The New Geriatric Patient: Medical and Clinical Considerations
– Drs. Howard Cowen and Jennifer Hartshorn

This program will address the unique and complex challenges the general practitioner faces when treating the New Geriatric Patient. These issues will be discussed, complemented with evidence based research, techniques and case histories. Information on preventive and restorative techniques and materials, as well as common medical considerations encountered when treating the medically compromised frail and older adult patient.

At the completion of this presentation, participants should be able to:

1) Understand the concept of “medical clearance”: including the controversial use of antibiotics and safely managing patients on anticoagulants, steroids and bisphosphonates.

2) Identify new preventive and restorative techniques and circumstances in which they are successful in these populations

3) Understand new evidence-based restorative concepts and techniques that are useful in these populations

Howard Cowen, DDS, MS, DABCSD, is a Professor and Director of the Geriatric and Special Needs Programs. Dr. Cowen received his DDS degree in 1976 and his MS in 1996 from The University of Iowa College of Dentistry. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Special Care Dentistry and Director of the Geriatric and Special Needs Program and Graduate Certificate Program. His primary research interests include epidemiology of oral diseases in the elderly, etiology of tooth loss, osteoporosis and fluoride intake and the oral health of nursing home residents.

Jennifer Hartshorn, DDS, is an Assistant Professor. Dr. Hartshorn received her DDS in 2012 and completed the Geriatric and Special Needs Fellowship in 2013, both from the University of Iowa. She is involved with teaching undergraduate and graduate dental students in the classroom, clinic, and local nursing homes. Dr. Hartshorn is an active member in the American Dental Association and Special Care Dentistry Association.