**Title:** Practical and Effective Pharmacology Protocols for the Dental Patient

**Presenter:** James L. Rutkowski, DMD, PhD**.**

**Date:** June 14, 2024

**Course Description:**

This 4-hour interactive and clinically oriented program will include protocols to evaluate and manage:

1. The opioid crisis and pain management as it relates to the dental practice (2-hours),
2. Proper use of glucocorticosteroids to prevent peri-operative inflammation (1-hour), and
3. Proper protocols for prescribing antibiotics for dental infections and surgical prophylactic use. (1-hour)

Topics to be covered are (i) effective and responsible opioid prescribing, (ii) effective use of non-opioid analgesics and steroids to prevent and manage post-operative pain and inflammation, and (iii) effective antibiotic use to manage dental-alveolar infections and responsible prophylaxis. The presentation is designed for Dentists, Dental Hygienists, and Dental Assistants.

Note: This course is designed to meet dental re-licensure requirements for (i) pain management and practices of prescribing or dispensing of opioids, (ii) medical evaluation, and (iii) pharmacology for the dental practice.

**Course Objectives:**

After the course, participants will be able to:

* Understand the extent and nature of the opioid crisis
* Effectively and responsibly prescribe analgesics (including opioids)
* Identify patients who may be seeking out your practice to satisfy their opioid addiction
* Learn what government regulatory agencies require clinicians to do when prescribing opioid medications
* Understand when and how to prescribe glucocorticosteroids to prevent post-operative inflammation
* Effectively prescribe antibiotics for dental-alveolar infections
* Responsibly use antibiotics for surgical prophylaxis

**Short Bio:**

James L. Rutkowski, D.M.D., PhD. is a Pharmacist, Dentist and has a PhD. in Pharmacology. He has authored multiple publications in peer-reviewed journals and textbook chapters. Jim is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Oral Implantology, a Diplomate/Past-President of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry (ABOI/ID) and Honored Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID). He lectures nationally and internationally on medical evaluations, pharmacology, sedation techniques, bone grafting materials, and methods for treating medically compromised dental patients. Dr. Rutkowski has been bestowed the Gershkoff-Goldberg Award for service to the field of Implant Dentistry and the Isaih Lew Memorial Research Award for contributions to research in the field of Implant Dentistry.

For 44 years, Dr. Rutkowski maintained a dental practice in Pittsburgh and Clarion, Pennsylvania, concentrating on bone grafting, dental implant placement, and treating apprehensive/medically compromised patients.