

**University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry  
124th Annual Alumni Meeting – 2023 Alumni Weekend  
37<sup>th</sup> Frederick T. West Orthodontics Lectureship  
The Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco**

**Katrina M. Sanders, RDH**

Saturday, February 25, 2023

9:00 am – 1:00 pm – 4 CE units

**Subject Area:** AAP Staging and Grading

**Title: "Cracking Periodontal Codes with Class: Diagnostic Decisions"**

**Course Description:**

Failure to diagnose periodontal disease is consistently a top complaint filed with state dental boards. The first step in treating and managing a patient's care (with maximum insurance reimbursement) is diagnosing disease accurately, ethically, and comprehensively. As diagnostics continually evolve, dental providers are encouraged to put down the scaler and pick up the probe. Active and appropriate diagnosis leads to comprehensive and effective therapy. This course walks the dental provider through the nine classifications of health and disease as established by the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP), as well as effective clinical decision-making in the management of each diagnosis. The struggle for appropriate diagnostics to maximize insurance coverage remains a common stress in the dental office. Katrina Sanders RDH, MEd authored a textbook which is used in dental hygiene schools to teach the foundational details behind periodontal diagnostics and coding. This course walks the dental billing team through effective coding techniques to best enable insurance coverage. We will review anatomical and clinical observations that aid in the identification of active disease as well as the system for case types and classifying diseases. Gain guidance in coding, narrative suggestions for informed refusal, and templates for appeals to support advanced coverage by third-party payers.

**Objectives:**

- 1) Review clinical parameters involved in distinguishing periodontal classifications, including contrasting terms of gingival disease and periodontitis.
- 2) Discuss the paradigm shift within the nonsurgical approach to periodontal therapy.
- 3) List, describe, and differentiate the various periodontal diseases.
- 4) Analyze effective protocols for implementing diagnostic, preventive and periodontal codes.
- 5) Explore future trends of periodontal classification as discussed by the American Academy of Periodontology.

**Short Bio:**

A clinical dental hygienist, author and international speaker, Katrina is passionate about elevating the dental profession by creating an undeniable movement that educates, encourages, and empowers the profession to rise in its power. Known as the “DentalWINEgenist™,” she pairs her desire for excellence in the dental industry with her knowledge and passion for wine. She is the Clinical Liaison, Hygiene Excellence & Innovation for AZPerio, the country’s largest periodontal practice where she works alongside Diplomates to the American Board of Periodontology in the surgical operatory. She is the founder, CEO, and keynote speaker for Sanders Board Preparatory. She has been published in various publications including RDH Magazine and Today’s RDH and is an advisory member for Modern Hygienist and the Dental Academy of Continuing Education. Her philanthropic efforts include dental humanitarian work in developing countries, supporting abused and homeless animals and spreading awareness about the benefits of organ and tissue donation.

<https://katrinasanders.com>