

“Tweaked,” “Cracked” and “Loaded”

Profile of the Addicted Dental Patient



Learning Objectives:

- ✓ Identify the drugs patients are most likely to abuse
- ✓ Discover the oral, physical and behavioral clues of substance abuse
- ✓ Explore the realities of addiction and how to discuss substance abuse with patients
- ✓ Discover the dos and don'ts of treating substance abusers safely, effectively and with confidence
- ✓ Learn evidence-based practices for managing dental pain without using addictive analgesics
- ✓ Learn how not to fall prey to patients who are “drug seeking”

Suggested Format: Partial Day; Lecture, Workshop, Keynote

Suggested Attendees: Dentists, Hygienists and Full Team

Have you ever felt that your patient's substance abuse was the elephant in the room? Are you afraid to discuss your suspicions due to your own discomfort or fear of insulting your patient?

Drug abuse is at an epidemic level with approximately 1 out of every 10 Americans addicted to illegal and prescribed stimulants, depressants and opioids. Dental professionals must be prepared to address substance abuse with their patients that are “tweaked”, “cracked” and “loaded”. Learn who is most at risk for addiction and understand the genetic and environmental risk factors for addiction.

With more than 20 years treating “meth mouth” and publishing research, Dr. Ronni Brown understands the behavioral and clinical challenges that the dental team faces when treating the addicted patient. These patients can be treated successfully and the dental team can play a pivotal role in changing the direction of these patient's lives.

Discover the “clues” of addiction on a health history form and on a clinical exam. Learn evidence-based guidelines for managing dental pain without resorting to opiate-based analgesics and feel confident in dealing with “drug-seeking” or “under the influence” patients in your practice. Learn how to initiate conversations with your patients about their substance abuse and help them get on a road that will lead to recovery.

“Thank you for the amazing presentation! You are a phenomenal speaker and our team was lucky to have you”.

—Tanya Clark, Administrative Assistant, Capitol Dental Care, Inc.

*“The reviews for your course were outstanding.
Your presentation was a success at our annual meeting.”*

—Amit Desai, DMD, Coordinator
Connecticut State Dental Association

