

# **PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

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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  
Clinicians Responsible  
Goals & Objectives  
Overview  
References  
AGD Post-Test

**Gordon J. Christensen**  
**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

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Gordon J. Christensen  
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*Sources of Products Discussed in*  
**V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level**

Presented by: Wendy Briggs, RDH & Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

1. **Dental Documents Booklet & Digital Files**  
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5. **The Ultimate Guide to Doubling & Tripling Your Dental Practice Production  
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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**

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. 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

## REFERENCES

### **V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level**

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## POST-TEST

### **V4799 Optimizing Dental Hygiene to the Next Level**

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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