

# **PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

A Service of the Gordon J. Christensen  
Career Development Program

**V4757**

## **Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

### **Materials Included**

C.E. Instruction Sheet  
Products List  
Clinician Responsible  
Goals & Objectives  
Overview  
References  
AGD Post-Test

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

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Gordon J. Christensen

**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

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**V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and  
How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

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

1. **Accufilm II**  
Parkell Inc.  
300 Executive Drive  
Edgewood, NY 11717  
(800)243-7446  
(631)249-1134  
[www.parkell.com](http://www.parkell.com)
2. **BruxZir**  
Glidewell Laboratories  
4141 MacArthur Blvd.  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
(800)854-7256  
(949)440-2600  
[www.glidewell dental.com](http://www.glidewell dental.com)
3. **Burs – ¼, ½, 329, 330**  
Dentsply Professional  
1301 Smile Way  
P.O. Box 7807  
York, PA 17404  
(800)989-8825  
(717)767-8500  
[www.prevent.dentsply.com](http://www.prevent.dentsply.com)
4. **Calibra Esthetic Resin Cement**  
Dentsply Caulk  
38 West Clarke Avenue  
Milford, DE 19963  
(800)532-2855  
(302)422-4511  
[www.caulk.com](http://www.caulk.com)
5. **Clinpro 5000**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)
6. **Direct Pedo Crown**  
DirectCrown Products  
817 North Central Avenue  
Suite B  
Medford, OR 97501  
(888)910-4490  
(541)344-5876  
[www.directcrown.com](http://www.directcrown.com)
7. **Elevator**  
Various Manufacturers
8. **Fender Wedge**  
Garrison Dental Solutions  
150 DeWitt Lane  
Spring Lake, MI 49456  
(888)437-0032  
(616)842-2244  
[www.garrison dental.com](http://www.garrison dental.com)
9. **Filpin**  
Filhol Dental  
19 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 916  
New York, NY 10001  
(212)714-9250  
[www.filhol.com](http://www.filhol.com)
10. **Fuji II LC**  
GC America, Inc.  
3737 West 127<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alsip, IL 60803  
(800)323-7063  
(708)597-0900  
[www.gcamerica.com](http://www.gcamerica.com)
11. **GC Crowntek**  
GC America, Inc.  
3737 West 127<sup>th</sup> Street  
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(800)323-7063  
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[www.gcamerica.com](http://www.gcamerica.com)
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3737 West 127<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alsip, IL 60803  
(800)323-7063  
(708)597-0900  
[www.gcamerica.com](http://www.gcamerica.com)
13. **Ketac Nano**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
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St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)

14. **Luxator**  
JS Dental Manufacturing  
196 North Salem Road  
P.O. Box 904  
Ridgefield, CT 06877  
(800)284-3368  
(203)438-8832  
[www.jsdental.com](http://www.jsdental.com)
15. **Madame Butterfly Silk**  
Almore International, Inc.  
P.O. Box 25214  
Portland, OR 97298  
(800)547-1511  
(503)643-6633  
[www.almore.com](http://www.almore.com)
16. **Multilink Automix**  
Ivoclar Vivadent Inc.  
175 Pineview Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228  
(800)533-6825  
(716)691-0010  
[www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com](http://www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com)
17. **NeoDiamond**  
Microcopy  
3120 Moon Station Road NW  
P.O. Box 2017  
Kennesaw, GA 30144  
(800)235-1863  
(770)425-5715  
[www.microcopydental.com](http://www.microcopydental.com)
18. **NX3 Nexus Third Generation Resin Cement**  
Kerr Corporation  
1717 West Collins Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867  
(800)537-7123  
(714)516-7400  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)
19. **Occlusal Indicator Wax**  
Kerr Corporation  
1717 West Collins Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867  
(800)537-7123  
(714)516-7400  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)
20. **OptiBond XTR**  
Kerr Corporation  
1717 West Collins Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867  
(800)537-7123  
(714)516-7400  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)
21. **Oral-B Glide Floss**  
Procter & Gamble  
2 Procter & Gamble Plaza  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(800)543-2577  
(513)983-1100  
[www.dentalcare.com](http://www.dentalcare.com)
22. **Permadyne**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
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(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
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23. **Polycarbonate Crowns**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)
24. **Precise ATW**  
ITL Dental  
31 Peters Canyon  
Irvine, CA 92606  
(800)277-0073  
(949)223-8950  
[www.itldental.com](http://www.itldental.com)
25. **Premier Implant Cement**  
Premier Dental Products Co.  
1710 Romano Drive  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462  
(888)670-6100  
(610)239-6000  
[www.premusa.com](http://www.premusa.com)
26. **PreviDent 5000 Plus or Gel**  
Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals  
300 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
(800)226-5428  
(212)310-2000  
[www.colgateprofessional.com](http://www.colgateprofessional.com)
27. **Proximator**  
Karl Schumacher Dental  
Instruments Company, Inc.  
108 Lakeside Drive  
Southampton, PA 18966  
(800)523-2427  
(215)322-0511  
[www.karlschumacher.com](http://www.karlschumacher.com)
28. **RelyX Unicem**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)

29. **RelyX Veneer**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
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(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)
30. **Riva**  
SDI (North America) Inc.  
729 North Route 83  
Suite 315  
Bensenville, IL 60106  
(800)228-5166  
(630)238-8300  
[www.sdi.com.au](http://www.sdi.com.au)
31. **Scotchbond Universal**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)
32. **Snap-Stone**  
Whip Mix Corporation  
361 Farmington Avenue  
P.O. Box 17183  
Louisville, KY 40217  
(800)626-5651  
(502)637-1451  
[www.whipmix.com](http://www.whipmix.com)
33. **Surgical Handpiece**  
J. Morita USA  
9 Mason  
Irvine, CA 92618  
(800)831-3222  
(949)581-9600  
[www.morita.com/usa](http://www.morita.com/usa)
34. **TempBond  
(Original, Clear, NE)**  
Kerr Corporation  
1717 West Collins Avenue  
Orange, CA 92867  
(800)537-7123  
(714)516-7400  
[www.kerrdental.com](http://www.kerrdental.com)
35. **Tofflemire Matrix**  
Greater Curve  
116 East Main Street  
P.O. Box 337  
Owensville, OH 45160  
(866)493-3437  
[www.greatercurve.com](http://www.greatercurve.com)
36. **Triad TruTray**  
Dentsply Prosthetics  
Ceramco-Trubyte-Austenal  
570 West College Avenue  
York, PA 17405  
(800)243-1942  
(717)845-7511  
[www.prosthetics.dentsply.com](http://www.prosthetics.dentsply.com)
37. **TrollFoil**  
TrollDental  
661 Hayward Avenue North  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
(800)537-8765  
(203)775-4342  
[www.trolldental.com](http://www.trolldental.com)
38. **Variolink II**  
Ivoclar Vivadent Inc.  
175 Pineview Drive  
Amherst, NY 14228  
(800)533-6825  
(716)691-0010  
[www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com](http://www.ivoclarvivadent.us.com)
39. **Vitrebond**  
3M ESPE Dental Products  
3M Center  
Bldg. 275-2SE-03  
St. Paul, MN 55144  
(800)634-2249  
(651)575-5144  
[www.3mespe.com](http://www.3mespe.com)
40. **Wedge Guard**  
Triodent Corporation  
4431 Corporate Center Drive  
Suite 107  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720  
(800)811-3949  
[www.triodent.com](http://www.triodent.com)
41. **X-OTOMES**  
A. Titan Instruments  
97 Main Street  
Hamburg, NY 14075  
(877)284-8261  
(716)648-9272  
[www.atitan.com](http://www.atitan.com)

***Product names, the products themselves, and company names change rapidly. Please contact the companies shown to confirm current information.***

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## PROGRAM

V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

### 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, participants should be able to accomplish the following:

1. List reasons to identify the products, concepts, and techniques that have been proven to be good or bad and to learn from these experiences.
2. List and describe the products, concepts, and techniques in your own practice that have been successful or have not worked.
3. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **diagnosis and treatment planning** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
4. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **endodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
5. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **esthetic dentistry** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
6. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **implant surgery** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
7. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **implant prosthodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
8. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **occlusion** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
9. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **operative dentistry** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
10. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **oral and maxillofacial radiology** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
11. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **oral and maxillofacial surgery** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
12. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **orthodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
13. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **pediatric dentistry** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
14. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **periodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
15. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **fixed prosthodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
16. List and describe products, concepts, and techniques in **removable prosthodontics** discussed in this presentation that have been clinical failures and how to overcome them.
17. Identify and overcome the most failing procedure in your practice.

## PROGRAM (Cont'd)

### **V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

18. Identify and enhance the best procedure in your practice.
19. Identify the areas of dentistry you want to deemphasize based on your lack of interest and failures that you have observed.
20. Identify the area of dentistry that you want to emphasize in your practice based on your success in that area.

## OVERVIEW

This presentation is based on the clinical experiences and research over several decades of dental practice of Dr. Gordon J. Christensen. He has identified about 90 products, concepts, and techniques in the many areas of dentistry that have been failures. The presentation discussed these failures and makes suggestions on how to avoid them and/or overcome them.

Examples of failures from the presentation are:

- Lack of a complete treatment plan before starting treatment
- Starting restorative dentistry on a currently painful tooth
- Leaving a weak tooth in the rehabilitation of a bruxer or clencher
- Perforating the external of a tooth with a post
- Not providing adequate retention for a build-up in an endodontically treated tooth
- Not showing a potential patient what can be achieved from an esthetic standpoint
- Being overly optimistic with a patient about treatment outcome
- Attempting to bleach tetracycline stains
- Over-bleaching causing excessive repeated bleaching
- Inadequate flap opening
- Placing implants around mobile teeth
- Loading implants too soon
- Using final cement for cementation of implant-supported crowns
- Not tightening implant abutment screws enough
- Too optimistic on TMD treatment
- No postoperative occlusal adjustment after comprehensive restorative dentistry
- Using aggressive or dull burs
- Leaving horizontal cracks in teeth receiving intra-coronal restorations
- Nicking adjacent teeth during restorative dentistry
- Total etching crown preparations
- Inadequate radiographs
- Creating air emphysema
- Using too much force during extractions
- Inadequate preventive care during orthodontic treatment
- Restoring primary teeth with intra-coronal restorations that are too large
- Expecting significant behavior change relative to oral hygiene
- Not bleaching surrounding teeth when doing piecemeal crowns
- Using dual cure cement for veneers
- Opening vertical dimension of occlusion too far on removable prostheses
- Leaving crowns too high or too low
- Not using implants with removable partial dentures
- Expecting removable partial denture clasps to serve for a long time

Each of the above situations and many more are discussed with potential solutions for each.

## REFERENCES

### **V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

1. Christensen GJ. Dental Radiographs and Dental Caries: A Challenge. JADA 1996; 127(6):792-3.
2. Christensen GJ. The Cracked Tooth Syndrome: A Pragmatic Treatment Approach. JADA 1993; 124(2):107-8.
3. Christensen GJ. Posts: Necessary or Unnecessary? JADA 1996; 127(10):1522-6.
4. Christensen GJ. Treatment of the edentulous mandible. JADA 2001; 132(2):231-3.
5. Christensen GJ. Treating Bruxism and Clenching. JADA 2000; 131(2):233-5.
6. Christensen GJ. Should resin cements be used for every cementation? JADA 2007; 138(6):817-9.
7. Christensen GJ. Should Teeth Be Built up for Crowns? JADA 1993; 124(6):93-4.
8. Christensen GJ. Choosing an all-ceramic restorative material -Porcelain-fused-to-metal or zirconia-based? JADA 2007; 138(5):662-5.
9. Christensen GJ. Thick or thin veneers? JADA 2008; 139(11):1541-3.
10. Christensen GJ. Making Class II resin-based composite restorations predictable and profitable. JADA 2010; 141(4):457-60.
11. Christensen GJ. Soft-tissue cutting with laser versus electrosurgery. JADA 2008; 139(7):981-4.
12. Christensen GJ. Why use resin cements? JADA 2010; 141(2):204-6.
13. Christensen GJ. Should resin-based composite dominate restorative dentistry today? JADA 2010; 141(12): 1490-3.
14. Christensen GJ. Improving interocclusal records for crowns and fixed prostheses. JADA 2011; 142(4):441-4.
15. Christensen GJ. Dentistry's forced return to its roots. JADA 2011; 142(12):1393-5.



## POST-TEST

### **V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

1. When a symptomatic endodontically treated tooth is present and you are planning to start restorative treatment, you should:
  - a. go ahead with restorative treatment on the tooth.
  - b. always re-treat the tooth before restoring it.
  - c. always extract the tooth and do another treatment plan.
  - d. consider all options, consult with the patient, and make a conclusion about treatment.
  
2. When you have perforated the external of an endodontically treated tooth while making a post hole, you should:
  - a. always extract the tooth.
  - b. place resin cement in the canal to seal the perforation.
  - c. place a product, such as MTA paste, in the perforation area and allow the site to heal.
  - d. make another post hole and cement the post as though the perforation was not present.
  
3. Bleaching striated tetracycline stained teeth:
  - a. is difficult, but can be done.
  - b. should not be attempted.
  - c. is best solved by using veneers.
  - d. should be solved by using full-ceramic crowns.
  
4. Antibiotics should:
  - a. routinely be provided preoperatively before oral surgery.
  - b. primarily be prescribed when infection is present.
  - c. always be provided after difficult surgery.
  - d. routinely be provided when doing extractions.
  
5. Implants should:
  - a. be loaded as soon as possible after they are placed.
  - b. not be loaded until 6 months after placement.
  - c. be loaded immediately only if the implants were placed in optimum dense bone, and the implant is solidly in place.
  - d. not be loaded immediately.
  
6. Cement for cementation of crowns over implant abutments:
  - a. should be final cement.
  - b. should be radiolucent.
  - c. should be radiopaque.
  - d. should be ZOE.
  
7. Bruxers should have an occlusal splint:
  - a. for use during sleeping.
  - b. after placement of full-ceramic crowns, such as e.max.
  - c. to reduce abnormal tooth wear during stressed times.
  - d. all of the above.

**POST-TEST (CONT'D)**

**V4757 Dr. Christensen's Clinical Failures and How to Avoid Them, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**

- 8. 557 burs:
  - a. do not have cross cut fissures on them.
  - b. can cause tooth cracks when cutting tooth preparations.
  - c. should be used routinely for class II tooth preparations.
  - d. are well proven as the most adequate bur for operative dentistry.
  
- 9. Air emphysema:
  - a. is not dangerous.
  - b. is caused by a rear exhaust handpiece.
  - c. can be caused during routine operative dentistry.
  - d. is a frequent occurrence.
  
- 10. When mobile periodontally treated teeth are present:
  - a. connect them to implants.
  - b. do not consider extracting them.
  - c. do not place implants around them.
  - d. always extract them before doing implants.

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