



Quality Checkup: Risk Reduction and Improved Quality through Accreditation

Environment changes and paramount focus on infection prevention make a focus on quality and safety ever more important as patients increasingly are involved in selecting where they go and why, as providers are under increased pressure to “prove” their quality is superior, and as patients look to a broader range of options for less expensive alternatives that may not adhere to quality practices. The burden of continued quality improvement and raising the bar on quality expectations rests with those dentists, nurses, hygienists, and other healthcare professionals who take their commitment to do no harm, pursuing quality patient care, and driving good outcomes seriously—every day. This talk sets the framework to tackle the challenges facing our practices to reduce the likelihood of quality issues and safety deficiencies and ensure safe practice and quality outcomes. We will set the stage for a deeper dive into common deficiencies and tactics to reduce risks by highlighting a few common deficiencies in dentistry with a particular focus on infection prevention. Our intent is to get you into the quality mindset. Our environment is changing, and our thought processes and practices need to change with it and be integrated into our daily routine so that we are truly living and leading a culture of safety.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Explain the accreditation process, compliance expectations, and what it takes to achieve and maintain accreditation
2. Identify the quality and safety deficiencies most frequently cited in AAAHC accreditation surveys in dental practices.
3. Develop a corrective action plan to address common deficiencies in dental practice and ensure sustainable solutions.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

CE CREDITS: 1

EDUCATIONAL METHOD: Lecture, Recorded, Self-instructional (self-study)

LOCATION: Online

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EXPIRATION DATE: June 30, 2025

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SPEAKERS:

Katie Appleberry, RN

SURVEYOR

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)

Ms. Appleberry has more than four decades of ASC management and clinical experience in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery. Most recently, she retired as the Practice Administrator for the Center for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Chattanooga, TN. Since 2009, Ms. Appleberry has been a very active surveyor for AAAHC and has performed more than 200 surveys in a variety of surgical and primary care settings. Ms. Appleberry received a Certificate in Dental Assisting in 1979 and an Associate Degree of Nursing in 2002.

Disclosures: No relevant financial relationships to disclose

Ira Cheifetz, DMD

DENTIST

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC)

Dr. Cheifetz has more than 35 years of private practice experience in oral and maxillofacial surgery. Additionally, he volunteered his practice and leadership expertise to the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) for eight years, holding the position of President of the Association in 2009-2010. Dr. Cheifetz has participated in several AAAHC committees, and served as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2020. He has been a surveyor with AAAHC since 2012, and has conducted numerous surveys spanning a variety of surgical and primary care settings. Dr. Cheifetz received his DMD degree from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He has board certifications from the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the National Dental Board of Anesthesiology.

Disclosures: No relevant financial relationships to disclose