



A Potpourri of Prosthodontic Principles

July 13-14, 2024

Fitger's Brewery Complex, Duluth, Minnesota

Donna M Hecker, DDS, MS

Preliminary Program

Saturday, July 13, 2024 - 7:30 AM to 10:45 AM

Treatment Planning for the Edentulous (or about to be) Patient

Understand the difference between conventional dentures vs snap-on implant dentures vs fixed hybrid dentures vs. fixed crown/bridgework.

Understand how to evaluate a patient for implant restorations.

Understand which patients are and are not candidates for implant retained/supported dentures.

Getting the patient "in the game" and help them understand the commitment to implant restorations.

Sunday, July 14, 2024 - 7:30 AM to 10:45 AM

When Good Implants Go Bad

Understand how to choose the correct dental implant for the job.

Understand the role of occlusion in restoring dental implants.

Understand the role of the patient's health in dental implant health.

A Day in the Life of a Maxillofacial Prosthodontist

A clinical review of a variety (potpourri) of medical conditions that result in the need for a maxillofacial prosthodontist. Presentation will include:

- cleft lip and palate
- oral cancer
- gunshot wounds
- full mouth reconstruction
- consideration of patient medications
- and more!!

There will be a 15-minute refreshment break mid-morning each day.

Meet Our Expert

Donna M. Hecker, DDS, MS

Dr. Hecker began her career in dentistry as a dental laboratory technician. She completed the Maxillofacial Technician training program at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She later earned her DDS at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas.

She practiced general dentistry at the US Public Health Clinic in Anchorage, Alaska, before completing her Prosthodontic Residency and Master's Degree at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. Dr. Hecker worked for Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin, before moving to Minneapolis, where she was the Director of the Maxillofacial Prosthetic Clinic from 1998 until 2003.

Dr. Hecker created her own Private Specialty Practice, CityWest Prosthodontics, PA, and was the sole owner from 2003-2021. She briefly served Veterans at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio from 2022-2023 until she returned to LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Dr. Hecker is currently the Maxillofacial Prosthodontist at Gundersen Dental Specialties, where she serves on the Head and Neck Tumor Board and Cleft Lip and Palate Team.

Dr. Hecker is a Diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics, a Fellow of the American College of Prosthodontists, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics.

Disclosure Summary

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Continuing Dental Education Staff members have nothing to disclose. Dr. Hecker has nothing to disclose and does not intend to discuss off-label/investigative use of a commercial product/device.

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