Patients present to dental offices for three main reasons: appearance, function and comfort. Today’s dental teams are more capable than ever to facilitate enhancement in all three of these areas for patients seeking care, with management of a patient’s dental occlusion being an essential element to optimize results. Dental occlusion is defined by the Glossary of Prosthodontic Terms 10th edition (2023) as: 1) the act or process of closure or of being closed or shut off, 2) the static relationship between the incising or masticating surfaces of the maxillary or mandibular teeth or tooth analogues.

This evidence-based presentation, Dental Occlusion: What It Is and Is Not, will explore the relationship of dental occlusion re: stomatognathic system stabilization and TMD/orofacial pain. Whether a dental generalist, dental specialist (prosthodontist, orthodontist, periodontist, endodontist, oral surgeon, orofacial pain practitioner), dental hygienist, dentist or dental technician, lessons learned from this didactic/clinical presentation will be immediately applicable to daily clinical patient care.

Didactic topics will include: evidence-based dentistry and orofacial pain/TMD basics to occlusion and facially generated treatment planning for everyday interdisciplinary dentistry. Clinical (demonstration/practical hands-on) topics will include: evaluation/examination and mandibular guidance basics with intermaxillary record securing (conventional and digital).

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES, LEARN ABOUT:

- Evidence-based dentistry: practical day-to-day implementation
- Occlusion: what, when, how
- Occlusion and TMD: is there a link?
- Orthotics (non-apnea): predictable usage
- Clinical evaluation and records

CLINICIAN

MICHAEL J. RACICH, DMD, is a general dental practitioner 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 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, coaching, 2nd opinions only).

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Fee in full must accompany registration. Limited Enrolment Courses require a minimum of 21 days notice for a full refund less $100 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 than 14 days prior to the first day of the program. Unlimited Enrolment Courses: registrants withdrawing one week prior to the course will be refunded less a $100 administration fee. Concerns or complaints about a CE provider may be directed to the provider or to the Commission for Continuing Education Provider Recognition at CCEPR.ada.org.

DISCLAIMER: Dental education institutions have an obligation to disseminate new knowledge related to dental practice. Some presentations may include controversial materials or commercial references. Sponsorship of a continuing education course by The University of British Columbia does not imply endorsement of a particular philosophy, procedure or product by The University of British Columbia. See cancellation policy.