

## **Course:**

### ***Infection Control and Maintenance of dental handpieces and related instruments.***

## **Abstract:**

Infection Control in dental settings has been an important topic for decades. This is especially true since the possible transmission of HIV, from a dentist to several patients, which made headlines in the early 1990's. Shortly thereafter, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) published the "Recommended Infection-Control Practices for Dentistry, 1993." This was followed by the updated and consolidated CDC "Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings – 2003" and the March 2016 CDC "Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings – Basic Expectations for Safe Care."

Yet, there are still misunderstandings in the dental community about what the actual guidelines recommend, and just how a licensed dental clinician is held accountable to these, so called, "guidelines and recommendations." To that end, there are specific CDC recommendations that are paramount to proper instrument infection control practices as well as State law and State Dental Board rules that necessitate compliance with CDC as a condition of licensure in that State. Proper dental instrument maintenance along with the various manufacturers' recommendations for maintenance and sterilization often provides compliant infection control strategies. And proper maintenance of instrumentation often boasts of better instrument function and longer lasting equipment.

## **Educational Objectives:**

Upon completion of this educational activity, the participant will be able to:

1. Understand the history of current infection control guidelines
2. Understand and discuss key requirements of the CDC guidelines for dental settings
3. Understand clinician accountability to the infection control guidelines
4. Implement proper maintenance and instrument sterilization techniques
5. Avoid common mistakes

## **Author Profile:**

Doug Mayer is currently in his 25th year in the dental handpiece business. He is an expert in dental handpiece design, use, maintenance, and infection control. He has designed several current generation handpiece systems as well as written the handpiece maintenance and infection control protocols for the two largest handpiece companies in North America. Doug has trained over 5,000 dealer Sales and Service personnel in the USA and Canada, countless dental offices, as well as the sales forces for two of the top handpiece manufacturers in the dental industry.



Doug received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Iowa in Political Science, with an emphasis in Public and Constitutional Law. Doug is a former intern for the United States House of Representatives for the 4th district of Georgia, focused on public law research. Prior to that, Doug furthered his mechanical aptitude by obtaining his auto mechanics degree during high school from DeKalb College, Clarkston, Georgia.

## **Author Disclosures**

Doug Mayer is currently with Dentsply Sirona's Midwest division as a Training and Product Specialist. Doug is the former Director of Training and Product Specialist for KaVo USA Dental Corporation, as well as a Field Territory Manager for both Midwest and KaVo.