

**University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry  
124th Annual Alumni Meeting – 2023 Alumni Weekend  
37<sup>th</sup> Frederick T. West Orthodontics Lectureship  
The Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco**

**Catherine Flaitz, DDS, MS**

Friday, February 24, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm – 3 CE units

**Subject Area:** Oral Pathologist/Pedodontist

**Title: “Can’t Stop the Feeling and Nothing Helps! Symptomatic Oral Lesions in Adolescents and Adults”**

**Course Description:**

My mouth is driving me crazy! These symptomatic oral lesions are a common complaint among patients. The latest updates on common mucosal lesions are discussed, along with new conditions, such as post-COVID-19 syndrome. The emphasis is on the causes, questions to ask, clinical presentation, important tests, and helpful management approaches. Potential connections to habits, medications, allergies, or underlying diseases are highlighted. Treatment options range from evidence-based prescription medications to practical over-the-counter products. Your patients will sing your praises for detecting and alleviating uncomfortable feelings in the mouth.

**Objectives:**

- 1) Identify common symptomatic oral lesions, including atypical presentations.
- 2) Discover new causes and facts about these common oral conditions.
- 3) Learn about the oral diseases associated with post-COVID 19.
- 4) Select the best treatment options tailored to the individual.

Friday, February 24, 2023

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm – 3 CE units

**Title: “Always on My Mind – A Round-up of Common Oral Lumps and Bumps and Important Mimickers”**

**Course Description:**

It is hard to take the time to remember all those oral diseases because the variety is great, and the frequency is moderately low-to-rare with few exceptions. This course uses a systematic format for diagnosing soft tissue enlargements that occur in the oral cavity. These tumor and tumor-like conditions are grouped according to common clinical features that are easy to identify for comparison and range from the classic soft tissue abscess to malignant disease with several newly described entities thrown into the mix. For many of the familiar lesions, important impostors are identified that have similar clinical features, but very different treatment approaches and outcomes. The goal is to emphasize the key characteristics and red flags so when it is really matters, these lesions will stand out in your mind, and you get them out the door.

**Objectives:**

- 1) Diagnose common and important soft tissue enlargements in adolescents and adults.
- 2) Develop a working diagnosis for oral lesions based on historical and visual clues.
- 3) Select the appropriate management approach for best outcomes.
- 4) Recognize more serious signs and symptoms that mimic common oral lesions but require immediate attention.

**Short Bio:**

Catherine Flaitz, DDS, MS, is clinical professor and chair, Division of Diagnostic Sciences, University of Colorado Anschutz School of Dental Medicine. In addition, she is the dental school liaison for the Center for Bioethics and Humanities University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Flaitz earned her dental degree from Creighton University and received specialty certification and MS degree in pediatric dentistry, followed by specialty certification in oral and maxillofacial pathology from The University of Iowa College of Dentistry. She participates on multiple editorial boards, including section editor for Pediatric Dentistry and the Journal of the American Dental Association. Presently, she is vice president, American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, and serves on the Clinical Investigation and Abstract Committee, American Academy of Oral Medicine and consultant, Council of Clinical Affairs, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Some of her honors include recipient of the University of Texas at Houston President's Scholar Award for Teaching Excellence and the Texas Dentist of the Year, through the Texas Academy of General Dentistry. Recently, she was selected as the recipient of the 2022 Honorary Fellowship from the American Academy of Oral Medicine. Dr. Flaitz is a prolific author including two color atlases on oral diseases. She maintains a consultation service for both children and adults, who have a wide range of oral diseases. She enthusiastically shares her clinical experiences and passion for teaching in a practical way.

[Dr. Catherine Flaitz](#)