DENTAL PHARMACOLOGY: AN OVERVIEW & UPDATE

Course Description
Throughout the course of their everyday practice, dental professionals must frequently draw upon their knowledge of Pharmacology. Recently introduced competency-based curriculums have demonstrated that tasks ranging from the routine, such as obtaining a complete patient medical history and appointment planning, to the extreme, such as handling a medical emergency in the office, all require a foundation knowledge in Pharmacology.

However, the science of Pharmacology consistently represents only a small portion of most dental degree programs. Armed with a relatively brief exposure to such vast subject matter, many dental professionals have difficulty retaining this knowledge throughout their career as well as staying current with new pharmacotherapeutic trends, especially when faced with a marketplace awash in direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs and an explosion of new drug entities over the last several years.

The purpose of this program is to provide dental professionals with an overview of the basic principles of Pharmacology and the classes of drugs used in the current therapy of most common disease states. Throughout the program, special emphasis will be given to drugs administered or prescribed in dental practice, as well as to drugs whose actions, side effects, or interactions with other drugs may impact dental healthcare.

Learning Objectives
Upon successful completion of this program, participants will be able to:

- Identify a drug listed on a patient's medical history and explain the drug's:
  - pharmacologic classification and basic mechanism of action
  - principle therapeutic indications and intended effects
  - potential adverse reactions and contraindications
  - potential drug interactions and considerations important to patient management during dental treatment
- Discuss and compare the classes of drugs used in dental practice for:
  - pain management
  - prophylaxis and treatment of infection
- Identify the most common substances of abuse and discuss their:
  - street names and routes of administration
  - common adverse effects, oral manifestations, and dental considerations

Course Outline

Part 1: Dental Medications and Their Systemic Effects
  - A. Non-Narcotic Analgesics
  - B. Opioid Analgesics
  - C. Appropriate Prescribing for Pain Management

Part 2: Systemic Medications and Their Dental Effects
  - A. Cardiovascular Agents
  - B. Gastrointestinal Agents
  - C. Respiratory Agents
  - D. Central Nervous System Agents
  - E. Endocrine Agents
  - F. Miscellaneous Agents

Part 3: Dependency and Its Effects on Dentistry
  - A. Medication Overuse and Abuse
  - B. Street Drugs
  - C. Medical and Recreational Cannabis

Part 4: Appropriate Prescribing for Pain Management
  - A. Importance of the Medical History
  - B. Significant Interactions
    - 1. Significant Drug Interactions
    - 2. Significant OTC Drug/Supplement Interactions
    - 3. Significant Illicit Drug Interactions
  - C. Contraindications
  - D. Treatment Modifications and Patient Care Planning

Part 5: Dependency and Its Effects on Dentistry

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The speaker receives no support from any commercial organization and does not promote any commercial products or sell any tapes, books, instruments, forms or other materials for this course.

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OF
DENTAL
PHARMACOLOGY
PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION
California Board of Dental Examiners
Provider #: 4251

Registration Form
Cost: $285 for Dentists / $185 for RDHs and Aux / U.S. Funds
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