

Special Care Dentistry Summit to Be Held in San Francisco on Nov. 7, 2026

October 02, 2026

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - October 02, 2026 -

Itani Dental and the Special Care Dentistry Association to Host San Francisco Regional Summit on Care for Patients With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Complex Medical Conditions.

Nov. 7, 2026 SCDA Regional Summit at the Institute on Aging offers 3 CDE hours, in person or via Zoom, with experts from UCSF, Stanford, and the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry.

The Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) will present Beyond the Dental Office: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Special Care Dentistry, an SCDA Regional Summit hosted by Itani Dental, on Saturday, November 7, 2026, at the Institute on Aging in San Francisco. The half-day continuing education program offers three CDE hours and will be available both in person and live via Zoom.

The summit will focus on practical approaches to dental care for patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, complex medical conditions, and age-related frailty. The program is intended to help dental professionals better understand how practices can expand care for patients with complex needs while recognizing when interdisciplinary collaboration or referral to specialized care may be appropriate.

Sessions will address special care dentistry, office-based dental anesthesia, medical-dental integration, hospital dentistry, and therapeutic dentistry. Attendees will receive practical perspectives on which aspects of complex care may be appropriate to manage within their own practices, how collaboration with other healthcare professionals can benefit patients, and when specialized treatment settings may be necessary.

"This event came out of a simple observation: more of our patients are living with disabilities, medical complexity, and frailty than ever before, and many dental practices aren't structured to meet them where they are," said Dr. Samer Itani, DDS, FSCD, founder of Itani Dental and host of the summit. "We wanted to bring together people who are actually doing this work in hospitals, anesthesia, academic dentistry, and research and give providers practical perspectives they can bring back to their own practices."

Featured speakers include Dr. Paul Subar, DDS, EdD, FACD, of the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry; Dr. Matthew Hurd, DDS, MS, PhD, of MH Dental Anesthesia; Dr. Nathan Kalinowski, DMD, of Stanford Dental Medicine; and Dr. Jeremy Horst Keeper, DDS, PhD, a UCSF scientist involved in silver diamine fluoride research.

The program will conclude with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Altaf H. Shah, BDS, MSc, PhD, FSCD, Associate Professor of Dental Clinical Services at Marquette University. The panel will provide attendees with an opportunity to discuss real-world challenges associated with treating patients who have complex medical and care needs.

"Our speakers and panelists bring expertise from different areas of special care dentistry," Dr. Itani said. "Bringing those perspectives together gives attendees an opportunity to consider complex patient care from multiple disciplines."

Beyond the Dental Office: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Special Care Dentistry will take place Saturday, November 7, 2026, at the Institute on Aging, 3575 Geary Blvd. in San Francisco. Registration and check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m., with the program scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Participants may attend in person or join the program live via Zoom.

The summit provides three CDE hours. Topics include the foundations of special care dentistry, medical integration, office-based anesthesia for patients with complex medical needs, the intersection of medicine and dentistry, and therapeutic dentistry. Registration information is available at

https://www.scdacon.org/regional-summit.

Itani Dental, led by Dr. Samer Itani, DDS, FSCD, is a hospital-affiliated dental practice in San Francisco's Union Square providing specialized care for patients whose medical, physical, cognitive, or mobility needs can make conventional dental treatment difficult. Services include special care dentistry, hospital dentistry, sedation dentistry, house-call dentistry, dental implants, and full-mouth rehabilitation throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Depending on patient needs, care may be provided in dental offices, patients' homes, care facilities, or hospital settings. More information is available at https://itanidental.com/.

The Special Care Dentistry Association is a professional organization dedicated to advancing oral healthcare for individuals with disabilities, medical complexity, and age-related needs through education, advocacy, research, and professional collaboration.

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Itani Dental

Itani Dental provides compassionate, personalized dental care across San Francisco and the Bay Area, including general and restorative dentistry, sedation, special care dentistry, house calls, hospital care, dental clearances, and emergency services.

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