

PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES
*A Service of the Gordon J. Christensen
Career Development Program*

V4799
Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level

Wendy Briggs, RDH
Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

Materials Included:

C.E. Instruction Sheet
Products List
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AGD Post-Test

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PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES

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PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES
Sources of Products Discussed in
V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level
Presented by: Wendy Briggs, RDH & Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

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4. **The Ultimate Guide to Doubling & Tripling Your Dental Practice Production
by Wendy Briggs (Book)**

www.wendysfreebook.com

***Product names, the products themselves, and company names change rapidly. Please
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PROGRAM

V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level

CLINICIANS RESPONSIBLE:

Wendy Briggs, RDH

*Founder of the Team Training Institute
International Speaker, Published Author
Strategic Advisor, Trainer, Consultant, and Coach*

Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

*Founder and CEO, Practical Clinical Courses
Senior Consultant & Previous CEO, CR Foundation
Practicing Prosthodontist, Provo, Utah*

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this video presentation, viewers should be able to:

1. List and discuss the changes evolving in the role of dental hygienists.
2. Discuss how to increase the amount of services provided for your already present patient base.
3. Discuss how to increase the amount of services provided for your new patients.
4. Define world-class hygiene.
5. List the three categories of activities discussed under the topic world-class hygiene.
6. Discuss why the preventive therapist should be emphasized.
7. List and discuss the major responsibility of the preventive therapist.
8. Discuss the influence of low-pH foods on caries initiation.
9. Discuss the influence of various sugars on caries initiation.
10. Discuss the prevalence of low-pH beverages.
11. Discuss how to reduce patient use of cariogenic foods.
12. Discuss dental disease risk assessment.
13. Define and discuss fluoride varnish and its effect on dental caries.
14. Discuss the role of dental hygienists in placing sealants.
15. Describe two reasons why sealants often fail.
16. Describe a typical technique for sealant placement.
17. Define and discuss desensitizing of external tooth sensitivity.
18. Define dental hygienist role in treating periodontal disease.
19. Describe how dental hygienists can be the office treatment advocate.
20. List ten potential dental hygienist expanded functions beyond conventional dental hygiene responsibilities.

OVERVIEW

V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level

Most dentists employ dental hygienists for conventional hygiene procedures. There are an enormous number of ways the influence of dental hygienists can be expanded. The following ones are discussed in this presentation:

- Changes evolving in the role of dental hygienists
- Increasing the dental services provided for your already present patient base
- Increasing the dental services provided for your new patients
- World-class hygiene
- Three categories of activities discussed under the topic world-class hygiene
- Why the preventive therapist should be emphasized
- The major responsibility of the preventive therapist
- The influence of low-pH foods on caries initiation
- The influence of various sugars on caries initiation
- The prevalence of low-pH beverages
- How to reduce patient use of cariogenic foods
- Dental disease risk assessment
- Fluoride varnish and its effect on dental caries
- The role of dental hygienists in placing sealants
- Two reasons why sealants often fail
- Typical technique for sealant placement
- Desensitizing external tooth sensitivity
- Dental hygienist role in treating periodontal disease
- How dental hygienists can be the office treatment advocate
- Ten potential dental hygienist expanded functions beyond conventional dental hygiene responsibilities

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

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1. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: We already have the perfect team. *Dental Economics*. 2018 Aug;108(8):82-4.
2. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Educating staff for practice efficiency. *Dental Economics*. 2018 Jan;108(1):68-70.
3. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: How do you encourage staff to take responsibility? *Dental Economics*. 2017 Dec;107(12):63-4.
4. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Simple methods to increase service to patients and revenue. *Dental Economics*. 2015 May;105(5):84-5.
5. Darling BG, Kanellis MJ, McKernan SC, Damiano PC. Potential utilization of expanded function dental auxiliaries to place restoratives. *J Public Health Dent*. 2015 Spring;75(2):163-8. doi: 10.1111/jphd.12089. Epub 2015 Mar 10.
6. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Increasing staff functions to improve practice productivity. *Dental Economics*. 2014 Sep;104(9):24-8.
7. Beazoglou TJ, Chen L, Lazar VF, Brown LJ, Ray SC, Heffley DR, Berg R, Bailit HL. Expanded function allied dental personnel and dental practice productivity and efficiency. *J Dent Educ*. 2012 Aug;76(8):1054-60.
8. Guay AH, Lazar V. Increasing productivity in dental practice: the role of ancillary personnel. *J Am Coll Dent*. 2012 Spring;79(1):11-7.
9. Christensen GJ, Child PL Jr. What has happened to Dental Assisting? *DentalTown*. 2011 Nov;12(11):24, 26, 28, 30.
10. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: 4-handed and 6-handed dental assisting. *Dental Economics*. 2011 Jun;101(6):66-8.
11. Christensen, GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Expanding the role of dental hygienists; Use of amalgam in spite of patient disapproval. *Dental Economics*. 2006 Sept;96(9):120-2.
12. Christensen GJ. Increasing Patient Service by Effective Use of Dental Hygienists. *J Am Dent Assoc*. 1995 Sept;126(9):1291-1292, 1294.

POST-TEST

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1. Which of the following influences the role of dental hygienists?
 - a. Third-party payment companies
 - b. Corporate dentistry organizations
 - c. Competition in the marketplace
 - d. All of the above

2. Define the preventive dental hygiene therapist role in hygiene.
 - a. DH doing normal prophies.
 - b. DH doing patient advocacy.
 - c. DH maximizing the preventive aspects of the hygiene appointment.
 - d. None of the above.

3. Define the periodontal dental hygiene role in hygiene.
 - a. DH doing normal prophies.
 - b. DH doing patient advocacy.
 - c. DH maximizing the preventive role aspects of the hygiene appointment.
 - d. None of the above.

4. Define the patient treatment advocate role in hygiene.
 - a. DH doing normal prophies.
 - b. DH educating patients about the dentist, dental procedures, potential needs in their mouth.
 - c. DH maximizing the preventive role aspects of the hygiene appointment.
 - d. None of the above.

5. The preventive therapist portion of the dental hygiene appointment includes:
 - a. conventional scaling and root planing.
 - b. information about the various available procedures that can slow down progress of dental disease or prevent it.
 - c. periodontal deep scaling.
 - d. education about various restorative and surgical techniques.

6. The periodontal portion of the dental hygiene appointment includes:
 - a. education about various restorative and surgical techniques.
 - b. conventional scaling and root planing.
 - c. information about the various available procedures that can slow down progress of dental disease or prevent it.
 - d. periodontal deep scaling.

7. The patient treatment advocate portion of the dental hygiene appointment includes:
 - a. conventional scaling and root planing.
 - b. information about the various available procedures that can slow down progress of dental disease or prevent it.
 - c. periodontal deep scaling.
 - d. education about various restorative and surgical techniques.

POST-TEST (CONT'D)

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8. From the discussion in the video, it appears that:
- a. most hygienists are participating in all three portions of the suggested DH responsibilities.
 - b. most hygienists are doing primarily the periodontal therapist role.
 - c. most hygienists are doing primarily the preventive therapist role.
 - d. most hygienists are doing primarily the patient advocate role.
9. In the preventive therapist role, the most difficult task to have patients accept is:
- a. coming in for a DH cleaning.
 - b. brushing their teeth.
 - c. listening to DH suggestions.
 - d. changing their hygiene and eating behaviors.
10. Implementing which of the following will increase patient service and practice revenue?
- a. Sealants
 - b. Fluoride varnish
 - c. Tooth desensitization
 - d. All of the above

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