

# MASTERING VITAL SIGNS & PATIENT MONITORING DURING CONSCIOUS SEDATION



**Is patient monitoring just a bunch of numbers,  
or is it a window into your patient's physiological status?**

**Or, does *YOUR* practice fall into the category  
of “hoping for the best”?**

All dental professionals are called upon at various times to take vital signs and monitor dental patients. Compared to past generations, advances in healthcare mean that contemporary dental patients often present with complex medical conditions and histories. Coupled with increasingly sophisticated and invasive dental procedures, these patients need to be monitored during dental treatment.

In addition, conscious sedation is used increasing in all areas of dentistry. Attendees will gain a greater understanding and skill in interpreting pulse oximetry and capnography on minimally or moderately sedated patients. Emphasis will be placed on both information that is conveyed and what is missing from these various devices.

#### **Suggested Audience:**

General Dentist and Specialist, Clinical and Business Team

#### **Suggested Format:**

Full- or Partial-Day; Lecture, Workshop, Keynote



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## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- Understand the two rationales for taking vital signs on dental patients
- Recognize the value of multiple sets of vital signs, especially on a patient in distress
- Know the 6 academically recognized vital signs
- Identify which vital signs directly relate to cardiac function and which relate to respiratory function
- Specify the three components of respiration and which is most impacted during dental treatment
- Define respiratory minute volume, tidal volume and functional residual capacity
- Analyze what vital signs do and do not reveal about the respiratory system's efficacy
- Determine what pressure is being measured during systole and diastole
- Learn and be able to demonstrate the proper technique for taking each of the 6 vital signs
- Illuminate the boundaries of normal for each vital sign, the consequence of abnormal signs and when immediate medical attention is required
- Gain a basic understanding of pulse oximetry and how it assesses respiration
- Examine how oxygen administration can mislead a clinician
- Explore capnography and its role in monitoring patients undergoing conscious sedation