IAO Report as of September, 2026

The annual IAO meeting will be held as part of the GLAO meeting in Columbus, OH on Friday, October 23rd at 12:15. The proposed officer slate for election at this meeting is as follows:

President: Dr. Jamie Lazin
Vice-President: Dr. Emily Tang Watson
Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Michael Kessler
Director-at-Large 1: Dr. Jeffrey Roberts
Director-at-Large 2: Dr. Sunnah Ahmed
Northern Director: Dr. Leah Stetzel
Central Director: Dr. Paul Ellis
Southern Director: Dr. Kevin Coghlan
GLAO Representative: Dr. Allison Bergdoll
Immediate Past President: Dr. Ariel Wong
Legislative Liaison: Tasha Hall

There are 238 IAO members currently and Indiana continues to have a high renewal rate and market share. The IAO maintains a locum tenens list for members who need temporary help in their practices. For more information, contact Dr. Jamie Lazin.

For current updates and happenings, check out our website, www.iaotoday.com

The Biennial Burstone Symposium will be held Friday, November 6th at the NCAA Conference Center. The topic will be Aligning Innovation and attendees will receive 6 CE credits.

The IAO Board recently discussed removal of specialty language from the Dental Practice Act in Indiana in 2020 with members of the AAO Legal Department.

HEA 1271 went into effect 7/1/26 and limits overpayment recoupments by prohibiting insurers from recalling a paid claim by more than 180 days after claim was initially paid. This legislation also prohibits downcoding unless it is justified by peer review of records and the insurer provides a clear explanation of the decision including the rationale for coding changes.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact me. It has been a pleasure serving as the Indiana Component Representative to the GLAO Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Lana R. Helms, DDS MSD

Indiana Component Director to the GLAO