New I.V. Sedation Course for Dentistry by DOCS

There are less than 100 continuing education slots per year available for dentists to acquire licensure that allows them to perform I.V. sedation in the United States. Now, thanks to DOCS Education, that number has increased by another 50 due to its new course, I.V. Sedation for Dentistry. Specifically planned to minimize time away from the office, the didactic portion of the course takes place during two weekends (Friday to Sunday) in Pittsburgh. The 2009 inaugural course will occur on the following weekends: May 29–31 and June 12–14. The fall 2009 program will be in October and November.

In comparison to the I.V. sedation courses already available, DOCS Education has created a program that surpasses them all. The reasoning behind this approach was that DOCS Education wanted to ensure that every student in the I.V. sedation course would be extremely confident in performing the procedures upon graduation. Knowing that DOCS Education has been around since 1999, whom else would you trust for an I.V. course that not only meets but also exceeds the American Dental Association’s minimum requirements for such courses?

The didactic portion is taught at Duquesne University by university faculty and DOCS Education faculty members, and comprises a total of 60 hours. The clinical rotations include 45 to 60 cases in a one-on-one student/teacher ratio. Thus, there is no sharing of patients as found in other I.V. programs, and the ADA’s requirement of a three-to-one student/teacher ratio, along with its 20 total cases, are exceeded as well.

The DOCS I.V. sedation program tallies to 84 hours of education, and this translates into only two days away from the practice during the didactic portion if a clinician schedules office hours from Monday to Thursday.

DOCS Education faculty member Michael E. Mermigas, DDS, who is also a pharmacologist, is the course director. In addition, DOCS faculty member Eugene Pester, DDS, FADSA, a dental anesthesiologist, rounds out the DOCS presence on the Duquesne University campus.

Because of Mermigas’ involvement, the program is deeply rooted in the pharmacology of dental sedation while Pester brings a highly attuned knowledge of sedation techniques and patient assessment.

The ability to offer patients I.V. sedation means less chair time for them due to the faster induction phase, but it is also a benefit to those patients who have challenges brought on by medications or physiological conditions.

For more information about the I.V. Sedation for Dentistry course, visit www.DOCSeducation.com or call (877) 325-3627.