

PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES

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Career Development Program

V4776

Ergonomics – Reduce or Eliminate Pain from Your Practice Day

Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

Materials Included

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Sources of Products Discussed in

V4776 Ergonomics – Reduce or Eliminate Pain from Your Practice Day

Presented by: Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

1. **Loupes and Headlamps**
Designs for Vision, Inc.
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Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
(800)345-4009
(631)585-3300
www.designsforvision.com
2. **Loupes and Headlamps**
Orasoptic
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St. Louis, MO 63122
(800)861-3585
(636)861-3388
www.globalsurgical.com
5. **Microscopes**
Zeiss USA
One Zeiss Drive
Thornwood, NY 10594
(800)442-4020
www.zeiss.com
6. **Nomad Pro 2**
KaVo Kerr Group/Aribex
11727 Fruehauf Drive
Charlotte, NC 28273
(866)340-5522
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Product names, the products themselves, and company names change rapidly. Please contact the companies shown to confirm current information.

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PROGRAM

V4776 Ergonomics - Reduce or Eliminate Pain from Your Practice Day

CLINICIAN RESPONSIBLE:

Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD
CEO, Practical Clinical Courses
CEO, CR Foundation
Practicing Prosthodontist, Provo, Utah

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

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

1. Define the word ergonomics overall and as it relates to dentistry.
2. List the advantages of working in a good ergonomic environment.
3. List the commonly occurring health challenges of dental personnel.
4. Identify the worst ergonomic health challenge related to dental practice.
5. What are the major reasons for ergonomic health challenges?
6. List the ergonomic challenges that are beyond your control.
7. Discuss how seriousness of the potential ergonomic health challenges for dental personnel.
8. List what you can do to improve ergonomics in your practice environment.
9. List several misconceptions concerning ergonomics in dentistry.
10. Compare the ergonomic effect to sitting vs. standing.
11. Discuss how to determine the height of countertops.
12. Discuss sink location in operatories.
13. Discuss the alternatives for operating lighting.
14. Discuss how and where to deliver radiation in your office.
15. Describe proper operating chair characteristics.
16. Describe proper posture while operating.
17. Describe clinician and assistant stools.
18. Describe proper position of the stools.
19. Discuss magnification in relation to ergonomics.
20. Discuss headlamps in relation to ergonomics.

OVERVIEW

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The primary purpose of this presentation is to alert dental personnel to the dangers working in a non-ergonomic environment and to change their behavior relative to their work environment and work habits.

The following topics and other topics are included in the presentation:

1. Definition of ergonomics
2. Advantages of working in a good ergonomic environment
3. Commonly occurring health challenges for dental personnel
4. The worst challenge - musculoskeletal disorders (MSD)
5. Reasons for health challenges
6. How serious are the health challenges for dental personnel?
7. Factors beyond your control
8. Your overall health
9. What can you do about ergonomics in your environment?
10. Misconceptions concerning ergonomics in dentistry
11. Move your body!
12. Sitting vs. standing
13. Designing your operatories around your body - personalizing your operatories
14. Patient care delivery systems
15. Rear delivery
16. Side delivery
17. Over-the-patient delivery
18. Over-the-head delivery
19. Size of your operatories
20. Entry to your operatories
21. Fixed and removable countertop height
22. Sink locations
23. Operating lights
24. Radiation tube head
25. Patient chair characteristics
26. Patient positioning in the chair
27. Clinician stool
28. Your posture while operating
29. Assistant stool
30. Posture of your assistant
31. Four-and-six-handed dentistry
32. Location of computer work station and operator monitors
33. Magnification - loupes and microscopes
34. Headlamps

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POST-TEST

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1. Ergonomics in dental operatories means:
 - a. selecting the most popular operatory design and adapting to it.
 - b. making sure that your operatories are about average size and shape recommended by experts.
 - c. analyzing your body size and work preferences and adapting operatories to these characteristics.
 - d. none of the above.

2. Which is the most commonly occurring physical problem for clinicians related to dental practice?
 - a. Neurological problems
 - b. Musculoskeletal disorders
 - c. Tumors
 - d. Cardiovascular disease

3. The movements to avoid while practicing are:
 - a. fingers only.
 - b. wrist and hand movements.
 - c. elbow movement in adduction.
 - d. rotation of the trunk and waist.

4. The best overall dental operatory design was supported in this presentation to be:
 - a. side delivery.
 - b. rear delivery.
 - c. over-the-patient delivery.
 - d. none of the above.

5. The most adequate position for operating is:
 - a. unknown.
 - b. standing.
 - c. standing and sitting.
 - d. sitting.

6. The average measurement of a female arm from the shoulder girdle to the tip of the fingers is:
 - a. 21 inches.
 - b. 24 inches.
 - c. 27 inches.
 - d. 23 inches.

7. The distance suggested for the space from the head of the chair to the back wall was:
 - a. 21 inches.
 - b. 27 inches.
 - c. 24 inches.
 - d. 23 inches.

POST-TEST (CONT'D)

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8. Countertops, both fixed and movable, should be:
 - a. 27 inches.
 - b. variable and directly related to your body characteristics.
 - c. 23 inches.
 - d. none of the above.

9. Sink location on the clinician's side of the operatory should be:
 - a. at the head of the chair.
 - b. at the foot of the chair.
 - c. at the preference of the clinician.
 - d. halfway from the head to the foot of the chair.

10. To improve the ergonomics in your clinical office, you should:
 - a. evaluate the current level of ergonomics in your office.
 - b. go to other dental offices and observe their ergonomic characteristics.
 - c. decide which ergonomic characteristics of your office need to be improved.
 - d. make the changes necessary in your office.
 - e. all of the above.

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