NEW!
EXCELLENCE IN DENTAL ASSISTING 1
A Powerful, 12-part DVD Training Series for Dental Assistants

The practice of esthetic dentistry requires that chairside dental assistants be knowledgeable in more areas of clinical practice than ever before. With so many new materials and techniques available, today's dental assistant must be proficient in order to deliver optimal patient care.

EXCELLENCE IN DENTAL ASSISTING can help! This powerful, 12-part educational series trains dental assistants on new procedures, techniques and products so they can implement esthetic procedures with greater skill and confidence. It is one of the finest educational experiences you can offer your dental assistant. And best of all, the training takes place in the convenience of your office.

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Module 1: THE TREATMENT PLAN (2 Parts)

When restoring anterior teeth, the facebow record provides considerable information for the laboratory and helps ensure consistent clinical results. Yet many dental assistants don’t understand why it is necessary for the laboratory to have a facebow record. The facebow is probably one of the most important, yet underutilized diagnostic recording tools.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Why we need study models and facebow transfer
- Why we need certain trays and what landmarks we are looking for in a good impression
- What materials are best for the laboratory
- Seeing the overall end result before you start
- Pouring models and the mounting process

Part two of this module will help dental assistants visualize optimum dentistry from an aesthetic and functional perspective. Through live video demonstration, dental assistants will learn how to apply the principles learned in the Dawson Center’s Concept of Complete Dentistry series to map out and sequence an appropriate course of treatment. Communication skills and scheduling techniques will also be reviewed in detail to increase case acceptance rates.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- How to understand the various “treatment positions” and how to choose the best one for each patient
- The necessary records needed to work up a case for ideal esthetics and function
- Proper impression techniques and the mounting process

Module 2: DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY

In this program, dental assistants will learn what to look for on an x-ray and why taking good x-rays is so important. They’ll also learn common mistakes and how to avoid them.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Parallel techniques to open contacts
- Digital vs. conventional X-ray
- How to take a great X-ray
- What you are seeing in the X-ray
- Advanced uses of digital tech

Module 3: DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Clinical digital photography is probably the most important tool for communication in the dental office. Digital photography allows us to educate the patient without having to hold a mirror and point out what it is we are trying to change or enhance. Everything from patient education to lab communication can happen with a click of a button.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Selecting the right camera
- Basics of positioning and framing of the subject
- Proper instruments and lighting for excellent intra-oral shots
- Image capture, transfer, storage and resizing
- Digital imaging for patient education and case acceptance
- Using digital images for enhanced laboratory communication

- Printing, faxing and emailing images
- AAOD Clinical Shots
- How to position the patient
- What not to have in the picture
- Special effects for a terrific shot
Module 4: RUBBER DAM

Studies show that only 15% of dental offices use a rubber dam for adhesive procedures. Excuses vary from “it takes too long to place”, to “we just use cotton rolls”, to “retractors get the same results”. With so many new and innovative dams now on the market, dam placement today only takes minutes.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- What is a rubber dam
- Placement made easy
- Advantages/disadvantages of 3 popular dams
- Why use a rubber dam
  - Visibility is much better due to the contrast of colors of the dam and the teeth being prepared.
  - Creates dry and non-contaminated field from saliva and other debris during all bonded procedures.
  - Improves access during dental procedures by retracting the lip, cheek, and tongue from the field of operation.
  - Protects the patient from swallowing any debris such as the removal of amalgam, old porcelain, and composite.
  - Increases the efficiency, productivity and reduces the time required for treatment
  - Reduces risk of infection

Module 5: POWER BLEACHING AND HOME BLEACHING

Thanks to Realty TV shows portraying beauty pageants and life altering makeovers, dental patients now request tooth whitening more than ever. In the past, conventional in-office power bleaching required several hours in the dental chair. With today’s in-office bleaching systems, patients can see results in as little as one office visit. With whitening considered one of the most conservative, yet effective procedures offered by dentists, in-office and home bleaching are an easy win-win for everyone.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- How to assess if a patient is a good candidate for bleaching
- In-office power bleaching vs. at-home bleaching
- Material of choice: A review of 3 leading bleaching systems
- Exploration of different brands/types and advantages/disadvantages
- Optimal results begin with a comprehensive oral exam
- Penetration of the Power Bleaching Solutions

Module 6 & 7: EXQUISITE PROVISIONALS, ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR (Carving and Custom Staining)

The provisional restoration is a critical phase in the treatment of the dental patient. The design for the provisional restoration begins with the gathering of diagnostic information, which includes the desires of the patient and dental team. The hardest part of the fabrication process is not the trimming or the finishing, but the carving of the anatomy and the occlusion. Before the fabrication process, the understanding of occlusion must be established.

CEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONAL. Choosing the proper cement is important when cementing the provisional restoration. Cement choice determines if the provisional is going to stay on for a day or a few weeks while the final restoration is being fabricated. There are several cements on the market, finding out which ones effect the shade of the provisional is important.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Compensation for missing/broken teeth
- Choosing the proper composite material for mock-up
- Laboratory wax-forms (size & shape)
- Appropriate instrumentation
- Golden proportion guide for shape and form
- Choosing the right provisional materials for shade-matching
- Burr selection for fast and accurate trimming and polishing
- Carving techniques for realistic anatomy and ideal occlusion
- Staining for shade modification
Module 8: esthetic MOCK-UP: USING WAX & COMPOSITE

Dental assistants are vital in making things happen—and, yes; this can include a wax-up that will look and function as well as those sent out to the lab! The mock-up is the road map to beautiful provisionals.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Compensation for missing/broken teeth
- Choosing the proper composite material for mock-up
- Laboratory wax-forms (size & shape)
- Appropriate instrumentation
- Golden proportion guide for shape and form

Module 9: CLINICAL MATERIALS UPDATE

This program guides dental assistants through the most current information available on today’s popular esthetic materials. Find out which ones work and which ones fail short. Learn what to use when, where and why.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Alginites vs. polyvinyl
- Bite registrations
- Dentin desensitizers
- Direct and indirect composite materials
- Flowables and bonding adhesives
- Light curing technology
- Finishing and polishing instrumentations
- Glass ionomer, resin ionomer, and resin cements
- Bleaching systems
- And much, much more!

Module 10: LABORATORY COMMUNICATION ‘WHAT THE LAB REALLY NEEDS TO KNOW’

Communication between the dentist, assistant and the laboratory is now more critical than ever in the overall achievement of ultimate esthetic results. The level of care being offered to patients in the esthetic and cosmetic-focused practice requires the Dental Assistant to acquire advanced training in clinical techniques, materials and communication.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Occlusal registrations: acrylic vs. polyvinyl
- Provisionals: shade, shape and phonetics
- Computerized shade taking systems
- Video imaging
- Writing the lab Rx (What is needed)

“This is a powerful series… As a faculty member of the Dawson Center, I work with top dentists and their teams on a regular basis. I know that this series will benefit dentists as well as their assistants.”

– Dr. John Cranham
The Dawson Center
Module 11: CEREC FOR THE DENTAL ASSISTANT

This program discusses some of the many beneficial aspects of using the correlation design technique when designing a quadrant of restorations. It presents a logical stepwise protocol that allows new and experienced CEREC users to have predictable success, while avoiding many of the common challenges that require post-milling alteration of the restorations.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Better use of the correlation design technique when designing restorations in a quadrant to obtain a more predictable occlusion
- The “every other” technique to create more ideal embrasure and interproximal contacts when working with a quadrant of restorations
- The benefits of time/work flow that the “every other” technique offers
- Cerec demonstration of simplified stain and glaze technique
- Step-by-step procedures to match existing and neighboring dentition as well as characterizing techniques
- How to add perceived incisal translucency and unique special effects

Module 12: DIRECT COMPOSITE FOR THE EXPANDED DUTY DENTAL ASSISTANT (EDDA)

This program discusses and demonstrates techniques to create morphologically precise direct anterior and posterior composite restorations. A simple layering technique is taught with the use of composite tints to create lifelike restorations. An emphasis is placed on proper anatomic contour. The use of different esthetic materials in combination with finishing techniques enables placement of state-of-the-art restorations.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- Anterior composite veneer with intrinsic effects
- Posterior Class 1 composite with secondary anatomy and external staining
- Step-by-step techniques for predictable adhesion
- Materials selection: When to use flowable, hybrid, microhybrid and packable composites
- Proper anatomic contour and how to achieve it in direct posterior composite restorations
- Reliable finishing and polishing procedures

"An outstanding series... a must watch for the entire clinical team!"
—Dr. Bruce Baird
Productive Dentist Academy

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