Internal derangements of the TMJ are frequently a significant factor in the etiology of painful dysfunction of the jaw and associated clinical symptoms. The goals and objectives of this symposium are to provide clinically relevant information, which doctors and staff can put to immediate use in their respective practices to improve patient outcomes. Effective clinical management is exceedingly important because of the potential for progression to advanced degenerative states.

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MAIN SCIENTIFIC SESSION SPEAKERS:

RONALD C. AUVENSHINE, DDS, PhD, established the first TMD/Orofacial Pain Clinic at LSU Medical Center and now serves on the Council of Membership for the American Dental Association. A graduate of Emory School of Dentistry, Dr. Auvenshine earned his PhD in Human Anatomy from LSU Medical School. He lectures nationally and internationally, and serves on the editorial board of the Journal of the Texas Dental Association. Founder and Director of the Orofacial Pain Clinic at DeBakey V.A. Hospital in Houston, Dr. Auvenshine has been an AACP member since 1999.

PROF. MARIANO ROCABADO, DPT, is Director of the doctorate program in Physical Therapy at the University Andres Bellow in Santiago, LC, Chile. He earned his doctorate in physical therapy, specializing in Orthopaedic Manual Therapy, from the University San Augustin, FL. Past-President of the Academy of Cranioandibulares Disorders of Chile, Prof. Rocabado is an honorary member of the Society of Ortodoncia of Chile and the Brazilian Academy of Fisiopatologia Orocervical. He was presented with an Honorary Diplomate by the AACP in 2000.

EDWIN A. ERNEST, III, DMD, has published several seminal papers on musculoskeletal disorders of the head and neck that are benchmarks for treatment of TMJ and craniofacial pain disorders. In 1982, Dr. Ernest discovered what is now called Ernest Syndrome, a painful headache disorder and facial pain condition that may result from car accidents, blows to the head, falls, prolonged opening of the mouth, wisdom teeth surgery procedures or general anesthesia.

RALPH GARCIA, JR., DDS, is recognized worldwide as an expert in the field of temporomandibular disorders. Recipient of the “AAFO Clinician of the Year” award for 2001, Dr. Garcia has been educating clinicians on the use of computerized diagnostic aids since the 1970s. He has invented a number of appliances, authored numerous articles and books, and is an honorary member of the: European Cranioandibular Society, Brazilian Society of TMJ & Orofacial Pain, Sociedad Espanola de Disfunction Cranioandibular and Sociedad Catalana de Odonto-Estomatologia. Dr. Garcia joined the AACP in 1987 and is a Fellowship-Eligible member.
DAVID B. MILLER, DDS, is a graduate of University of Illinois Dental School. He has a general practice with a large orofacial pain/TMD component. He is a published author, an international lecturer, and he teaches in the Full Mouth Reconstruction course at the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies. Dr. Miller is a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry and ICCMO, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Craniofacial Pain. He has been an AACP member since 1996.

JAMISON R. SPENCER, DMD, earned his DMD degree from Southern Illinois University. Today, Dr. Spencer manages a successful private practice which is 100% limited to craniofacial pain, TMD and sleep disorders. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Craniofacial Pain, a Fellow of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, and a member of the faculty of the AACP Institute. A member of the Academy since 1998, Dr. Spencer is currently serving a three-year term as a director of the AACP.

H. CLIFTON SIMMONS III, DDS, is Assistant Clinical Professor at Vanderbilt University Medical School, teaching in the Graduate Orthodontic program. Past-President of the AACP, Dr. Simmons is Section Editor on TMJ Anatomy & Physiology for the Journal of Craniomandibular Practice and Editor of the Journal of the Tennessee Dental Association. A Diplomate of the American Board of Craniofacial Pain and a Fellow of the American Academy of Craniofacial Pain, Dr. Simmons serves as a director of the AACP and is a member of the faculty of the AACP Institute. He joined the AACP in 1993.

EDWARD F. WRIGHT, DDS, MS, is an assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center – San Antonio (UTHSCSA). Dr. Wright completed a one-year general dentistry residency, a two-year TMD Fellowship, and a two-year TMD Research Fellowship. He is UTHSCSA’s Course Director for their TMD, Occlusion & TMD, and Dental Anatomy & Occlusion courses, as well as Module Director for their stabilization appliance rotation. He is the primary author of 24 journal articles plus the textbook, Manual of Temporomandibular Disorders. Dr. Wright has been a member of the AACP since 2000.

NOSHIR R. MEHTA, DMD, MDS, MS, is Professor and Chairman of the Department of General Dentistry and Director of the Craniofacial Pain Center at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. Dr. Mehta has been treating TMJ patients for the past 25 years both in his periodontal practice as well as at Tufts. He lectures nationally and internationally, and has published extensively in the clinical research arena. Dr. Mehta is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orofacial Pain and a Fellow of the International College of Dentists, American College of Dentists and the Pierre Fouchard Academy. He joined the AACP in 2000.