

Presented by: Sue Demske

Senior Consultant
The Paragon Program

Getting the Most from Internal Marketing

ASK, ASK, ASK FOR REFERRALS

- o The biggest compliment is to ask a patient to send someone just like them to your practice
- o Have business cards every where
- o Have business cards with your team's name and position on it
- o Have a referral program in place
- o Have a consistent logo or color scheme
- o Require each team member to ask for referrals at <u>least</u> once a day
- o Identify this at the morning meeting

Always Make a Great First Impression

- o Answer the telephone within 2-3 rings
- o Must be a cheerful voice
- o Have a consistent answering phrase
- o Slowly annunciate the phrase
- o Practice Name, Team Members Name and "How May I Help You"
- Asking patients if you may place them on hold AND wait for them to answer
- o Have message on hold sharing great things about your practice

<u>Time is More Valuable Than Money</u>

- o Run on Time!!!
- o Take the patient on time
- o Sitting in the operatory does not equate to being seen on time
- o Finish with your patient on time
- o Make sure when quoting time that it includes clinical chair time and check out time
- o Call if running behind
- o Gift if unforeseen time issue happens
- o Respect your patients' time

Thank You Notes

- o How much is your new patient visit worth?
- o Use practice logo or name note cards
- o Send Thank You notes to referring patients the day appointment is made



Thankful Cards to Patients



Gift Referral Program

- o Set up an internal gift referral program
- o One referral "Thanks a Million" lottery card
- o 2-3 Referrals Movie Tickets
- o 4-5 Referrals Bagel Baskets, Edible Arrangements, Muffins, Chocolates, etc.
- o 6 Plus Referrals Show, Dinner, Sporting Event Tickets
- o All of the above referring patients still get the hand written thank you note

Care Calls

- o Must be made that evening
- o Preferably made by the dentist
- o Hygienists make their own patient calls
- o Verbal Skills: "Hello Mrs. Smith, this is Dr. Jones, I am calling to let you know everything went according to plan, you are a fantastic patient. DO you have any questions for me?"



Care Notes



- o These are appreciation notes.
- o Sharing with the patient they make your day when they come in.
- o Acknowledging the number of years the patient has honored you with caring for them and their family.
- o Thanking them for a pearl they gave you.
- o Sharing in their joy on their latest adventure.
- o Sending them an after thought to the conversation you shared with them that day.

Team Attire Who do you think does better dentistry?

Team A



Team B



Friendly vs. Familiar







Business Attire



Team Attire



Team Smile

o Make sure your teams smile is the image you want them to promote



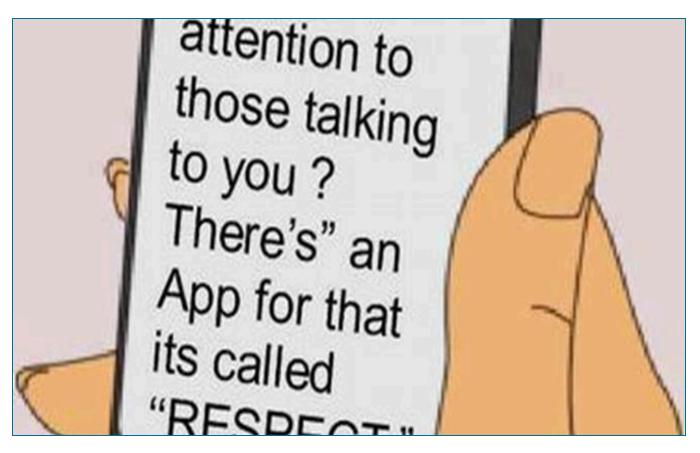
- o Some gloss, light colored lipstick, Chapstick
- o Fresh breath
- o Restore your staff's teeth
 - They should be able to speak about your dentistry more in the community than anyone else.

Office Image

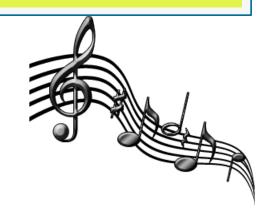
- o Clean, Modern and Comfortable
- o Current Reading Material
- Good Lighting
- o Umbrella Stand
- o Fresh flowers at front desk
- o No food at front desk
- o Drinks in practice mugs or cups
- o Bathrooms Speak Volumes
 - o Mirror
 - o Toilet Paper & Towels
 - o Smell Good
 - o Trash emptied all day
 - o Toothbrushes
 - o Female Needs



Office Image



Morning Huddle



- o Start the day HAPPY!
- o Start the day together
- o Pre-Identify for all your patient's need
- o Pre-Identify for any patient celebrations
- o What patients will be asked for referrals
- What patients have referred T.Y. in person
- o What patients you be written care notes
- o "Clear" to go out on the floor (stage)

Newsletters

- o Food for thought
- o New in the practice
- o Insurance Year End or Year Beginning
- o Twice a year:January & September
- Accepting New Patients
- o Specials
- o Health tips



Staying Visible to Patients

Patient Surveys or Feedback

- o Post first visit
- o Through your confirmation systems
- o In the office
- o Annual anonymous 100 patients. Each team member picks 15 patients.
- o Patient Focus Group
- o Patient Ambassador Program and Meeting
- o Follow up after survey
- o Feedback and status to participants of the survey

Practice Patient Communication

- o Solution Reach <u>www.solutionreach.com</u>
- o Demand Force <u>www.demandforce.com</u>
- o Lighthouse <u>www.lh360.com</u>
- o Televox www.televox.com
- o Sesame www.sesamecom.com



Patient Appreciation Events

- o Monthly give-a-ways
- o Brain Quiz
- o Annual Patient Appreciation Event
 Rent out an ice rink for an hour
 Patient Appreciation Party
 Sponsor a team and go to the event, buy
 the hot dogs for everyone there

New Patient Experience

- o Initial Telephone Call
 - o Positive
 - o Promote the doctor(s)
 - o Promote the care the patient is seeking
 - o Do not interrupt that call
 - o Validate their referral source
 - o Make sure you have answered all their questions
 - o Make initial paperwork easy
 - o Ask if they need directions
 - o Email, Email, Email!

New Patient Experience

o First In Office Visit

- o The Welcome
- o The Tour
- o The Hand-Off
- o The Exam
- o The Hand-Off
- o The Scheduling
- o The Financials
- o The Wrap Up



New Patient Experience

- o Post First Office Visit
 - o Follow up with "thank for putting your care in our hands" letter
 - o Follow up with any unfinished business
 - o Treatment Coordinator
 - o Dental Assistant
 - o Insurance Administrator
 - o Follow up appointment
 - o Treatment plan and Consultation Preparation
 - o Financial Coordinator

Comfortable Financial Options

- o Must Be:
 - Written
 - Understandable
 - Simple
 - o 3 Choices
 - oIn Full
 - Half at Scheduling, Half at First Appointment
 - OUTSIDE FINANCING
 - o 3, 6, 24, 36, 48 or 60 Months



Comfortable Financial Arrangements

o Privacy

- Consult Room
- Operatory
- Doctor's Office
- Side Desk
- Drop Down Table with Chair

o <u>Verbal Skills</u>

- Questions that make the patient feel in control
- Inform the patient that it is your job to work out financial arrangements which enables patients to get their dental needs taken care of

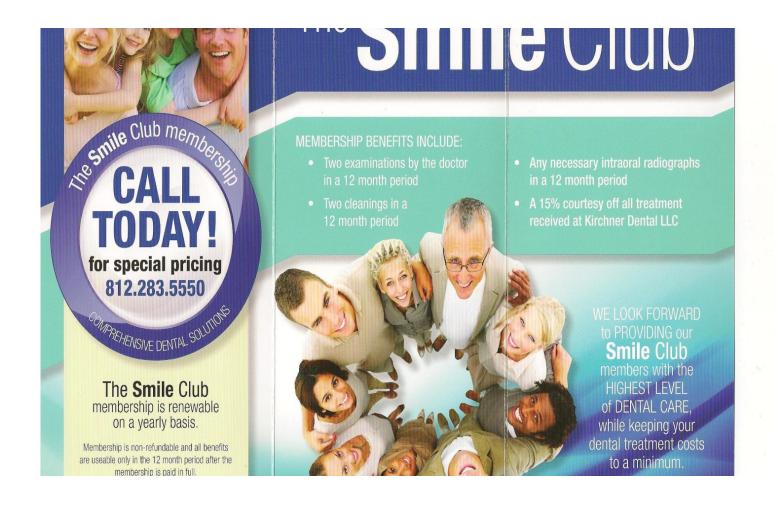


Speaking of Comfortable!

- o Painless Injections!!!
- o Well trained impression skills
- o Not a Heavy Handed Dental Hygienist
- o Amazing Radiographers
- o Protective Eye Wear for Patients
- o Neck Pillows & Blankets
- o Lip Balm (corners of mouth)
- o Face Clean Ups
- o Head Sets & Movie Goggles



In Office Dental Membership



A Picture Speaks 1,000 Words

- o Photos
 - Before
 - Before, During & After
- o Radiographs
- o Success Photos
- o Patient should leave with these photos
- o Not emailed after the fact
- o Case Completion Professional Family Portraits



Close Your Back Door

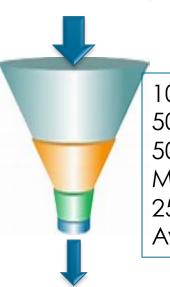
- o Recall System Follow Up
 - Currently Past Due
 - Long Term Past Due

o Unscheduled Treatment Follow Up

- Currently Unscheduled
- Over 3-6 Months Since Diagnosis
- Long Overdue

Present 100% of the Possibilities

- o Practice Without Pre-Judging
- o Healthy or Not Healthy Situation
 - o Average dentist see 400-1000 teeth a day
 - o Average hygienist sees 720-1100 sites per day
- o Dental Exam
 - o Disease
 - o Function
 - o Esthetics



100% Possibilities 50% Presented 50% Accepted Means: 25% Treated in Average Practice

Year End Insurance / Flex Letter

- o "Use It or Lose It"
- o Unlike Medical, it does not carry over
- o Have an Incentive with an Expiration Date
- o Can be used by patient or passed along to a friend, family member or co-worker
- o Concentrate on outstanding treatment first
- o Send out twice
 - o First week of October
 - o First week of November



Office Loop in Reception Area

- o Celebrations
- Continuing Education
- o Patient Practice Events
- o "New" techniques or technology
- o Fun Facts about dentistry
- o Before and After Photos
- o "We are Accepting New Patients" message
- o Year End Insurance Use
- o "It's Not Just a Cleaning" information

No Cancellation Drawings

- o Do it monthly or quarterly
- o Make the prize BIG! \$500+
- o Have each patient who comes in for their appointment place their name on a ticket and put in the bowl
- o Have the first patient who comes in on the first day of the next month or quarter draw for the winner
- It decreases cancellations and creates a buzz about your practice

Social Media

- o Website more than a new patient finder
 - o Patient Forms
 - o Post Op Information
 - o Pay their Account
 - o Dr. Video About the Practice or Specialty
- o Facebook
- o Pinterest
- o Twitter
- o Blog









Social Media

- www.mysocialdentist.com
- o www.mysocialpractice.com
- o www.socialdental.com
- www.creativedge.com
- o Local Bloggers
- o Angie's List
- o Yelp
- Google
- o Yodel
- o Team Member

Facebook Paid Ad Tips

- 1. Research your practice brand and niche
- 2. Create an engaging video
- 3. Customize your audience
- 4. "Promoting" vs. "Boosting to control budget
- 5. Track your ROI (Return on Investment)
- 6. Repeat, Revise, Repeat



Community Events

- Where Pink Gloves the entire month of October (YouTube the "Pink Glove Dance")
- o Raise money for a children's organization
- o Have a coat drive in the Month of November
- o Give a-way daffodil bunches in March
- o Collect food for the local food bank
- o Participate in a team walk for a local charity
- Candy buy back for Halloween
- o Collect woman's interview attire for the House of Ruth

Healthcare Broad Spectrum Events

- o Blood Drives
- o Oral Cancer Screenings
- o Dental or General Health Fairs
- o Dental Give Back Days
- o Doctors with a Heart program
- o "Taxi Tuesdays" for patients (Seniors)
- o Dental Missions Local and Other Countries
- o "Mouth and Body Connection" brochures
 - Heart Disease
 - Diabetes

Sponsor Events

- o Buy from fund-raising efforts of your patients
- o Host a collection drive for the needy in your community
- o Support a local team (go to at least one event)
- o Mouth Guards for Sports Teams
- o Whitening for Habitat for Humani



One Family at a Time

Healthcare Professional Networking

- Develop a plan to network with area doctors
- o Bring brochures that pertain to specialists patients
- Connect with Endocrinologists & Cardiologists
- o Develop a relationship with Holistic and Homeopathic Healthcare Professionals
- o Connect with the school nurses & Pediatricians
- o Develop a Referral Pad

Have a GREAT TEAM

- o Hire Great Hearts
- o Train Your Team
- o Create an Environment for Learning and Growth
- o Share Your Expectations
- o Respect Your Team
- o Create an Environment of Appreciation
- o Celebrate with Your Team
- o Have Team Picture in Reception Area
- o Reward Your Team
 - o Financial Reward
 - o Verbal Praise



Positive Energy from Leaders



Marketing Action Plan

		INTERNAL		EXTERNAL	
MONTHL	Y	The second second			
January		White Sale, White for Life	Drawing - Car Wash	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
February		Poster Contest / Roses	Drawing - Dinner for 2	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
March		Daffodils	Drawing - Whitening	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
April		Umbrellas / Shred-It	Drawing -	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
May		Seed Packets/Mom Memo	Drawing - Gardening Set	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
June		Graduation Photos	Drawing - Beach Set	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
July		Flags, SPF Lip Balm	Drawing - e-Reader	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
August		Teacher's Need Stuff	Drawing - Filled Book Bag	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
September		Apples, Yr End Ins. Letter	Drawing - Office Depot	Mailer (1 Adult, 1Child Free)	Blog / Facebook
October		"Pink" is In	Drawing - Keurig	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
November		Thankful Hand Tree	Drawing - Sports Tickets	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
December		Whitening Gift Certificates	Drawing - Christmas Show	Mailer	Blog / Facebook
QUARTERL	. <mark>Y</mark>	INTE	RNAL	EXT	ERNAL
First Quarter		Invisalign Day	TV Give Away - Referrals	Radio, Chamber Mtg	Magazine E-Blast
Second Quarter		Sponsor Little League	Breakfast Basket	Radio, Chamber Mtg	Magazine E-Blast
Third Quarter		Flu Shot Given	TV Give Away - Referrals	Radio, Chamber Mtg	July 4th Parade
Fourth Quarter		Food Bank Drive	Breakfast Basket	Radio, Chamber Mtg	Magazine E-Blast
SEMI ANNUAL		INTERNAL		EXTERNAL	
First Half	mo.	Diabetes Walk	Grocery Bags	Health Fair	Implant / Sleep Open House
Second Half	mo.	Breast Cancer Walk	Top 10 Pt. Discussion Group	Community Fair	Implant / Sleep Open House
ANNUALLY		INTE	RNAL	EXTE	RNAL
ANNUALLY			Car Raffle - No CX	Hab for Hum / White	Hot Air Balloon - Derby

Marketing Action Plan INTERNAL EXTERNAL INTERNAL ONE INTERNAL TWO **MONTHLY EXTERNAL ONE** EXTERNAL TWO January February March April May June July August September October November December **QUARTERLY INTERNAL EXTERNAL** First Quarter Second Quarter Third Quarter Fourth Quarter **SEMI ANNUAL INTERNAL EXTERNAL** First Half mo. Second Half mo. **ANNUALLY INTERNAL EXTERNAL** Month

QUESTIONS???

Now or Later

- 1. Name & Position
- 2. Question
- 3. Email Address

For more information about The Paragon Program Stop by our Booth



suedemske@theparagonprogram.com