Are you confident in your knowledge of medications and dietary supplements, as well as interactions, adverse reactions, and effects on patient management and treatment planning?

The challenge faced by all clinicians today is to provide safe and effective dental treatment to our medically complex patients. Thus, as dental professionals, we must be equally aware of the medical considerations of agents commonly used in the practice of dentistry as well as the dental considerations of the medications frequently prescribed for the treatment of multiple systemic diseases.

In this dynamic, information-packed, and engaging program, Tom Viola, R.Ph., C.C.P. draws from his 30 years’ experience as a pharmacist, dental educator and author to offer a complete overview of the principles of dental pharmacology. Master the art of tailoring dental therapy to patients’ existing medical conditions while avoiding potential complications. Learn to optimize safe, effective, and appropriate pain control to retain and acquire patients. Make Pharmacology what it was always meant to be: your most valuable instrument in treating today’s medically complex patient.

“So much practical information! So many, many laughs! You held my attention every second! I’m blown away!” — M.B., Yankee Dental Congress

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the pharmacology of analgesics and appropriate prescribing practices for the management of acute dental pain.
- Discuss local anesthetic agents with respect to their mechanism of action and clinical dental considerations.
- Examine the pharmacology of anti-infective agents commonly used in dentistry and indications for use, adverse effects, drug interactions and contraindications.
- Identify the prescription medications most frequently encountered on a patient’s medical history and potential impact on dental therapy and patient care planning.
- Discover the non-prescription medications most often used by dental patients and dental considerations of these agents, including potential impact on dental therapy.

Suggested Audience:
Dentist and Full Team

Suggested Format:
Full or Partial Day; Lecture, Workshop, Keynote
Would you like to more confidently treat dental patients who take medications for a wide range of comorbidities? Throughout the course of their daily practice, dental professionals must frequently draw upon their knowledge of pharmacology. However, pharmacology often 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.

This program will present dental pharmacology in a format which makes it applicable, practical and useful for all members of the dental team. Using case scenarios, special emphasis will be given to developing patient management strategies and techniques essential for successful treatment planning and proper care of our medically complex.

Learning Objectives:
- Identify the prescription medications most frequently encountered on a patient's medical history and discuss their indications for use, adverse reactions and impact on dental therapy
- Discuss the non-prescription medications most often used by dental patients and explain their impact on dental therapy, including situations which preclude their use
- Examine the most popular herbal products and nutritional supplements and discuss their purported uses and dental considerations
- Describe the most common substances of abuse and describe their oral manifestations and dental treatment considerations

Could optimizing safe, effective, and appropriate pain control help you to retain and acquire patients? Management of odontogenic pain may be accomplished through a clinical approach that successfully incorporates intraoperative local anesthesia and a postoperative regimen of non-opioid and opioid analgesics. However, improper and inappropriate use of local anesthetic agents and analgesics have the potential to produce adverse outcomes for both our patients and our communities. Thus, it is critical for clinicians to be able to accurately identify the need for pain control, individualize patient care, identify associated risks, and assess the efficacy of the local anesthetic and analgesic agents to be administered.

Learning Objectives:
- Explain the pharmacology of action of non-opioid and opioid analgesics, including their intended role in the treatment of dental pain
- Discuss local anesthetic agents and vasoconstrictors with respect to their mechanism of action and clinical dental considerations
- Describe strategies useful in developing individualized patient pain management plans
- Discuss appropriate prescribing practices for opioid and non-opioid analgesics

What is your patient NOT telling you about their self-medication? Whether it be prescription or non-prescription medications, herbal products or nutritional supplements, or illicit substances, our patients may self-medicate without mention during a review of their medical history. Gain a thorough understanding of actions, side effects, contraindications and potential drug interactions of these substances. Learn techniques useful in obtaining a complete and accurate patient medication history as well as identifying and managing a substance-abusing patient.

Learning Objectives:
- Discuss the most commonly used prescription and non-prescription drugs, herbal products, nutritional supplements and illicit substances that patients use to self-medicate
- Describe the clinical dental considerations of these products, including oral manifestations and potential impact on dental therapy
- Discover techniques useful in obtaining a complete and accurate medication history and identifying substance abuse
THOMAS A. VIOLA, R.Ph., C.C.P.

Dental professionals are tasked with the safe and effective management of medically complex patients.

However, with the explosion of new drug entities and ever-changing therapy guidelines, many clinicians simply cannot keep up with the latest trends in disease state management and the impact on dental care.

With over 30 years’ experience as a pharmacist, dental educator and author, Tom Viola, R.Ph., C.C.P. has earned his reputation as the go-to specialist for delivering quality dental continuing education content through his informative, funny and engaging presentations. Tom’s sellout programs provide an overview of the most prevalent oral and systemic diseases and the most frequently prescribed drugs used in their treatment, along with specific focus on dental considerations and strategies for implementing effective care plans.

As an clinical educator, Tom is a member of the faculty of ten dental professional degree programs. He has instructed students in chemistry, anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and local anesthesia. In addition, Tom has instructed hundreds of practicing dental hygienists in local anesthesia certification courses.

As a published writer, Tom is well known nationally and internationally for his contributions to several dental professional journals in the areas of pharmacology, pain management and local anesthesia. In addition, Tom has served as a contributor, chapter author and peer reviewer for several dental pharmacology textbooks and national board exam review books.

As a professional speaker, Tom has presented continuing education courses to dental professionals, nationally and internationally, since 2001. Knowledge of pharmacology has never been more essential to patient care. Meeting planners agree that Tom is their choice to educate audiences within this specialty.

“Thank you for making me laugh AND learn! Only you could make pharmacology THIS enjoyable and usefull!”
—D.H., Greater New York Dental Meeting

“This was by far the BEST presentation I’ve been to in 30 years of practice! I didn’t want it to end! Really!”
—R.L., Hinman Dental Meeting

Presentations:
- ADHA Annual Session (multiple)
- Big Apple Dental Meeting (multiple)
- Chicago Midwinter Meeting (multiple)
- Greater Long Island Dental Meeting (multiple)
- Greater New York Dental Meeting (multiple)
- Hinman Dental Meeting (multiple)
- Liberty Dental Conference
- Seattle Study Club Symposium
- RDH Under One Roof (multiple)
- Symposium of the International Dental Professionals of Switzerland
- Yankee Dental Congress
- Hundreds of local and regional association and study club meetings

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