

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

**S4749**  
**Essential Risk Management**

Mitchell J. Gardiner, DMD  
Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

**Materials Included:**

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

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**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**

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**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**  
*Sources of Products Discussed in*  
**S4749 Essential Risk Management**

Presented by: Mitchell J. Gardiner, DMD & Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

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## **PROGRAM**

### **S4749 Essential Risk Management**

#### **CLINICIANS RESPONSIBLE:**

##### **Mitchell J. Gardiner, DMD**

*Clinical Assistant Professor, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine  
Expert Witness for 25 Years, Dental Malpractice Cases  
Fellowships in the AGD, ACD, and ICD*

##### **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. Define standards of care in dentistry.
2. Discuss who establishes standards of care.
3. Discuss potential changes over time with standards of care.
4. Define what areas of dentistry are discussed to determine negligence.
5. Discuss the importance of recording proper documentation of procedures.
6. Discuss the frequency of dentists being involved with lawsuits.
7. List some types of permanent injuries that occur in dentistry.
8. List some types of temporary injuries that occur in dentistry.
9. Define what two conclusions need to be proven in court to indicate negligence.
10. Discuss the importance of recording all medications.
11. Discuss the importance of updating medical histories.
12. List the vital signs that must be determined and recorded.
13. Discuss virtual vs. hard copy informed consent.
14. Discuss the relationship of the human papillomavirus to dentistry.
15. List the procedures involved with proper informed consent.
16. Describe who signs the informed consent document.
17. Discuss dentists' responsibility for diagnosing oral cancer.
18. Determine what risk management procedures should be incorporated into your practice.
19. Evaluate the risk management procedures currently used in your practice.
20. Incorporate proper risk management procedures into your practice.

## OVERVIEW

### **S4749 Essential Risk Management**

It is estimated that up to 60% of dentists will be involved with a lawsuit during their practice years. Adequate risk management in dental practices is mandatory but is not present in some practices. The principles of risk management are included and discussed in this video.

The following and other topics are included in this video:

- Standards of care in dentistry.
- Who establishes standards of care?
- Potential changes over time with standards of care.
- What areas of dentistry are discussed to determine negligence?
- Importance of recording proper documentation of procedures.
- Frequency of dentists being involved with lawsuits.
- Types of permanent injuries that occur in dentistry.
- Types of temporary injuries that occur in dentistry.
- What two conclusions need to be proven in court to indicate negligence?
- Importance of recording all medications.
- Importance of updating medical histories.
- Vital signs that must be determined and recorded.
- Virtual vs. hard copy informed consent.
- The relationship of the human papillomavirus to dentistry.
- Procedures involved with proper informed consent.
- Who signs the informed consent document?
- Dentists' responsibility for diagnosing oral cancer.
- What risk management procedures should be incorporated into your practice?
- Risk management procedures currently used in your practice.
- How to incorporate proper risk management procedures into your practice.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

### **S4749 Essential Risk Management**

1. Yusof MYPM, Teo CH, Ng CJ. Electronic informed consent criteria for research ethics review: a scoping review. *BMC Med Ethics*. 2022 Nov 21;23(1):117. doi: 10.1186/s12910-022-00849-x.
2. Arya R, Jadun S, Shah A. An evaluation of patient informed consent for dental extractions. *Prim Dent J*. 2022 Sep;11(3):98-103. doi: 10.1177/20501684221112527.
3. Guerra F, Guzzo AS, La Rosa P, Miatto I, Vergati D, Miredi F, Gasparrini N, Guerra F, Raimondi L, Corridore D, Nardi GM, Mazur M, La Torre G, Ottolenghi L. Risk management and Healthcare responsibility. How to guarantee legal protection in Medicine. *Clin Ter*. 2021 Jan-Feb;171(1):e63-e66. doi: 10.7417/CT.2021.2285.
4. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Do your patients understand what you are doing? *Dental Economics*. 2020 Dec;110(12):49-50.
5. Christensen GJ. Ask Dr. Christensen: Patient education and informed consent are mandatory. *Dental Economics*. 2019 Nov;109(11):67-9.
6. Alrahabi M, Zafar MS, Adanir N. Aspects of Clinical Malpractice in Endodontics. *Eur J Dent*. 2019 Jul;13(3):450-458. doi: 10.1055/s-0039-1700767. Epub 2019 Dec 3.
7. Bhupathi PA, Ravi GR. Comprehensive Format of Informed Consent in Research and Practice: A Tool to uphold the Ethical and Moral Standards. *Int J Clin Pediatr Dent*. 2017 Jan-Mar;10(1):73-81. doi: 10.5005/jp-journals-10005-1411. Epub 2017 Feb 27.

## POST-TEST

### **S4749 Essential Risk Management**

1. Are dental standards of care similar in all geographic areas?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  
2. Who establishes standards of care?
  - a. State regulatory organizations
  - b. Dental schools
  - c. Specialties
  - d. All the above
  
3. Can standards of care change?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  
4. What areas of dentistry are discussed in a trial on a specific injury?
  - a. The standard of care for the specific issue.
  - b. All areas of dentistry related to the injury.
  
5. Documentation should be done:
  - a. For all aspects of a procedure accomplished.
  - b. Only for the specific procedures being completed.
  
6. Should a call to a previous practitioner related to a specific case be documented?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  
7. A fractured mandible is a:
  - a. Temporary injury.
  - b. Permanent injury.

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

**S4749 Essential Risk Management**

- 8. Two conclusions necessary to indicate negligence are:
  - a. Was the procedure at the level of standard of care?
  - b. Was their injury caused by the procedure?
  - c. All the above.
  - d. None of the above.
  
- 9. Vital signs should be determined:
  - a. Only at the diagnostic appointment.
  - b. Before each procedure.
  - c. All the above.
  
- 10. Informed consent:
  - a. Is a legal mandate.
  - b. Should be signed by the patient
  - c. All the above.
  - d. None of the above.

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