COURSE DESCRIPTION
In treating today’s periodontal patient successfully, the clinician must customize a treatment plan that goes beyond the removal of plaque and calculus. Achieving excellent clinical outcomes involves assessing for systemic issues, communicating and customizing home care according to the patient’s level of understanding and ability to perform home care procedures, and choosing appropriate adjuncts to care. In this course, we will explore the multifaceted treatment planning approach, including scheduling and coding. We will also discuss the assisted model of hygiene care and effective instrument sharpening. We will also explore strategies for dealing with refusal of definitive care.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the participant will be able to:
• Understand the factors involved in periodontal breakdown
• Explore the most prominent systemic disease interrelationships
• Choose adjuncts to care based on severity and appropriateness
• Develop better clinical protocol
• Customize home care modalities
• Understand which codes are most appropriate for particular case types
• Understand how instrument sharpening can be accomplished easily and effectively
• Develop the best approach when patients refuse definitive care for periodontal disease

COURSE OUTLINE
I. ETIOLOGY OF PERIODONTITIS/HOST INVOLVEMENT
A. Etiology and microbes associated with disease progression
B. Bacterial complexes and role of viruses
C. Role of biofilm
D. Efficacy of various antimicrobials
E. High velocity lavage
F. Other risk factors

II. SYSTEMIC INTERRELATIONSHIPS
A. Diabetes
B. Cardiovascular disease
C. Respiratory diseases
D. Other systemic diseases

III. ADJUNCTS TO CARE
A. Intertandental cleaning aids
B. Power brushes
C. Systemic antibiotics

IV. PROBING TECHNIQUE
A. Protocol
B. Angulation

V. CLINICAL PROCESS
A. Step-by-step debridement process
B. Treatment planning by case type

VI. SCHEDULING
A. Time consideration
B. Recall systems

VII. TEACHING HOMECARE/INTERDENTAL CLEANING
A. Customizing according to patient ability
B. Changing home care behavior

VIII. CODING CONSIDERATIONS
A. Using the most appropriate codes
B. How to code the gingivitis patient
C. Site-specific periodontal treatment

IX. PERIODONTAL MAINTENANCE
A. Debridement protocol
B. Adjuncts to care

X. INSTRUMENT SHARPENING
A. Friction-grip stones
B. Angulation and magnification

XI. LEGAL ISSUES/REFUSAL OF TREATMENT
A. Informed refusal/informed consent
B. How to deal with patients that refuse definitive care

XII. WRAP-UP AND QUESTIONS
Ms. Glasscoe Watterson’s presentation is didactic lecture using a comprehensive student handout and PowerPoint visuals. There is a pretest and numerous fill-in-blank reviews throughout the teaching session with ample time for question and answer interaction with the presenter.