research, National
Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD
1996-2000 Assistant Clinical Professor (20-25% effort), Department of Stomatology,
University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry, San
Francisco, CA
2000-2005 Associate Clinical Professor (20-25% effort), Department of Stomatology,
University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry, San
Francisco, CA
2005-2007 Health Sciences Clinical Professor (35% effort), Orofacial Sciences,
University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry, San
Francisco, CA
2007-present Health Sciences Clinical Professor (10-50% effort from 2007 to 2024.
Currently 35%), Orofacial Sciences, University of California, San
Francisco, School of Dentistry, San Francisco, CA

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

- 2012-present Committee Member, Development of National Guidelines for the
Management of Dry Mouth

C. Selected Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. Kaplan M, Wu AJ, Baum BJ, Fox PC. Clinical Assessment of Salivary Function.
Proceedings of a Conference Held at the Pan American Health Organization; 1992 May
26-29; Washington, D.C. 153-158; 1993, (other referred article)
2. Baum BJ, Ship JA, Wu AJ. Salivary Gland Function and Aging: A Model for Studying
the Interaction of Aging and Systemic Disease. CRC Crit Rev Oral Biol Med 4:53-64:
1992. (other referred article)



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3. Wu AJ, Ship JA. A Characterization of Major Salivary Gland Flow Rates in the Presence of Medications and Systemic Diseases. *Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol* 76;301-306: 1993. (original article)
4. Wu AJ, Atkinson JC, Fox PC, Baum BJ, Ship JA. Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Analyses of Stimulated Parotid Salivary Constituents. *J Gerontol* 48;M219-M224: 1993. (original article)
5. Streckfus CF, Wu AJ, Ship JA. Stimulated Parotid Salivary Flow Rates in Normotensive, Hypertensive and Hydrochlorothiazide Medicated African-Americans. *J Oral Pathol Med* 23;280-283: 1994. (original article)
6. Streckfus CF, Wu AJ, Ship JA, Brown LJ. Comparison of Stimulated Parotid Salivary Gland Flow Rates in Normotensive and Hypertensive Persons. *Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol* 77;615-619; 1994.(original article)
7. Wu AJ, Kurrasch RH, Katz J, Fox PC, Baum BJ, Atkinson JC. The Effect of Tumor Necrosis Factor- α and Interferon- γ on the Growth of a Human Salivary Gland Cell Line. *J Cell Physiol* 161;217-226: 1994.(original article)
8. Wu AJ, Fox PC. Sjögren's Syndrome. *Semin Dermatol* 13;138-143:1994. (other referred article)
9. Atkinson JC, Wu AJ. Salivary Gland Dysfunction. *J Am Dent Assoc* 125;409-416: 1994. (other referred article)
10. Kurrasch RH, Wu AJ, Fox PC. Oral Disease Associated with Dry Eyes. *Int Ophthalmol Clin* 34;89-100: 1994. (other referred article)
11. Wu AJ, Baum BJ, Ship JA. Extended Stimulated Parotid and Submandibular Secretion in a Healthy, Young and Old Population. *J Gerontology* 50;M45-48: 1995. (original article)
12. Wu AJ, Chen ZJ, Tsokos M, O'Connell BC, Ambudkar IS, Baum BJ. Interferon- γ Induces Cell Death in a Human Salivary Gland Cell Line. *J Cell Physiol* 167;297-304: 1996. (original article)
13. Wu AJ, Chen ZJ, Baum BJ, Ambudkar IS. Interferon- γ Induces Depletion of Intracellular Ca^{2+} Pools and Inhibits Cell Proliferation of a Human Salivary Gland Cell Line. *Am J Physiol* 270 (Cell Physiol.39);C514-C521: 1996. (original article)
14. Wu AJ, Lafrenie R, Chan P, Chen ZJ, Apinhasmit W, Birkedal-Hansen H, Yamada K, Stetler-Stevenson Wm, Baum BJ. Matrix Metalloproteinases in Sjögren's Syndrome. *J Cell Physiol* 171;117-124: 1997. (original article)