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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS

CALIFORNIA ORAL SURGEONS HOST ANESTHESIA MEETING WITH INNOVATIVE SIMULATION EXERCISES

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Roseville, CA – The California Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons recently held its annual Anesthesia Symposium which included some of the most innovative training techniques available to help attendees prepare for anesthesia emergencies in the oral surgery office. Oral surgeons from across the state and western U.S. came to San Francisco January 17-19 for the valuable training event.

The meeting featured a simulation seminar known as SimWars™ in which teams of oral surgeons addressed simulated anesthesia emergencies in real-time. Conducted on life-size mannequins connected to sophisticated computers, the simulations enabled oral surgeons to recognize a potential crisis early and manage it appropriately. A Blue Ribbon Panel of experts critiqued each team's performances, emphasizing best practice techniques. Additionally, audience members were also able to participate by using sophisticated wireless keypads to answer questions posed by the panel.

According to Dr. Tim Silegy, a spokesman for California's Oral Surgeons, "During our residency training, about 25 percent of our time is spent developing the skills necessary to provide a safe and efficacious general anesthetic in the office setting. Programs like this keep us sharp, not unlike airline pilots practicing emergency procedures regularly on flight simulators."

The meeting also included advanced airway management training for pediatric and special needs patients. "Developmental and behavioral problems make these patients very difficult to manage without anesthesia," explains Dr. Silegy. "Our ability to provide anesthesia care allows us to manage them safely in the office setting, significantly containing costs and providing access to care to thousands of individuals who might not otherwise afford treatment."

The California Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons exclusively represents California's Oral Surgeons, experts in anesthesia, oro-facial trauma and disease, and dental implantology. The group is the primary sponsor of California Care Force, which partners with other healthcare professional groups and individuals to provide free health clinics to

underserved populations throughout California. For more information on the California Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons go to: <http://www.calaoms.org>.

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