

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

**V4103**  
**Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

Karl R. Koerner, DDS, MS  
Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

**Materials Included:**  
C.E. Instruction Sheet  
Products List  
Clinicians Responsible  
Goals & Objectives  
Overview  
Supplemental Materials  
AGD Post-Test

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

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Gordon J. Christensen  
**PRACTICAL CLINICAL COURSES**  
*Sources of Instruments and Supplies Discussed in*  
**V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

Presented by: Karl R. Koerner, DDS, MS & Gordon J. Christensen, DDS, MSD, PhD

1. **Air King Surgical Handpiece (45°, 25°)**  
Medidenta  
3575 West Post Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89118  
(800)221-0750  
[www.medidenta.com](http://www.medidenta.com)
2. **Alveogyl by Septodont**  
Various Distributors
3. **Apical Retention Forceps (1107 Upper & 1121 Lower)**  
Karl Schumacher Dental, LLC  
1666 East Touhy Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 60018  
(800)523-2427  
(215)322-0511  
[www.karlschumacher.com](http://www.karlschumacher.com)
4. **B Cogswell Elevator**  
Hu-Friedy Mfg. Co., LLC  
3232 N. Rockwell Street  
Chicago, IL 60618-5935  
(800)483-7433  
[www.hufriedygroup.com](http://www.hufriedygroup.com)
5. **Bien-Air Handpiece**  
Bien-Air Dental USA, Inc.  
8861 Research Drive  
Irvine, CA 92618  
(800)433-2436  
[www.bienair.com](http://www.bienair.com)
6. **Bouffant Surgical Caps**  
Various Distributors
7. **CDT Dental Codes**  
American Dental Association  
211 East Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
(800)947-4746  
[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)
8. **Child Mouth Prop (Bite Block)**  
Various Distributors
9. **Cryer Elevator (Small #21 & #22)**  
Karl Schumacher Dental, LLC  
1666 East Touhy Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 60018  
(800)523-2427  
(215)322-0511  
[www.karlschumacher.com](http://www.karlschumacher.com)
10. **Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate (4mg/ml, 30 ml Vial)**  
Henry Schein Dental  
135 Duryea Road  
Melville NY 11747  
(800)372-4346  
(631)843-5500  
[www.henryschein.com](http://www.henryschein.com)
11. **Elevators (190 & 191)**  
Hu-Friedy Mfg. Co., LLC  
3232 N. Rockwell Street  
Chicago, IL 60618-5935  
(800)483-7433  
[www.hufriedygroup.com](http://www.hufriedygroup.com)
12. **Gauze (4"x 4")**  
Various Distributors
13. **Gelfoam Dental Sponges (Size 4) (See Surgifoam)**
14. **Hemostype or Hemostatic Gauze (2" x 2")**  
Various Distributors
15. **Impact Air 45**  
Various Distributors
16. **Iodoform Gauze (1/4" x 5 Yards)**  
Various Distributors
17. **Irrigation Syringes (12cc Plastic, Curved Tip)**  
Patterson Dental Supply, Inc.  
1031 Mendota Heights Rd  
St. Paul, MN 55120  
(800)328-5536  
(651)686-1600  
[www.pattersondental.com](http://www.pattersondental.com)
18. **Lindo-Levin Barbed Elevator #4932**  
Zoll Dental  
7450 North Natchez Avenue  
Niles, IL 60714  
(800)239-2904  
(847)647-1819  
[www.zolldental.com](http://www.zolldental.com)
19. **Miller Apexo Elevators (73-74)**  
Hu-Friedy Mfg. Co., LLC  
3232 N. Rockwell Street  
Chicago, IL 60618-5935  
(800)483-7433  
[www.hufriedygroup.com](http://www.hufriedygroup.com)

20. **OMS Handpiece**  
Sabra Dental Products  
125 Wilbur Place  
Suite 170  
Bohemia, NY 11716  
(800)888-4435  
(631)243-6575  
[www.sabradent.com](http://www.sabradent.com)
21. **Romazicon (Flumazenil)(0.5 mg in 5 ml Vial, 0.1 mg/ml)**  
Local Pharmacy or  
Various Distributors
22. **Saline (12 One-Liter Bottles)**  
Various Distributors
23. **Sultan Dry Socket Paste (Discontinued)**
24. **Surgical Aspirator (15P3A)**  
Quality Aspirators Inc.  
P.O. Box 382120  
Duncanville, TX 75138  
(800)858-2121  
(972)298-2669  
[www.qualityaspirators.com](http://www.qualityaspirators.com)
25. **Surgical Length Burs 702 (1702, End Cutting), 703 (1703)**  
Brasseler USA Dental  
One Brasseler Blvd.  
Savannah, GA 31419  
(800)841-4522  
[www.brasselerusadental.com](http://www.brasselerusadental.com)
26. **Surgifoam Absorbable Gelatin Sponges (Alternative for Gelfoam Dental Sponges)**  
Patterson Dental Supply, Inc.  
1031 Mendota Heights Rd  
St. Paul, MN 55120  
(800)328-5536  
(651)686-1600  
[www.pattersondental.com](http://www.pattersondental.com)
27. **Suture Material with FS-2 or C-6 Needle**  
Patterson Dental Supply, Inc.  
1031 Mendota Heights Road  
St. Paul, MN 55120  
(800)328-5536  
(651)686-1600  
[www.pattersondental.com](http://www.pattersondental.com)
28. **3cc Syringes with Needle**  
Henry Schein Dental  
135 Duryea Road  
Melville NY 11747  
(800)372-4346  
(631)843-5500  
[www.henryschein.com](http://www.henryschein.com)
29. **Wisdom Teeth Patient Education Pamphlets**  
Smart Practice  
3400 E. McDowell Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85008-7899  
(800)522-0800  
[www.smartpractice.com](http://www.smartpractice.com)
30. **Wisdom Teeth Patient Education Pamphlets**  
WebMD Ignite  
800 Township Line Road  
Yardley, PA 19067  
(800)333-3032  
[www.kramesstore.com](http://www.kramesstore.com)

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

Gordon J. Christensen Practical Clinical Courses, 3707 North Canyon Road, Suite 3D, Provo, UT 84604  
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## **PROGRAM**

### **V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

#### **CLINICIANS RESPONSIBLE:**

**Karl R. Koerner, DDS, MS**

*General Practitioner, Logan, Utah*

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

1. Discuss indications and contraindications of third-molar removal.
2. Know the advantages of early removal vs. removal later in life.
3. Understand at what time in a person's life to take a "wait and see" attitude toward third-molar surgery.
4. Realize what factors make this surgery more difficult and recognize when cases are in or out of your "comfort zone".
5. Compare the difficulty and predictability of moderate partial bony impactions in a young person with roots not completely formed to non-third molar extractions in an older person.
6. Know how to differentiate complete bony from partial bony impactions.
7. Implement an effective "patient management" protocol that includes several items that will help the patient to be more comfortable and the procedure to be less objectionable.
8. Know basic flap designs for different depths of impacted third molars.
9. Be familiar with the most effective hand instruments for the removal of impacted third molars.
10. Be familiar with accepted drill and bur options for this surgery.
11. Have examples and understand the essential make-up of a pre-op consent form and a post-op instruction form for impacted third molars.
12. Have a clear awareness of regional anatomy for this area -- including nerves, arteries, veins, other significant structures.
13. Understand, step-by-step, how to proceed with the removal of maxillary and mandibular third molars according to current standards of care.
14. Explain what to do once a tooth is out in order to prepare the wound for suturing.
15. Know considerations for suturing, such as optimal needle types and suture placement.
16. Discuss potential serious complications that can occur during this procedure and how to avoid or prevent them from happening.
17. Describe at least two methods of preventing dry sockets and two methods of treating dry sockets if they should occur.
18. Accomplish this procedure in an expeditious manner – being able to remove all four impactions in less than one hour.
19. Know the importance of being available following surgery.
20. Understand the signs and symptoms of a postoperative sub-periosteal abscess, its seriousness, and how to treat it.

## OVERVIEW

### **V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

Third molar surgery is commonly performed in the United States. It is primarily done by oral and maxillofacial surgeons, but about 15% of general dentists (GPs) do it routinely and about one-third of them do it occasionally. Many GPs have had general practice residencies (GPRs), been involved in Academy of General Dentistry Mastership-track courses, attended other comprehensive training programs, or been taught one-on-one by colleagues or mentors (oral surgeons or experienced GPs). This has given them the confidence and competence to perform these procedures with a high level of proficiency. This program is a review of the most important aspects of third-molar surgery. For those who have not had very much experience in this area, it should whet their appetite for additional training.

This presentation covers the most important indications and contraindications along with case selection. The patients chosen for the clinical segments represent situations that can readily be treated by generalists. It is emphasized, however, that for one reason or another, many cases will need to be treated by oral surgeons.

Not only does this program outline in detail the step-by-step procedure of impacted maxillary and mandibular third-molar removal, it also covers patient management recommendations. These are things that help the patient be more comfortable and tolerate the surgery better. These items are crucial and should not be ignored. So, from incisions and flaps, to bone removal and sectioning, to removal of tooth parts, and finally to closure and suturing, the viewer sees this surgery from beginning to end – with adjunctive elements that demonstrate the operator's caring and compassion. This video presents information every surgery-oriented dentist needs to know.

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

### V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions

#### Books:

1. Koerner, K.R.; Tilt, L.V.; and Johnson, K. **Color atlas of minor oral surgery**. Mosby. St. Louis, 1994.  
Order on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) ISBN # 0723420386. Also available to be checked out from the ADA Library\*
2. Koerner, K.R. and Medlin, K. **Clinical procedures for third molar surgery, 2nd Ed.** PennWell Books. Tulsa, OK, 1995. 800-752-9764.
3. Koerner, K.R. and Allen, P. (Editors). **Interdisciplinary periodontal surgery** (7 articles). Dental Clinics of North America. W.B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia. 1993. 800-654-2452.
  - Surgical crown lengthening for function and esthetics by Dr. P Allen
  - Surgical and orthodontic management of impacted teeth by Dr. VG Kokich and Dr. DP Matthews
  - Soft tissue surgery to alleviate orthodontic relapse by Dr. JG Edwards
  - Free gingival grafts: current indications and techniques by WB Hall and WP Lundergan
  - The subepithelial connective tissue graft for treatment of gingival recession by Dr. L Langer and Dr. B Langer
  - Treatment of moderate localized alveolar ridge defects: preventive and reconstructive concepts in therapy by Dr. JS Seibert
  - Lasers in dentistry: soft tissue procedures by Dr. GL Powell
4. Koerner, K.R. (Editor and contributor). **Basic procedures in oral surgery** (7 articles). Dental Clinics of North America. W.B. Saunders Co. Philadelphia. 1994. 800-654-2452.
  - Minor preprosthetic surgical procedures by Dr. BC Terry and Dr. DG Hillenbrand
  - Surgical extractions by Dr. JR Hooley and Dr. DP Golden
  - The removal of impacted third molars: principles and procedures by Dr. KR Koerner
  - Oral mucosal biopsy procedures: excisional and incisional by Dr. DP Golden and JR Hooley
  - Apicoectomy and retroseal procedures for anterior teeth by Dr. GJ Schoeffel
  - Intentional replantation: a viable alternative for selected cases by Dr. JA Dryden and Dr. DE Arens
  - Pharmacologic considerations in the management of oral surgery patients in general dental practice by Dr. KR Koerner and Dr. SE Taylor

#### Articles (available through the ADA Library\*):

1. Koerner, K.R. **Steroids in third molar surgery: a review**. Gen Dent 35(6):459, 1988.
2. Koerner, K.R. **Practical ideas for difficult extractions**. Dental Econ. Dec. 1992.
3. Koerner, K.R. **Methods without mystique, part one: mandibular impactions**. Dent Today, February, 1993.
4. Koerner, K.R. **Methods without mystique, part two: maxillary impactions**. Dent Today. May, 1993.
5. Koerner, K.R. **Surgical crown lengthening: an indispensable adjunct to restorative dentistry**. Dent Today, September, 1993.
6. Koerner, K.R. **Anterior apicos in general practice: step-by-step guidelines**. Dent Today, May, 1994.
7. Koerner, K.R. **Tori removal by the general dentist**. Dental Econ, February, 1995. pp. 102-103.
8. Koerner, K.R. **Intentional replantation**. Chicago Dental Society Review. Dec. 1993, pp.24-27.
9. Koerner, K.R. & Tilt, L **Aesthetic bone grafting in extraction sites for the GP**. Dent Today, April, 1999.
10. Koerner, K.R. **Oral Sedation for the Apprehensive Dental Patient**. Dent Today, April, 2000.
11. Koerner, K.R. & Taylor, S. **Emergencies with local anesthetics**. Dent Today, Oct., 2000.

#### Videos:

1. Koerner, K.R. and Hourigan, M. **The mesioangular lower third molar impaction/diagnosis and management of post-extraction pain**. Video Journal of Dentistry. Vol. 1, No. 1. Available from Dr. Koerner.
2. Koerner, K.R. **Oral surgery: Simplifying difficult extractions**. Video Journal of Dentistry. Vol. 4. Available from Dr. Koerner's office.

\*ADA Library Phone Number: 1-800-621-8099.

## POST-TEST

### **V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

1. The distal incision for a maxillary impacted third molar usually:
  - a. comes forward from the anterior of the hamular notch to the distal of the second molar along the crest of the ridge.
  - b. comes forward from the anterior of the hamular notch and in a buccal angulation to the distal of the second molar.
  - c. comes forward from the anterior of the hamular notch and in a lingual angulation to the distal of the second molar.
  - d. comes forward from within the hamular notch forward to the second molar.
  
2. Besides a straight elevator to remove maxillary third-molar impactions, other useful elevators for many operators are:
  - a. Cogswell B.
  - b. Millers (73-74) or Potts.
  - c. 190-191.
  - d. all of the above.
  
3. Failure to constantly visualize an impacted maxillary third molar during removal could result in the tooth inadvertently entering:
  - a. the infratemporal space or the buccal (facial) space.
  - b. the buccal space or the pterygomandibular space.
  - c. the maxillary sinus, the pterygomandibular space, or the buccal (facial) space.
  - d. the infratemporal space or the maxillary sinus or the buccal space.
  
4. The lingual nerve is at or near the crest of the alveolar ridge in the third molar area in approximately what percentage of patients?:
  - a. 10%
  - b. 20%
  - c. 30%
  - d. 40%
  
5. Extending a buccal releasing incision too far apically between the first and second molar could disrupt what anatomic entities resulting in a serious complication?:
  - a. facial artery and/or long buccal nerve
  - b. Stenson's duct and/or posterior facial vein
  - c. facial vein and/or long buccal nerve
  - d. facial artery and/or anterior facial vein
  
6. The two main factors predisposing dry sockets are:
  - a. smoking and infection.
  - b. traumatic tooth removal and advanced age.
  - c. steroids and birth control pills.
  - d. smoking and birth control pills.
  
7. The use of systemic short-term steroids associated with third-molar surgery will reduce swelling by approximately:
  - a. 15-20%.
  - b. 35-40%.
  - c. 55-60%.
  - d. 75-80%.



**POST-TEST**

**V4103 Easy Third-Molar Extractions**

- 8. A distal incision over a mandibular-impacted third molar should be angled buccally to avoid:
  - a. cutting the lingual nerve.
  - b. cutting the inferior alveolar nerve.
  - c. cutting the facial artery.
  - d. excessive scarring.
  
- 9. After suturing triangular flaps, the operator should gently press on them. This action will:
  - a. help prevent hematoma.
  - b. initiate fibrin adhesion.
  - c. reduce bleeding.
  - d. all of the above.
  
- 10. If a highspeed drill is used for this surgery, it should be a "surgical" highspeed that helps prevent:
  - a. air emphysema.
  - b. burning the bone.
  - c. poor visibility.
  - d. a more lengthy procedure.

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