



Targeting Obesity in Dental Patients

- How much do you know about the link between metabolic syndrome, obesity, inflammation, and periodontal disease?
- Why can't dentists and dental hygienists overlook overweight and obesity in everyday patient care?
- How do you start difficult conversations about weight loss with overweight patients?

Obesity, as we hear almost every day, is taking a devastating toll on human health and wellness. In fact, it may be the single greatest threat to global health. Worldwide, the prevalence of obesity has more than doubled since 1980, and projections suggest that 1.2 billion people will be obese by 2030.

As strong predictors of comorbidity, obesity and Metabolic Syndrome can no longer be ignored in everyday patient care. Recent studies have proposed a correlation between obesity and periodontal disease; numerous investigations have also suggested an interrelationship between Metabolic Syndrome and periodontal disease.

This energizing, revelatory course empowers the dental team to identify patients at risk for overweight and obesity, overcome the difficulty in discussing weight, build collaboration with the medical community to cross-screen and cross-refer patients at risk for obesity and periodontal disease, and educate dental patients about the role of obesity in increasing risk for periodontal disease.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Explain the biological mechanism that is theorized to link obesity and Metabolic Syndrome to periodontal disease
- Describe the concept of cumulative inflammatory burden
- Identify dental patients who are overweight or obese
- Recognize patients who may be 'inflammatory-primed'
- Overcome the difficulty in discussing weight with patients
- Educate patients about the impact of overweight and obesity on periodontal health
- Identify patients who might benefit from referral to physicians and specialists for weight management
- Implement clinical considerations in caring for obese dental patients
- Build collaboration with the medical community to cross-screen and cross-refer patients at risk for obesity and periodontal disease.

Suggested Audience: Dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, business staff

Suggested Length: 3 hours



Casey Hein, BSDH, RDH, MBA

www.caseyhein.com • casey@caseyhein.com • 240-707-6766

