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Scan the QR code below for a look at a series of successive, educational articles for DOCS Education's 16th Annual Sedation Safety Week—which took place March 11–15, 2024.



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FOCUS ON...

Safe Sedation Dentistry

DOCS Education offers an array of live-streaming and webinar-based CE courses, taught by master practitioners, that address proven sedation safety protocols

Safety and sedation are natural partners in the respected field of dentistry. With a patient population that's living longer, as well as dental treatments that are increasingly complex due to advances in technology, clinicians are recognizing the importance of learning and promoting safe sedation.

"Local anesthesia and a caring attitude are often not enough for patients to cope with noninvasive dental care, much less invasive care," shared Dr. Anthony Feck, who, along with Dr. Michael Silverman, cofounded the Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation (DOCS) Education in 1999. "They are regular people with a normal fear response. Sedation dentistry is a way to keep patients safe and comfortable."



"Sedation dentistry is a way to keep patients safe and comfortable."

—Anthony Feck, DMD

Calming Patient Fears

With an expansive series of interactive courses, curriculums, and resources, DOCS Education provides dentists the tools to interrupt the cycle of patient fear and offer them a higher standard of safe dental care.

"Because the sedation dentist is providing a service many patients thought would never be possible, there is an appreciation that exceeds the usual patient-dentist relationship. This can lead to greater patient satisfaction; trust, which is critical to case acceptance; loyalty, which leads to greater patient retention; and a better overall perception by the patient," Dr. Feck explained. "In my 40 years of practice, I have never experienced a higher ROI than from offering sedation dentistry to my patients."

Safety from A to Z

Standard DOCS protocols encompass patient assessment and selection, training in different sedation modalities by experienced faculty members, monitoring requirements, as well as the prevention and management of medical emergencies in the office. In addition to sedation education, DOCS curriculum topics include advanced techniques, opioids and drug interactions, Advanced Cardiac Life Support certification, and practice growth strategies.

"Besides allowing me to provide care for the large population of patients whose anxiety toward dentistry has prevented them from getting the dental treatment they need, sedation has allowed my practice to grow and become more successful," Dr. Feck concluded.

'I HAVE A PERFECT RECORD BUT...I'M A BIT SCARED'

If that's your first thought when the subject of sedation dentistry comes up, tune in to Dr. Feck's free webinar for ensuring safe and effective sedation dentistry. The latest addition to DOCS Education's Elite Learning Series monthly webinar program, the course offers 1.5 CE and covers a range of topics, including:



- Navigating drug interactions
- The Rule of 4 for identifying high-risk patients
- Monitoring vital signs to ensure patient safety
- The critical role of reversal agents for sedatives and opioids
- Considerations for patients aged 65+

To watch, visit docseducation.com/dps