When you hear the word occlusion, what do you think about? Teeth coming together, TMD (temporomandibular disorders), a philosophy(s), or are you just plain confused? Unfortunately, many of our colleagues are unclear as to what occlusion means to them or more importantly, what it means for their patients. What might appear at first to be a complex topic, especially with the abundance of apparently conflicting theories and treatments, once simplified to the essential elements, is in reality, fairly straightforward. The essential elements I like to call The Basic Rules of Occlusion and this Program is dedicated to the outlining of these elements.

The Basic Rules of Occlusion outlines an evidenced-based practical approach to the understanding and implementation of occlusal therapy in everyday practice. Whether a dental generalist, dental specialist (prosthodontist, orthodontist, periodontist, endodontist, oral surgeon, orofacial pain practitioner), dentist or dental technician, The Basic Rules of Occlusion sooner or later will apply clinically as dental practitioners facilitate stomatognathic stability. An understanding of these Basic Rules will enhance all aspects of dental practitioner practice for the benefit of all the stakeholders.

5 DAY PROGRAM: Participants who register for the 5 day program will attend lectures and clinical demonstrations on April 12, 13 and April 26 in preparation for the clinical session on April 27 and 28. Dr. Racich will liaise directly with participants before the course and between weekend 1 and weekend 2 to discuss course expectations and patient needs. Dentists will treat their own patients during hands-on session scheduled April 27, 28 and will be expected to complete patient records, charts, mount casts, etc. before the second session.

2 DAY PROGRAM: Participants who register for the two day program will attend lectures on Friday, April 12 and clinical demonstrations on Saturday, April 13.

By the end of the program, basic occlusal therapy will become a routine part of the participant’s treatment genre, providing patients with an incredible service that is cost effective, efficacious, and exciting to do.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
- Evidence-based not evidence-biased dentistry: what it is and is not
- Occlusion: when, what, how
- Occlusion for everyday dentistry, major restorative dentistry, fixed and removable prosthetics, for orthodontics
- Occlusion and implant therapy
- Occlusion and TMD: is there a link?
- CR: where, when, who’s?
- Myocentric as a treatment position
- Vertical dimension assessment
- Occlusion and practical dental anatomy
- Occlusion and facially generated treatment planning
- Smile design and occlusal stabilization
- Envelope of function evaluation and maintenance
- Articulator/Imaging use: when, what, how
- Orthotics: predictable usage
- Occlusal equilibration: protocols and end points
- Restorative and prostodontic material selection

MICHAEL J. RACICH, DMD, a graduate from University of British Columbia, has a general dental practice emphasizing comprehensive restorative dentistry, prosthodontics and TMD/ orofacial pain. Dr. Racich is a member of many professional organizations and has lectured nationally and internationally on subjects relating to patient comfort, function and appearance. He is a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and the American College of Dentists as well as a Diplomate of the American Board of Orofacial Pain and the International Congress of Oral Implantologists. Dr. Racich has published in peer-reviewed scientific journals such as the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry and the International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry and has authored the books: The Basic Rules of Oral Rehabilitation (2010), The Basic Rules of Occlusion (2012), The Basic Rules of Facially Generated Treatment Planning (2013), and The Basic Rules of Being a Dental Patient (2016). Currently he mentors the didactic/clinical FOCUS Dental Education Continuum (study clubs, proprietary programs, coaching, 2nd opinions only).

CANCELLATION POLICY: Limited Enrolment Courses require a minimum of 21 days notice for a full refund less $500 administration fee. Cancellations made between 21 and 14 days prior to the first day of the program will receive a 50% refund. No refund will be granted for cancellations made less 14 days prior to the first day of the program. Continuing Dental Education at the University of British Columbia reserves the right to cancel courses or switch instructors if deemed necessary by low enrolment, instructor cancellation or other unforeseen issues. In case of course cancellation a full refund will be issued.

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