

# Pit and Fissure Sealants Certification

for Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists

Limit 25

**Thursday – Friday  
December 10 – 11, 2009**

**Course Coordinator and Presenter:  
Harold A. Henson, RDH, MEd**

## Course Description

Completion of this two-day course meets all TSBDE Rule 114.3 – *Application of Pit and Fissure Sealants. (A Texas-licensed dentist who is enrolled as a Medicaid Provider with appropriate state agencies, or who practices in an area determined to be underserved by the Texas Department of Health, may delegate the application of a pit and fissure sealant to a dental assistant, if the dental assistant: (1) is employed by and works under the direct supervision of the licensed dentist; and (2) is certified pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.)*

**Day One** will provide the participants with classroom information in applicable topics of:

- Infection control
- Patient management and treatment of medical emergencies
- Related microbiology
- Related chemistry
- Dental anatomy
- Ethics and jurisprudence to pit and fissure sealant application
- Application techniques of pit and fissure sealants
- Sealant products

Participants will also have the opportunity to practice infection control techniques and seating positions for both the operator and patient in the clinic.

**On Day Two** participants will place light cured sealants in teeth in the laboratory. Participants must successfully place sealants in the laboratory setting prior to placing sealants in patients. After successfully placing sealants in the lab, participants must pass a written course examination with a 75% to receive course credit (exam will be given in English).

During the clinical aspect participants must pass by competently placing six sealants on patient(s). Participants will have the opportunity to secure a dry field in which to work, prepare the tooth for sealant placement, and then to successfully place the sealant.

## Learning Objectives

- Identify indications and contraindications for sealant placement.
- Discuss clinical characteristics of dental sealant materials, including types, properties, and retentive characteristics.
- Distinguish the difference between permanent vs. primary teeth and identify other related dental anatomy issues as relevant to the placement of sealants.
- Describe patient management techniques during sealant placement.
- Describe medical emergency procedures that may be necessary during treatment.
- Identify legal vs. illegal aspects of sealant placement in the state of Texas.
- Discuss ethical treatment of patients and the placement of sealants.
- Utilize proper moisture control.
- Participants will be able to educate patients as to the need and benefits of sealants, oral hygiene instructions and care of the sealants.

**Register early, Participants will be required to complete the following:** 1. Vital Sign and Immunization forms, 2. Show proof of current CPR, 3. Malpractice insurance

**Lab/Clinical sessions – participants must bring the following:**

**Friday – Lab Session:**

- Six (6) sterilized teeth-premolars/molars mounted in stone.
- Sterilized caries detecting explorer (Shepherd's Hook)

**Friday – Clinical Session:**

- Patient who has been diagnosed by a licensed DDS requiring six (6) teeth to be sealed.
- Prescription or treatment plan from doctor stating which teeth to treat on the patient.
- Patient radiographs – bitewings

- Sterilized mouth mirror, cotton pliers, and caries detecting (Shepherd's Hook) explorer (in addition to the lab session), sterilized articulating paper holder and articulating paper

- Napkin chain

- 1 sterilized finishing bur (football shape), 1 white stone bur

- Toothbrush for patient and 2 pairs of protective eyewear (for patient and for operator)

- Dry Aids

**Patient criteria:**

- Any age
- Pit and fissure sealants cannot be placed on teeth that have dental caries, restorations, or on unerupted/partially erupted teeth.

## About the Presenters

**Joanna L. Allaire, R.D.H., B.S., D.H.**, is an Assistant Clinical Professor the Department of Periodontics, School of Dental Hygiene at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston. She has practiced in a progressive periodontal practice for 15 years.

**Harold A. Henson, R.D.H., M.Ed.**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontics, School of Dental Hygiene at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston.

**Nina Bay-Infante, R.D.H., M.S.**, is an Associate Professor and Clinical Coordinator of the School of Dental Hygiene in the Department of Periodontics at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston.

**Jayne A. McWherter, R.D.H., M.Ed.**, is an Associate Professor and Program Director of the School of Dental Hygiene in the Department of Periodontics at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston. She has practiced dental hygiene for 32 years.

**Margo Y. Melchor, R.D.H., B.S.D.H., M.Ed.**, is an Assistant Clinical Professor the Department of Periodontics, School of Dental Hygiene at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston. She also practices dental hygiene part-time in a General Dentistry office in River Oaks.

**Donna Morris, R.D.H., M.Ed.**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontics, School of Dental Hygiene and faculty of the Houston Geriatric Education Center at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston. Ms. Warren-Morris, the author of several published journal articles, and has taught dental hygiene since 1976.

**Holly C. Rice, R.D.H., M.Ed.**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Periodontics, School of Dental Hygiene at The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston. She has practiced dental hygiene for 35 years.

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**Educational Grants**

The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston gratefully acknowledges **Ultradent** for their continued support and participation in its sponsored programs.

**Continental  
Breakfast and Lunch  
Provided**

**Location**

**Medical Center**

The University of Texas  
Dental Branch at Houston  
6516 M.D. Anderson Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77030

**Date**

December 10 – 11, 2009

**Time**

Check-in and Breakfast  
8:00 am – 8:30 am

Presentation

8:30 am – 5:00 pm

**Credit Hours**

8 – Lecture

8 – Participation

**AGD Code**

258 Caries Prevention

**Paid Registration Deadline**

**November 9, 2009**

\$425.00 Allied Dental  
Personnel

**No registrations or cancellations will be accepted after November 9, 2009**

**Attendance is Limited**

**Lecture and clinical sessions will be presented in English. Participants must be able to read and verbally communicate in the English language in order to gain full knowledge of all the required materials for this course.**

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