



Day 1 Abstracts

MASTERCLASS: THE BUSINESS OF DENTISTRY

Speakers: Drs Gerard Clausen and Kang Kim

Dr Gerard Clausen Abstract:

Dentistry is foremost a profession, and second a business; correct?

Not true. Dental practice demands high levels of clinical and communication skills. But successful practice also requires an awareness of the current environment, including the various complaint bodies, regulatory authorities and other agents that may oversee the providers treatment and billing practises.

This presentation will discuss these factors, and how they impact on every dental practitioner.

Dr Kang Kim Abstract:

The Golden Ratio of Business and Healthcare

Business and consumer behaviour is changing rapidly. Advancements in digital technology, cultural shifts and influence of social media have not only impacted broader consumer markets but has changed the way in which patients seek healthcare. To add to these steep trends, the COVID pandemic acted as a change catalyst and great disruptor to the health sector. Clinicians were forced to consult virtually and manage emergencies remotely diminishing aversions towards digital health solutions. The post-pandemic impacts on patient acuity and hospital capacity have compelled patients, as well as public and private funders, to consider the cost and sustainability of healthcare.

In this complex environment, the dental profession needs to be keenly aware of how it conducts its business. The way that we conduct business should not be different from the way that we deliver care to our patients. Our business decisions, like our clinical considerations, should be informed by facts and based on evidence. Business-driven decisions should balance in an ideal "golden ratio" with the foundational principles of healthcare and the expected ethical conduct of health practitioners.

It is important to reflect that the dental profession started in the time of stringent advertising restrictions and the regulation of dental practice ownership. The introduction of unchecked advertising, contracted provider relationships and the growth of dental corporates show how accepted behaviour has shifted in the past two to three decades. At the practice level, common accounting omissions and valuations have contributed to negative business decisions. Health economics principles and the distinction of the healthcare market from the perfectly competitive market, help us understand why caricaturised business principles need to be avoided. The continuation and further proliferation of underinformed business decision-making is likely to contribute to the commoditisation of healthcare with strong profession-wide impacts.



MASTERCLASS: CONE BEAM CT REVIEW AND INTERPRETATION: A GUIDED APPROACH TO REVIEWING CBCT SCANS

Speakers: Dr Raahib Dudhia & Dr Jake Samuels (Specialist Oral and Maxillofacial Radiologists)

Overview:

Raahib and Jake will show you how to review CBCT scans and will even share their expert tips on how to identify key anatomical structures in tricky cases.

Participants will need to bring their own laptop (PC or Mac) so they can follow along using the provided software and real patient cases.

Abstract:

Cone Beam CT is an invaluable diagnostic tool in dentistry and is used extensively for diagnosis and surgical planning.

Specialist Dental Radiologists Raahib and Jake will share with you all the techniques and special tricks they use to reformat and review CBCT scans to help you become more confident when reviewing your clinical cases and planning treatment.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptop (Mac or PC) so that they can follow along and master the skills required to efficiently review both small and large volume scans.

CBCT viewing software and de-identified CBCT scans will be provided a few days before the workshop so that you can ensure you have everything you need to get started.



MASTERCLASS: MASTERCLASS ON ACUTE AND CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT: EXPLORING ANALGESICS PHARMACOLOGY, POST-SURGICAL PAIN, AND THE BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL MODEL

Speakers: Drs Amanda Phoon Nguyen (Oral Medicine Specialist), Leanne Teoh (Dentist and Pharmacist) and Michael Burgess (Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon)

Abstract:

The first segment of the masterclass will examine the pharmacology of commonly used analgesics in dentistry. Participants will explore the mechanism of action, side effects, appropriate prescribing, and considerations for individualizing treatment. Emphasis will be placed on striking a balance between effective pain relief and minimizing potential risks associated with medication use.

The second segment will delve into strategies for preventing post-surgical pain. The presentation will cover evidence-based interventions such as pre and perioperative analgesia for surgical procedures, and atraumatic surgical techniques. Participants will gain practical insights into preoperative evaluation, proper dosing, and personalized pain management plans to enhance surgical outcomes and improve patient satisfaction.

Lastly, the masterclass will address the biopsychosocial model of pain, acknowledging that pain is a complex phenomenon influenced by biological, psychological, and social factors. Through interactive discussions and case studies, participants will explore how the integration of physical, emotional, cognitive, and social aspects can optimize pain management outcomes and prevent sequelae such as post traumatic trigeminal neuropathic pain. Focus will also be given to informed consent tips.

Attendees will gain valuable insights and practical knowledge from experts in the field of pain management. This masterclass offers a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, equipping participants with the necessary tools to improve pain relief, enhance patient care, and advance the management of acute and chronic pain.



WORKSHOP: HANDS-ON SUTURING TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP

Speakers: Prof Alex Quaranta (Periodontist), Drs Lizzy Hui (Periodontist) and Michael Hurrell (Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon)

Abstract:

Are you a dentist looking to enhance your suturing skills and elevate the quality of your dental procedures? Join us for an immersive and practical "Hands-On Suturing Techniques" workshop designed exclusively for participants of The Fine Edge of Dentistry 2024.

Suturing is a fundamental skill in dentistry, crucial for ensuring optimal post-operative healing and patient satisfaction. This comprehensive masterclass will provide you with the knowledge, techniques, and confidence to perform suturing effectively and efficiently in your daily practice.

Key Highlights:

- **Foundations of Suturing:** Explore the basics of suturing, including different suture materials, instruments, and needle types. Understand the principles of wound closure and tissue handling.
- **Suturing Techniques:** Learn various suturing techniques, such as interrupted, continuous and mattress sutures. Discover when and how to apply each technique for different clinical scenarios.
- **Tissue Handling and Preservation:** Master the art of tissue manipulation and preservation to achieve excellent aesthetic outcomes and minimise patient discomfort.
- **Suture Selection:** Gain insights into selecting the right suture material for specific cases, considering factors like tissue type, location, and patient needs.
- **Complications and Troubleshooting:** Learn how to identify and address common complications related to suturing, ensuring optimal patient recovery.
- **Hands-On Practice:** Put your knowledge into action with hands-on suturing exercises using dental models and synthetic tissue. Receive personalised guidance and feedback from experienced instructors.
- **Live Demonstrations:** Witness live demonstrations of suturing techniques by our expert instructors, highlighting key tips and tricks for success.
- **Case Studies:** Analyse real-world case studies and learn from successful outcomes and challenging scenarios.
- **Interactive Q&A Sessions:** Engage in interactive question-and-answer sessions with instructors, allowing you to clarify doubts and deepen your understanding.