

1 **Salvador Gaytan:** Welcome to SmileTalk, an entertaining and informative dental talk
2 show featuring the latest news and developments in dentistry, as
3 well as other interesting topics that make you smile. I'm Salvador
4 Gaytan and I'm here with...?
5
6 **Dr. John Chao:** Dr. John Chao. We look forward to a continuation of our
7 wonderful show that started last time featuring Dean Sadan.
8
9 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely, and I'm going to give a good -- we have a fascinating
10 guest, as you mentioned, Dr. Avishai Sadan at the Herman Ostrow
11 School of Dentistry of USC. I hope I got that somewhat right, Dr.
12 Sadan.
13
14 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Perfect, actually.
15
16 **Salvador Gaytan:** Alright.
17
18 **Dr. John Chao:** And we'll get to how it became Herman Ostrow.
19
20 **Salvador Gaytan:** Well, that's true. We're going to have some information on that.
21
22 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Very soon, it's a fascinating story.
23
24 **Salvador Gaytan:** We're going to wrap up in the beginning of our show here, just the
25 last details of how Dr. Sadan was actually finalized as the new
26 dean and then we're also going to get into his vision of what he
27 brings to USC and what's been going on down there. So, to wrap
28 up, Dr. Sadan, we left off, you were in the final four interview and
29 then it was narrowed to the final two. Is that right?
30
31 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Correct.
32
33 **Salvador Gaytan:** Okay, and what happened after that, both candidates in the same
34 place at the same time or no?
35
36 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No, you actually don't even know who the last one is.
37
38 **Salvador Gaytan:** Oh, you don't? Okay.
39
40 **Dr. John Chao:** This is not a boxing ring, Sal.
41
42 **Salvador Gaytan:** Well, I like a good competition, I think the people like a good
43 competition too.
44
45 **Dr. John Chao:** He's very athletic. He's always doing this.
46

47 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No, the last stage is, in many ways, out of the public eyes. You
48 come back to a visit, but this time you meet only with the senior
49 administration, which is the president and the provost and that's
50 pretty much it.
51
52 **Dr. John Chao:** The president of the university.
53
54 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yes.
55
56 **Dr. John Chao:** So, you met Dr. Sample.
57
58 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I met Dr. Sample, I sure did.
59
60 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, in other words, you knew who the final four were, but you did
61 not know who the other finalist was, beside yourself?
62
63 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Correct, correct.
64
65 **Salvador Gaytan:** Did you have a guess in your mind?
66
67 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Honestly, yes. Guess? Yeah.
68
69 **Salvador Gaytan:** Were you right? You don't have to say the name, but were you
70 right?
71
72 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I don't know.
73
74 **Salvador Gaytan:** Oh, you still don't know.
75
76 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** These things are maintained confidential, and all the records and
77 all the process -- it's important to say this point. Everything that
78 takes place within the four walls of the committee, when they
79 interviewed you and other, usually that never sees the light of day.
80 So, I don't know and I will not know and you have to respect that.
81
82 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely, absolutely. Now, so when you got to the final
83 interview, how many people were there?
84
85 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Meaning who are -- no, those are individual interviews at this
86 point.
87
88 **Salvador Gaytan:** Oh, I see, okay.
89
90 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yeah, you meet in person with the president; you meet in person
91 with the provost and some other leaders within university.
92

93 **Salvador Gaytan:** And so, were you fired up when you were in the final two? Were
94 you like, "Okay, I just about got this now."
95

96 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I was very excited, because I think at this point, you start figuring
97 out that there's maybe something that you have to offer that the
98 university may be interested in, and as I started in the previous talk
99 show we had, I stated that who wouldn't want to be today at USC?
100

101 I mean this is the place to be in U.S. academia. So, when you start
102 feeling that there's a realistic chance of actually being part of the
103 Trojan family, yeah, you get fired up, quite frankly.
104

105 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, were you on your way down, you're flying down. I know
106 you were excited, were you thinking "Gosh, what if I don't get
107 this, how disappointed am I going to be?"
108

109 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No, I figured out the other guy -- quite frankly, no. Did I want it?
110 You better believe it. Was I thinking in terms of disappointment?
111 No, I was happy, secured and respected where I was. It's not as if I
112 was trying to just look for something, because I wasn't happy.
113

114 You have to respect the fact that in the end of the day, it will be
115 about a match. If you don't have that mindset to begin with, you
116 shouldn't get into it, because you will be terribly disappointed
117 every time you're not going to get something in life.
118

119 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, so when you were going through your individual interviews,
120 were you reading those people and thinking, "Okay, yeah, I think
121 I've got him".
122

123 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Oh yeah, right. You're talking to probably two of the most
124 prominent figures in U.S. academia right now, Steve Sample, Max
125 Nikias, they are very, very experienced, and I think, if anything,
126 they could probably read me and not me them.
127

128 Again, operating under the same notion, I think that every
129 successful university has -- meaning if you're not going to get the
130 job, it's got to be a great rewarding experience for you. So, you're
131 always going to leave with a smile on your face, I guess. That is
132 not an indicator if it worked well or not, by the way.
133

134 **Dr. John Chao:** Well, USC has been known to pick winners.
135

136 **Salvador Gaytan:** Well, absolutely.
137

138 **Dr. John Chao:** Just look at our football record.

139
140 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely, no doubt about it. Now, Dr. Sadan, so you finished
141 your interviews, what was your -- you're flying back, what was
142 your take? Did you think, "Oh, I got a 50-50," or did you feel like,
143 "Man, I delivered exactly what I wanted to deliver. It was
144 knockout blow."?
145
146 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I think the most important thing is to walk away from all these
147 things without regretting anything, meaning you had something to
148 say and you said it, and you delivered it the way you thought it
149 should be delivered, and you conveyed a clear, crisp message
150 about who you are and what you want to do and that's what I felt.
151
152 I felt, when I left, that I had the opportunity to say what's on my
153 mind. I felt that all the questions that we discussed and all the
154 topics that were brought up were kind of things that I wanted to
155 discuss, so it was a great experience. Yeah, I felt good after it.
156
157 **Salvador Gaytan:** And how long after the final interviews, did you get word that you
158 were the man?
159
160 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** It was done in a very timely manner, very, very timely manner.
161
162 **Dr. John Chao:** Is that a glacial speed or immediately, soon?
163
164 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Well, if people ever wonder what is it that makes a good
165 university, a great university, a lot of it has to do with the pace,
166 things kind of move very, very quickly. Once a decision has been
167 made, USC moves. So, it was very shortly after the interview.
168
169 **Salvador Gaytan:** And so, what was your first thought? Were you jumping up and
170 down, were you high-fiving your kids and your wife? What was
171 going on?
172
173 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I think the most important thing to recognize is getting the job is
174 wonderful, doing something with it is much more important.
175 Actually, Steve Sample in his book, "*The Contrarian's Guide to*
176 *Leadership*" has a whole chapter that discusses this issue, which is
177 called "Be President versus Do President".
178
179 So, to become a dean is a great thing, but doing something with it
180 is much more important. So, you can take your time and celebrate
181 it for, I don't know, a few seconds and then you better start
182 thinking about what is it you're actually going to do upon your
183 arrival.
184

185 **Salvador Gaytan:** And how much time did you have to get to USC, to move down
186 here?
187

188 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I guess it was around three months.
189

190 **Salvador Gaytan:** Three months.
191

192 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yeah.
193

194 **Dr. John Chao:** During those times, did you ever have a thought, "What have I
195 gotten myself into?"
196

197 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No, I think I have done a pretty thorough job trying to grasp what
198 is it I got on my hand. I knew what I was getting into. It was
199 obvious that it's a complex organization. It was obvious that the
200 expectations are high. The alumni, the students of USC have high
201 expectations and justifiably so, and you better live up to them, so
202 all that stuff I did know.
203

204 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, I've got a feeling you got it pretty much handled.
205

206 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, so Dr. Sadan, moving on, you've been here for, well not
207 quite a year yet.
208

209 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No.
210

211 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, you're still getting your feet wet.
212

213 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yes.
214

215 **Salvador Gaytan:** Getting acclimated. So, but tell the people, you don't just work a 9-
216 to-5 job in a cushy office; you have a demanding schedule, don't
217 you?
218

219 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Keep in mind that for the most part you control your schedule, so
220 it's going to be as demanding as you think it should be, but it is a
221 demanding schedule. I think that in a healthcare operation, you
222 have a lot of things that you have to think about.
223

224 From your educational agenda to your responsibility to your
225 patient, to your research agenda, the community outreach, this just
226 {their world} keeps you busy day in, day out, year round and yes,
227 the schedule is very busy, if I may say.
228

229 **Dr. John Chao:** Now, you mentioned to me just in passing before the show, that
230 you're actually still in private practice, to a certain extent?

231
232 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** No, I am not in private practice, I am teaching in the clinic floor.
233
234 **Dr. John Chao:** Teaching, okay, yeah, you're practicing in that sense.
235
236 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yes, practicing in this sense and selected patients. I just, at this
237 point, feel comfortable that I can set some time aside to see a few
238 patients, because I love practicing clinical dentistry, I'm proud of
239 the skills that I've worked hard to gain in clinical dentistry, so I
240 want to keep it.
241
242 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, I understand how you feel, I would forever miss it if I don't
243 get to do dentistry, and I have a feeling that part of the reason you
244 were selected is because of your strong orientation towards clinical
245 dentistry. Is that right?
246
247 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I would assume it's one of them. It's very hard to point to one
248 issue that the school needs to do right. We have to cater to quite a
249 few different agendas and you have to show that you're tuned and
250 appreciative to the significance in each one of them.
251
252 And that comes down to your ability to juggle more than one ball
253 in the air. If all you can do is one thing, then you're probably not
254 ready. So, we have, at least four to five meaningful balls that are as
255 important, that at any given time we can juggle.
256
257 **Dr. John Chao:** Yes.
258
259 **Salvador Gaytan:** And for anyone just tuning in, you're listening to SmileTalk with
260 Dr. John Chao, who is interviewing a very fascinating guest, Dr.
261 Sadan from the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, and
262 for any questions regarding the show, you can contact Dr. John
263 Chao at AlhambraDental.com.
264
265 **Dr. John Chao:** And if you have any questions, we'll entertain them and we'll ask
266 them for you of dean Sadan.
267
268 **Salvador Gaytan:** Absolutely. Now, moving on, we promised the audience, Dr.
269 Sadan, that we were going to get, you're now the official dean,
270 you've high-fived everybody, you're in L.A. your kids are
271 probably -- have you taken them to Universal Studios, are they...
272
273 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** We sure did. Well, of course.
274
275 **Dr. John Chao:** How old are they, by the way?
276

277 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Well, the older one is 14, just started high school, and the younger
278 one is six years old in kindergarten.
279

280 **Dr. John Chao:** They must be very proud of their father.
281

282 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I hope so.
283

284 **Salvador Gaytan:** Now, were they really excited about moving to Hollywood,
285 California?
286

287 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** It's very hard to say. Kids adapt very well, so at this point when
288 everybody is settled and happy, it's kind of easy, but for the most
289 part, everybody -- we're creatures of habit. When you have a
290 certain place to live and you've got your friends, it's never exciting
291 to be told that you're moving.
292

293 **Salvador Gaytan:** Right.
294

295 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** And it's definitely not by choice, it's because one of your parents
296 is relocating. So, I cannot tell you if they were excited or not, I
297 know for sure they're very happy now.
298

299 **Salvador Gaytan:** Okay, Dr. Sadan, getting back now to your vision. I assume these
300 were a lot of the questions that you answered in your interviews.
301 What is your general vision of what you see at the USC School of
302 Dentistry?
303

304 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I think when it comes to vision, everybody approaches it slightly
305 differently. There are two things that I always think about, and it
306 goes back to catering to more than one agenda. We have our needs,
307 desires and have-tos when it comes to being eminent and excellent
308 in the field of dentistry.
309

310 But we're also a part of a vibrant, ascending, second to none
311 university, and you have to find this vision that brings the dental
312 agenda and brings the overall focus and vision of the university
313 together. If you can do that, I think you'll be in a great place,
314 because then you will become a value to your profession and a
315 great value to your university.
316

317 So, when it comes to the dental school agenda, you have to ask
318 yourself, "What is it that place was known for, for over a 100
319 years? Is it still relevant?" And if the answer to that is no, then
320 what would be the other relevant thing you should think about?
321 But even if the answer is yes, you have to ask yourself, "What

322 would it take to still stay relevant and lead in that specific area for
323 the next two or three decades?”

324
325 Sometimes it's just about keeping doing what you're doing right
326 now, just on a larger scale, faster, better and sometimes it's about
327 reinventing yourself all over again. The other thing you have to ask
328 yourself, “What are the things that are important, pertinent to the
329 university when it comes to vision, and what is it that you can do
330 to combine these two things to create a cohesive vision that is of
331 value to all constituencies?” And in the case of the University of
332 Southern California, it's actually relatively easy.

333
334 The university is known worldwide to be a research intensive
335 university. We are very, very well positioned, very well aligned
336 and we can talk about the phenomenal research that is done at the
337 Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry.

338
339 We are of significant value to the university. We create the
340 opportunities, we collaborate with other constituencies within
341 university, and we generate and discover things that really benefits
342 humanity as a whole.

343
344 We are a global school. We have applicants coming from all states
345 and we have our international program that draws people from all
346 over the world. The university has the vision of being visible and
347 leading within the Pacific ream, meaning if the Pacific Ocean
348 touches your soil, that's where the USC wants to be, and the school
349 of dentistry is very well positioned to be of value to the university
350 as a whole when it comes to the Pacific ream vision.

351
352 The last thing, and I think that is one thing that people sometimes
353 don't appreciate enough, is the community outreach that the
354 university in general, and the school in particular has. Bear in
355 mind, we are a private university. We don't see a community
356 outreach as a significant part of our vision, because we have to. It's
357 not because we receive any federal or local funds that mandate us
358 to cater to the needs of the people of California.

359
360 We do that, because we choose to do that. That's a value we
361 choose to be high on our list, and many times people take it for
362 granted when they see us and what we do for the community.
363 “Well, of course they have to do that”. Well it's not that simple;
364 we're not supported by any federal funds for the most part. We are
365 a private university. We do it, because we choose to do that,
366 because we think it's important.

367

368 **Dr. John Chao:** And so, we don't have the strings attached that we have to deal
369 with if we were a state university.
370

371 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I don't know if we can call it the strings attached. I've had the
372 opportunity to serve both on a state university and private
373 universities. I think through values there are a lot of similarities,
374 it's the operational issue that is somewhat different, but it's
375 definitely not about right or wrong. I just want to make sure that
376 people recognize the fact that our community outreach is done not
377 because we must do that, it's because we want to do that.
378

379 **Dr. John Chao:** That's great, now...

380

381 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** That is not to say -- again a lot of state universities also want to do
382 that, it's not because they must, but we are purely driven by the
383 want.
384

385 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, that's unique to USC.
386

387 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I think it's something you'll find in many universities, the extent
388 and the level of commitment, this is really hard to find elsewhere.
389

390 **Dr. John Chao:** That's great. Now, if you were to, in a few sentences, summarize
391 your vision for the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry, what
392 would that be?
393

394 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I will talk about three major areas, and they're equally important,
395 so I don't want the sequence in which I present them to also be
396 viewed as a ranking. I will start with our phenomenal legacy of
397 clinical excellence.
398

399 It may not be a big issue maybe for the lay person out there in the
400 public, but the USC graduates know what it means to get a USC
401 certificate. When you graduate from the dental school at USC, the
402 expectation when it comes to the level of clinical competence is
403 really at a different level.
404

405 I have to say, since I teach on the floor and I see it everyday, this is
406 not an urban myth. That has roots in reality. The level that our
407 students perform, and our expectations from our students, are truly
408 second to none.
409

410 **Dr. John Chao:** And you have seen other schools across the country...

411

412 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** I've seen other schools, I taught in other schools. I was director of
413 courses in other schools, and I have to say, this is -- in so many

414 ways, I can say that in some areas I couldn't -- if you'd ask me a
415 year ago if you can hold a dental student to that level, I would say
416 it's probably unrealistic. It's probably more at the specialties, but
417 the level that we hold our students to is truly nothing short of
418 amazing.

419
420 So, we have to ask ourselves, "What would it take for us to
421 graduate these quintessential clinicians for the next three decades?"
422 Technologies have changed, the techniques are changed, the
423 materials are changing, what is it that it would take for us to
424 maintain this eminence in clinical education, to graduate this
425 quintessential dentist?

426
427 That goes into so many directions. From the pedagogy, when it
428 comes to being able to graduate a person who knows what critical
429 thinking is all about, who is a true lifelong learner, who can go and
430 reach and find the new information that came after he or she
431 graduated.

432
433 It's about not being afraid to do something a million times until
434 you know you've done it right and you never move away from the
435 thing you've done, before you're comfortable with it, because you
436 know exactly what is it we expect you to deliver.

437
438 **Dr. John Chao:** So, clinical excellence is one of your three visions?

439
440 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** One of the three things, yeah.

441
442 **Dr. John Chao:** And I, myself, when I was graduating, from being taught at USC in
443 the 60s, my belief was that the holy grail of dentistry is clinical
444 excellence. Now, of course, the world has moved on, so we want to
445 retain that.

446
447 And I'm sure that a lot of your alumnus and lot of the teachers
448 would never be satisfied with the amount of clinical excellence that
449 is there already, and they're looking -- and it seems like they
450 would always want you, want the school and want the new
451 students to do even better. Is that something that you struggle with
452 also?

453
454 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Well, I actually like the notion of being kept on your toes. I don't
455 have any problem with people demanding. It will keep you on your
456 toes; it will keep you energized, and keep you going. I just want to
457 make it clear when we talk about clinical excellence, it's just not
458 only the execution of the clinical procedure, it's the foundation, it's
459 the ability to process data, it's the ability to think, it's the in-depth

460 knowledge of the basic sciences that lead you to making a
461 conclusion about how you do it, and then these incredible ability of
462 a USC graduate to pick it up and just do it like nobody else does.
463

464 **Dr. John Chao:** Yes, we were talking about that a little bit before the show, how
465 I'm so impressed with our students who exhibit critical thinking,
466 the ability to procure information, the ability to share information
467 with each other and the ability to learn something from the
468 information gleaned, and make judgments as to what they should
469 do. This is something that USC has added and emphasized in the
470 last few years, isn't it?
471

472 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Correct. The school has always been on the forefront of many,
473 many innovations, and the pedagogy that the school employed in
474 recent years and it's still the center focus on how we deliver
475 information is truly fascinating. It's really something that creates
476 this critical thinking process, the ability to reach out, find, analyze
477 and come to conclusions on your own.
478

479 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, I've always -- I only teach part time there, I'm just a very
480 small part of the Behavior Science Department, but I see a little
481 window, and in this window I see students who have the ability to
482 think. And I was just thinking, as long as you can think critically, it
483 doesn't matter what you learned and didn't learn in dental school,
484 you'll be able to be very successful, because there's nothing you
485 can't learn.
486

487 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Correct.
488

489 **Dr. John Chao:** Then you can always do well.
490

491 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yeah. You've alluded probably to one of the most rewarding
492 things in our line of job as educators, and that is our interaction
493 with our students. We are so fortunate. I mean day in, day out, you
494 rub elbows and spend time with dedicated, brilliant, positive
495 committed individuals.
496

497 How can you not love what you do when you do that day in, day
498 out? And I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that dentistry is a
499 very desirable career choice, so we really get the most brilliant kids
500 that are out there and how can you go wrong with spending time
501 with them?
502

503 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, it's such a pleasure for me to be there. My personal
504 observation is that I learn more there than what I teach.
505

506 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Well, I agree with you, I have to say.
507
508 **Dr. John Chao:** I keep learning something new all the time just by being there.
509
510 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** We always say as a joke, that if we would apply now to dentistry,
511 we wouldn't even be invited to an interview, because the
512 prerequisites and all the things that are required to be a USC
513 student are so high, we say it as a joke, but it's actually a true
514 issue.
515
516 **Dr. John Chao:** That's true.
517
518 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** So, we are very proud to see that as things move on, the next
519 generation – people always have these concerns about how the
520 next generation is going to carry on the torch. I never have any
521 concerns about that. They are going to do much better things than
522 we ever did, so I'm very comfortable with what we have.
523
524 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, I'm in total agreement with what I look forward to that too,
525 as far as what our dental graduates will do.
526
527 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yeah.
528
529 **Dr. John Chao:** I'm very excited for them. Now, we're talking about Dr. Sadan's
530 vision, and the number one item, not necessarily the highest
531 priority, but number one he's talked about this clinical excellence,
532 we defined that. Now, would you go on and list the other two?
533
534 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** The other two. The second one is our commitment to excellence in
535 research, and this is like everything else I discussed. It's very hard;
536 because you always feel bad you didn't mention everybody,
537 because we do so many things.
538
539 But if I have to highlight some of the things, and again, I apologize
540 to all those I will not have the chance to highlight, but if I have to
541 focus about what is it we do and where is it we want to be,
542 probably I would say that craniofacial development, genetics, cell
543 biology, that's what we're known for, that's what we're doing, the
544 biological sciences, that's what made us famous.
545
546 We have more than one area, one of our largest area, or
547 actually our largest basic science research area is called the
548 CCMB, The Craniofacial Center for Molecular Biology that was
549 actually established by our former dean Harold Slavkin. And it is
550 the home to some of the most brilliant individuals I've ever seen in
551 my life.

552
553 If you'd hear what these people do, it's just nothing short of mind-
554 boggling. I look at some of the avenues, and we'll talk about that
555 in a second, of the research they take. It's not as if 20 years ago it
556 sounded like science fiction what they do right now, it sounded
557 like nonsense, because it made no sense that we can ever reach that
558 level of knowledge.

559
560 This past week, we had our Annual Research Day, the School of
561 Dentistry with its divisions of Biokinesiology, Physical Therapy
562 and Occupational Sciences has the Annual Research Day and we
563 showcase our research projects that the students are doing. I have
564 to tell you, you should have seen some of the stuff that was
565 presented there.

566
567 For example, on the CCMB side, one of the things that some of our
568 brilliant researchers, for example Yang Chai, who is not only a
569 PhD, but also an USC graduate, a dentist who graduate from USC.
570 So, we are very unique in the fact we have these world renowned
571 researchers who are actually practicing dentists, is working on
572 Cleft Lip and Palate.

573
574 We all know this is a very debilitating, congenital disorder, that I
575 know that when I was a student, the direction of research is, "How
576 do we treat these kids once they're born?" These guys are in a
577 completely different level, their work is how to salvage, rescue and
578 repair Cleft Lip and Palate In Utero before the baby is born, and
579 this is all about cell signaling, up and down regulation of certain
580 genetic expressions, and you look at their work and what they're
581 doing, it's like, "Wow!".

582
583 **Dr. John Chao:** How will they find that this kind of a problem is in the uterus?
584 They have the diagnostic ability, don't they?

585
586 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Yeah. We have come a long way when it comes to diagnosis. It
587 comes from the level of your susceptibility to it and history in the
588 family to our diagnostic tools right now. We can tell at early
589 stages. Can you imagine making that a routine protocol? Someone
590 is about to be born with a debilitating disease and you just
591 intervene in utero and you just -- a healthy baby is delivered.

592
593 **Salvador Gaytan:** So, Dr. Sadan, back up just a second, for the people. What you're
594 saying is that technology now can reveal if a fetus is going to have
595 a Cleft Palate, going to be born with a Cleft Palate. How can you
596 now go in there and intervene in a way that the people could
597 understand?

598

599 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Alright. So, just to make it clear, first of all, we are at the research
600 phase, this is not an implementation stage. I don't want you to be
601 showered or bombarded with million phone calls asking where do
602 you get the treatment for human beings.

603

604 This is still at the basic science research phase with very, I think,
605 interesting, enlightening and promising outcome, but the idea is to
606 try to be able to pin point who is susceptible, to have the diagnostic
607 tools, to point to those babies before they are born and then using
608 either genetic tools or if you call it molecular biology tools, control
609 cell signaling, gene expression, so those defects will be repaired or
610 salvaged, as we call them, before the baby is born.

611

612 **Salvador Gaytan:** Okay, and you know what, we're going to explore those details
613 more in our next program. We're coming to the last few seconds,
614 Dr. John.

615

616 **Dr. John Chao:** The implications are astounding. I can see a lot of applications to
617 that, knowledge [crosstalk].

618

619 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** And it's done here at Herman Ostrow USC School of Dentistry,
620 can you believe that?

621

622 **Dr. John Chao:** Yeah, it's applying to Cleft Palate, but I can see how it could
623 intervene with a lot of congenital diseases.

624

625 **Dr. Avishai Sadan:** Absolutely.

626

627 **Salvador Gaytan:** And that's coming to the conclusion of our show, Dr. John.

628

629 **Dr. John Chao:** Goodbye everybody, we'll see you next week and we'll continue
630 this fascinating interview.

631

632 [END OF AUDIO]