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NEW ORLEANS DENTAL ASSOCIATION

NODA News

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish and maintain a cohesive organization that serves its membership by promoting the art, science, and professionalism of dentistry, and by communicating the value of oral health to the community.

VOL. 38 JANUARY '00 NO. 1

February is Children's Dental Health Month

Dr. Richard Ballard and Dr. Kevin Lacour will direct NODA's sponsorship of National Children's Dental Health Month February 1-29 in New Orleans and surrounding areas.

Now in its 51st year, the project is a major public service activity of the ADA and its constituent and component chapters.

The NODA committee has been working since November on a wide-ranging program of events designed to emphasize the importance of lifetime dental care.

NODA members traditionally join in through the "Adopt-a-School" program. Members are urged to call or write a school near their homes or offices and volunteer to make a talk to students.

Members can pick up a wealth of posters and informational handouts by calling the NODA Central Office at 834-6449.

Supplementing the efforts by individual dentists is an extensive program of organized events. Those with definite dates at this writing include:

■ Jan. 13, 9 a.m. Annual Seminar for Teachers and School Nurses at LSU Dental School. Pediatric residents and hygienists will speak. Door prizes and refreshments for participants.

■ Feb. 1, 9 a.m. Official Opening at Louisiana Children's Hospital.

■ Feb. 5 - Dental Health Booth and Display at Lakeside Mall, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

(Continued on Page 3)

JANUARY 19 MEETING

DR. SADAN ON IMPLANTS

BY F. THOMAS GIACONA, DDS

Happy New Millennium!!! Hope your lights are still on and your computer was compatible! Please join us on Wednesday, January 19 in Auditorium A at LSUSD for the next NODA General Meeting.

The business meeting will start at 7 p.m. followed by an hour of *Aesthetics and Implants* by LSUSD's Dr. Avishai Sadan.

Dr. Sadan will discuss and present cases involving the complexities of providing a patient with the best in implant aesthetics. This is again a great opportunity to start the year 2000 with an hour of quality clinical continuing education and join your friends and colleagues for post-meeting snacks and libations.

As always, a drawing for a \$50 dues rebate will be held at the end of the presentation (winner must be present) and, your name will be kept for the end-of-the-year drawing for a full year's dues rebate.

Special thanks to this month's sponsor,

**DR. SADAN**

SULLIVAN-SCHEIN DENTAL SUPPLY. Please stop and talk to their representatives before and after the meeting. See you on the 19th!

What's Your Opinion?

In an effort to encourage more discussion among NODA members on current topics in dentistry, NODA News is inaugurating a "What's Your Opinion?" feature. Mail your views to: Editors, NODA News, Suite 470, 2820 Napoleon Ave., New Orleans, LA 70115.

Our first question is: "What's your opinion of the proposed rule allowing dental hygienists to practice with the supervising dentist off the premises?"

Let us hear from you.

President's Message

by GUY A. RIBANDO, DDS

ACCOLADES TO TWO NODA GROUPS

The ALLIANCE! *How much do we need you!*

At a recent NODA meeting the president of the Alliance to NODA gave a presentation of "spit tobacco" and its effects on the oral cavity. It was a brief but very interesting presentation using "Dipper Dan," a mannequin to illustrate the effects of oral cancer.

Mrs. Gwen Giacona, the current president, also presented a check to the Well-Being Committee in the amount of \$500. This money is to help the chairperson, Dr. Jamie Manders, to further her work on the state level in helping impaired dentists get back on track in their personal and professional lives.

These are two subjects that most of us don't know much about or even have the proper interest:

- 1) The Well-Being Committee and
- 2) The Alliance to NODA.

I think that both are so important they need to be brought to the forefront of our considerations. I'll only talk about the Alliance in this message and leave the other subject for another article.

My wife Diane has been a member of the NODA Alliance for as long as I have been a dentist and this has helped our practice in so many ways. One of the most effective things she has done is to be an advocate for dental care in our community, especially in the local schools.

She has been a part of my practice that has always been positive. Whenever we go to any meetings involving dentistry she has always been there and the office has picked up her dues and expenses, which is perfectly legal.

I think that the dental spouse needs to have some involvement in our professional lives to understand why and how we as dentists operate the way we do, and the stresses and involve-

ment necessary to run a profession. My two daughters, being dentists, have gotten their spouses involved. One spouse is an attorney and the other a social psychologist. They, too, have made a contribution to our profession.

The Alliance is looking for dental spouses to get involved in helping the profession as well as their practicing husbands and wives. There is a great need to get newer spouses into the organization as new members bring renewed vitality and vigor. These people need our help in increasing their numbers.

The Alliance some years ago gave \$5,000 to the Well-Being Committee and has contributed to it every year since. They have always helped with the Dental Conference and have contributed greatly to its success over the years. Their presence has been felt in the Children's Dental Health area as well as other projects too numerous to mention.

We should all encourage our spouses to join the Alliance for themselves, for ourselves and for the profession. We need them in many ways.

Finally, as we start the YEAR 2000, I wish you all a blessed, successful and prosperous coming year. I look forward to a healthier, stronger, more cohesive organization that will work for the betterment of our profession.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*Guy Ribando, DDS
President*

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Plan your NODA year

NODA GENERAL ELECTION MEETING and NEW MEMBER DINNER

Wed., Feb. 16, 2000 – Carlone's Restaurant
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NODA INSTALLATION DINNER

Sat., March 18, 2000 – 7:00 pm

Pontchartrain Center

Dr. James Roethel

TABLE CLINIC COMPETITION

LSUSD ALUMNI DAY

Friday, March 31, 2000 – LSUSD

Table Clinics start at Noon

NODA CRAWFISH BOIL

Fri., April 28, 2000 – 7:00 pm

American Legion Home

(RSVP required)

NODA GENERAL MEETING

Wed., May 17, 2000 – LSUSD – 7:00 pm

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NODA News is published every month with the exception of June and August. Deadline for ads and editorial material is the 5th of the month preceding publication. Ads and news should be sent to Dr. Kristi Soileau, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115.

NODA News is a publication of the New Orleans Dental Assn., 2121 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 153, Metairie, LA 70001. Phone (504) 834-6449.



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CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH

(Continued from Page 1)

■ Feb. 8 & 10 - Alliance of NODA display and informational program for visiting children at LSU Dental School from 9-12 noon.

■ Feb. 15-16 - Repeat of Alliance program for additional children.

Many other activities and projects highlight the month-long effort.

These include "Dental Health Night" at a New Orleans Brass hockey game at the new New Orleans Arena. (Date to be set.) Happy Tooth, the larger than life-size figure, will appear at many events.

Spot announcements will appear on television stations and on the 20 screens of the Palace Theater complex. Signs have been arranged on the sides of 38 city buses throughout the month.

There will be proclamations by Governor Foster and Mayor Morial designating February as Children's Dental Health Month. Other sponsorships are still in the arrangements stage at this writing.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS

Anyone knowing of any dentist who has made a significant contribution, gained an elective or appointive office, written an article, delivered a paper, or rendered unusual public service, please call or write Dr. Kristi Soileau, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115. Phone: 899-2255.

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DENTISTRY ON A NAVAJO RESERVATION

(Dr. Ernie Tarantino, former NODA member, recently wrote Dr. Chris Brown about his work as director of the dental department at Sage Memorial Hospital on the Navajo Indian Reservation in Ganado, Arizona, including the need for dentists there. This article is condensed from Dr. Tarantino's letter.)

BY ERNEST TARANTINO, DDS, M.Ed.

Although Sage is not for everyone, it's perfect for some. Mostly, when people have experienced living on the reservation and have experienced our kind of dental practice, they think that professionally this is the best thing they've ever done. I certainly fit into this category.

Ganado is a very remote and rural small village in the middle of the Navajo Reservation. Facilities include several small stores handling everyday supplies, gas, deli items, etc. There are several churches including the Presbyterian church the mission centered around when this was primarily a mission. There are Catholic, Baptist, Mormon, among others.

Schools include Primary, Intermediate, Middle, and High Schools. These are excellent schools. The Primary was chosen best school in Arizona last year and fifth best in the country.

Shopping is done in Window Rock (28 miles east) and Gallup (60 miles east). Flagstaff is about 120 miles west and is my favorite place for shopping.

Within 4 hours' drive there are 11 ski resorts, unlimited backpacking, white water rafting, endless sight-seeing, and several large cities. The climate is high desert with summer highs in the mid 80's occasionally to the low 90's (unusual) during the day and summer lows in the 50's and high 40's.

Winters can get chilly with lows in the single digits but warming rapidly to the 50's during the day. Elevation is about 6,300 feet and annual rainfall is on the order of 10 to 12 inches. Snow is an occasional blessing.

The Navajo People are accepting of the providers and we have an excellent rapport with them. My wife and I have made many Navajo friends.

Our clinic can best be described as busy. We have one main clinic with 8 treatment rooms and 2 remote clinics with 2 rooms each. We have a variety of contracts that we service including IHS (Indian Health Service), AHC-CCS (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System - the state's Medicaid system), several PPO's, and many private patients. We do emergency care and basic restorative services on the IHS contract but all other services on the other contracts. Sage has opened a surgery suite with dental as an integral part.

We have been using this facility for two years and it is a dream come true for us. Equipment is state-of-the-art and is well stocked for all sorts of procedures. We have done well over 200 cases in the operating room. These include children, dental phobics, and handicapped people.

As far as salary, we have made some forward movement in the last year and our salary structure has become competitive. The starting salary range is presently \$85,000.00 to \$130,000.00 depending on experience, plus 30% of excess production.

The hospital pays malpractice insurance for all providers and provides inexpensive life insurance if you so desire. There is a three-to-one retirement plan for protecting some of your income but there is a percentage limit on how much the hospital will match. The rent for housing is taken out of pre-taxed salary so you don't have to pay taxes on that particular income. The hospital provides first-dollar coverage health insurance for a very reasonable

rate and we are in the same group as several nearby hospitals so there is some choice as to who provides your medical care.

We allow \$1,500.00 per year for CE requirements and association dues can be paid from this fund. You are also allowed some education leave to accomplish yearly requirements. The hospital allows 21 days a year paid time off and this number increases with longevity. There is a moving allowance that will help in the cost of the move to Ganado. Additionally, there are other benefits that are better explained in person.

It is not possible to buy or rent land on the Navajo Reservation so all of the Non-Navajos are required to live on the hospital compound or in the nearby community of Gallup. Gallup is really too far away, so most live right here. The housing is old and small but in many ways quite charming. Rents vary but mostly are in the range of \$100 to \$150 per month with utilities being about \$50 or less.

The only way to appreciate Ganado and Sage is to visit and meet the co-workers. Anyone interested is invited to call Ernest Tarantino, D.D.S., M.Ed., Dental Director, Sage Memorial Hospital, (520) 755-3411 ext. 283.



Adopt a School in February

Here's a way you can play a part in National Children's Dental Health Month.

Call a school near your office or home. Offer to give a talk on teeth, nutrition, dental accidents, etc. If they ask, suggest the second or third grade. (Some schools may want to combine a couple of grades, or even include the whole school.)

Call the NODA Central Office (834-6791) to learn where you can pick up a packet of posters or other material to leave at the school. You may know a detail man who might supply you with other material - maybe even toothbrushes to give away.

If you know someone in a Parents Club, there's another speaking opportunity.

Seven doses of reality on implant therapy

Fascination with osseointegrated dental implants has grown since their introduction in the early 1980s, but there are frustrations in the field, according to an article in the August 1999 Florida Dental Association journal *Today's FDA*.

Author Michael Toffler, DDS, offers some insights on his 13 years of experience in implant surgery.

"No other surgical discipline can reward the clinician with as much personal and professional satisfaction," he says. However, he says there is need for more dialogue in the field. "More of us should recognize and share our implant complications, failures and frustrations. This would better prepare the clinician and patient, and would improve the success rate of complex cases."

In the article, Toffler offers seven items for clinicians to consider:

1. Don't grant every patient's request for implants. Some exclusion criteria are: systemic medical conditions that affect healing, psychological problems that inhibit proper maintenance, unrealistic esthetic expectations, drug or

alcohol abuse, and unwillingness to commit to post-therapy maintenance programs.

2. Implant therapy has a steep learning curve. Inexperienced clinicians should keep treatment simple and select patients with good bone quality and quantity in non-esthetic areas. As expertise and confidence grow, more compromised sites are treated.

3. The most challenging cases are in the esthetic zone. The premaxilla is the most critical region of the mouth for tooth replacement because of esthetic, phonetic and functional considerations. The patient must be informed that the treatment time, costs, and patient-compliance requirements are generally higher for an implant-supported restoration than for a conventional or adhesive-fixed prosthesis in the esthetic zone.

4. Develop a routinely followed risk-management protocol that includes: an initial evaluation to establish rapport; proper diagnosis and treatment planning exploring all treatment options; a detailed and signed patient consent; defined treatment limitations; discussing the patient's responsibility; and a defined re-treatment policy.

5. All cases should be over-engineered. Toffler says this is not implant manufacturer propaganda but insurance against prosthetic failure. Placing one or two additional implants to support a prosthesis does little to increase surgical time and costs and may be more cost-effective than replacing a failed prosthesis or implant.

6. Implants will fail in a limited number of patients. Implant failure can be caused by poor oral hygiene, biomechanical factors, poor bone quality and the patient's medical status, among other reasons. Even with long-term implant success rates of 95 percent in completely edentulous patients, 5 percent of implants can be expected to fail.

7. Continued education, further research and an open exchange of clinical successes and failures are essential to implant evolution. Toffler says the field of implant dentistry is developing rapidly, as it has done over the last 20-25 years, and dentists must continue to learn, improve and refine clinical procedures and openly discuss successes and failures.

(From the ADA)

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Nominating Committee reports

The Nominating Committee of the New Orleans Dental Association has announced its slate of candidates for 2000-2001 officers and Board of Governors, according to Dr. James D. Roethle, committee chairman.

Dr. Carol Stuckey has been nominated as president-elect. Dr. Roethle will assume the presidency at the annual Installation Dinner Saturday, March 18 at the Pontchartrain Center.

The election meeting will take place Wednesday, February 16 at Carlone's Restaurant. Additional nominations can be made from the floor if the members so choose.

Nominee are:

President Elect: Dr. Carol Stuckey

First Vice President: Dr. Tom Giacona

Second Vice President: Dr. Dave Hildebrandt

Treasurer 2000-2001: Dr. Sandra Catchings
Board of Governors

Dr. George Cerniglia, '00-'01

Dr. Garry Salvaggio, '00-'01-'02

Director to LDA

Dr. Chris Brown '00-'01

Alternate Director to ADA:

Dr. Anthea Grogono '00-'02

Delegates to the LDA Annual Session will include the above and Dr. Richard Ballard, Dr. Guy Ribando, Dr. Shannon Simons, Dr. Byron Ganucheau, Dr. Jeff Leeson, Dr. Laurie Moeller, Dr. Joseph Campo, Dr. Harold Kennedy, Dr. Tom McCoy, Dr. Brad Bradford, Dr. Tom Murphy, Dr. Rob Beyer and Dr. Glenn Dubroc.

Dr. Guy Ribando will be a member of the Board of Governors as immediate past president.

Stress may increase risk of perio disease

Stress may increase individuals' risk of contracting periodontal disease, according to a study published in the July issue of the *Journal of Periodontology*.

Drs. R. J. Genco, A. W. Ho, S.G. Rossi, R. G. Dunford, and L. A. Tedesco found that high psychosocial measures of stress associated with financial strain and distress manifested as depression were significant risk indicators for more severe periodontal disease in adults.

Other significant risk factors included gender (male), smoking, diabetes mellitus, *B. forsythus*, and *P. gingivalis* infection.

Adequate coping behaviors were found to

moderate the effects of stress on risk of disease. Individuals with high financial strain and emotion-focused (inadequate) coping mechanisms had a higher risk of severe attachment loss and alveolar bone loss than those with low levels of financial strain in the same group.

Subjects who reported high levels of problem-based (adequate) coping mechanisms demonstrated risk equal to subjects with low financial strain.

The New York-based study involved 1,426 subjects between the ages of 26 and 74 years.

(From the ADA)

ATTENTION, NODA MEMBERS

Dentists are advised to be alert if called by an out-of-state supplier stating that Monoject would suspend production and urging that an order be placed ASAP in order to have this product on hand.

A NODA dentist who placed an order with the calling company reports that the product arrived with a price considerably in excess of the price quoted.

"As we try to correct this problem," the dentist told *NODA News*, "we have been hung up on, yelled at and told they will not credit us. He added he was told, "we will just waste our money on shipping."

The dentist says he will be shipping the product back to a P.O. box "since this is the only number we have." He said he could not obtain any listing with information in the city listed by the company and was unsuccessful when using an 800 number.

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NOTICE

The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 repeals IRC Section 415(e) effective for plan limitation years beginning after December 31, 1999.

This change will enable an individual (or corporation) to fund for the maximum benefit in a qualified defined benefit pension plan even though such participant may have in the past contributed the maximum to a profit sharing and or money purchase plan. As a result, beginning January 1st 2000, individuals over age 50 will be able to contribute a much larger amount to a defined benefit plan than to one or more defined contribution plans.

No charge for initial consultation.



NODA PROFILE

NODA News continues a series of profiles of members of all ages and various lengths of membership in the Association. You may be next! Dentists are selected at random.

Dr. Griffin: A tradition of dentistry

It didn't take long for Ina Griffin to decide on her area of specialization. "Almost from my first course in endodontics, my mind was made up," she recalls.

Actually, Dr. Griffin's interest in dentistry goes back much further. "At age 10 I was assisting in a dental office, emptying waste baskets and such. As I got older, I progressed to preparing treatment trays," she remembers.

Her late father, Dr. M. L. Griffin, Jr., practiced general dentistry in Hattiesburg, MS for 36 years. Her brother, Dr. M. L. Griffin, III, practices there today.

A board-certified endodontist, Dr. Ina Griffin in partnership with Dr. Catherine Hebert has practiced since 1997 in Mandeville, LA, specifically at 4600 Highway 22, Suite 4.

After graduation from J. A. Beeson Academy in Hattiesburg, she entered University of Southern Mississippi where she earned her BS



DR. GRIFFIN

with a major in biology and minor in chemistry in 1977. Then came the University of Mississippi Dental School ("I was in the third dental class.") for her DMD in 1981.

This was followed by a fellowship in dental oncology at the U. of Alabama in Birmingham under the sponsorship of the American Cancer Society.

She became a resident in endodontics at LSU, graduating in 1984. She returned to Hattiesburg for nine years of endodontic practice. Meanwhile, she prepared for her Diplomate from the American Board of Endodontics which she received in 1987.

Dr. Griffin returned to New Orleans to prac-

tice in the office of Drs. William Wayman, Carolyn Kerr and Linda Leger until 1997 when she formed the Endodontic Center with her dear friend, Dr. Hebert.

The personable dentist is a lady of many interests. She lists some: "growing roses, sewing, knitting, cooking, reading, watercolor painting, freshwater fishing, Middle Eastern belly dancing."

Middle Eastern belly dancing?

"It's highly recommended to improve neck and abdomen strength, especially for dentists who use a microscope extensively," says Dr. Griffin. "It helps prevent the chronic back pain that plagues so many dentists."

Dr. Griffin is married to Jim Starnes, a senior program analyst with Peoples Health Network in Kenner. They are the parents of a son, Michael, a kindergarten student in Mandeville.

A vivacious person, Dr. Griffin says, "there is no more important career than motherhood." But she remains enthusiastic about her work in dentistry.

"This is a very exciting time in endodontics," she points out, "with the microscope, digital radiology, warm condensation techniques, rotary instrumentation, and so on."

She and Dr. Hebert are in the midst of converting to a "paperless office." When does she rest?

ADA recognizes new specialty

The American Dental Association's House of Delegates has voted to recognize Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology as a dental specialty.

It is the first specialty recognized by the ADA's House in 36 years.

The oral and maxillofacial radiologists have additional education and training in interpreting radiographs (x-rays) and other imaging technologies, including computed tomographic investigations (CT scans) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRIs), as well as digital enhancement and analysis.

The specialists will be able to assist general dentists and other oral health specialists in the diagnostic assessments of a range of diseases in the head and neck.

The oral and maxillofacial radiologists also use enhanced imaging techniques for other diagnostic purposes, e.g., locate tumors, temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorders, infectious diseases of the jaw, and in trauma cases.

They also provide advice in regulatory compliance to state agencies, as well as to the dental profession, in the use and advances in radiologic technology.

There are 112 board-certified oral and maxillofacial radiologists, according to the AAOMR. They are located across the country and many of them are affiliated with dental schools. Most requests for radiology services come from referrals from dentists and physicians.

(From the ADA)



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Kristi Soileau, David DeGenova, Editors

Continuing Education Corner

In an effort to keep you informed about available C.E. opportunities at the LSU School of Dentistry, this area will be devoted to informational updates.

DATE	2000	COURSE / TITLE		TUITION
January 14-16, 2000	February 18-20, 2000	March 17-19, 2000		
	"Cosmetic Dentistry Continuum-Level I"	76 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$5,495.00*
	w/Drs. Eubank, Morley, Mopper, Chiche		Aux.	\$ 995.00*
	Lemon, Willhite, Burgess, Levin and Mike Bellerino, CDT			
			*covers all three (3) Sessions	
January 22	"Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries"	07 cr. hrs.	Auxiliary	\$ 120.00
	w/Drs. Thunthy & Hubar			
February 9-13	"23rd Annual Perio Review Course"		5-day	\$1,195.00
	w/Drs. Yukna, Caudill, et al		3-day	\$ 895.00
February 13	"Oral Medicine" w/Dr. Michael Glick	06 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 165.00
			Auxiliary	\$ 85.00
March 24	"Rational Comprehensive Dentistry"	07 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 195.00
	w/Dr. Teri Icyda		Auxiliary	\$ 95.00
March 24-26	"Expanded Duty Dental Assistant" w/k/a "EDDA"		Auxiliary	\$ 369.00
	w/Ms. Dottie Austin			
March 31	"ALUMNI DAY" featuring Drs. Burgess	07 cr. hrs.	DDS	\$ 65.00
	Chiche, Dederich, Germain, Lemon		Auxiliaries	\$ 45.00
	and Table Clinics			
March 31 -	"Choosing the Box"	25 cr. hrs.	DDS	*\$3,950.00
April 3	w/Drs. Jimmy Eubank & Jeff Morley		*Includes one Auxiliary w/DDS	
			Each add'l Auxiliary \$ 350.00	

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Web Site: www.lsusd.lsumc.edu/ce

& Satellite opportunities. FERRIDAY-50% Buy In. LAKE CHARLES-Gross \$280K. Need Baton Rouge/Metairie Sellers, We Have Purchasers! Call Geoff Iles, AFTCO ASSOCIATES at (800)-654-4778.

STAFF TRAINING: Due to a tremendous response, this one-on-one Scheduling and Accounts Receivable Workshop will again be held in Baton Rouge. Learn

how to be more effective in scheduling, selling treatment and collecting fees. Call to reserve your space today! References available. 1-800-928-9289 ext. 11. Doctors and hygienists earn seven C.E. credits.

(Classified ads are \$25 each. Send ads and checks to Dr. Kristi Soileau's office, 2820 Napoleon Ave., Suite 470, New Orleans, LA 70115.)

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