

DENTAL ANXIETY CASE STUDY

Max is an 8 year-old male patient presenting to the dental clinic today for prophylaxis and fluoride varnish. His mother states that he will not brush his teeth or allow anyone to assist him in brushing them.

His medical history is significant for the following:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ADHD
- ADD
- VSD repaired at age 2.5 years of age

Max is initially apprehensive about sitting in the dental chair. He is given an iPad to watch his favorite anime cartoon. After a couple of minutes, he begins to sit calmly in the dental chair. The dentist uses tell-show-do (TSD) techniques and positive reinforcement to proceed with her exam. The patient responds well, continuing to remain calm and cooperative. However, when slow speed suction is used during prophylactic treatment, he suddenly becomes uncooperative shaking his head, kicking his legs, and screaming loudly. TSD techniques are again used to help gain his cooperation. However, upon hearing the suction start he grabs the dental assistant's hands and begins to dig his nails into her. He refuses to let go. Treatment is immediately stopped. The patient lets go of the dental assistant's hands after his mother offers him a piece of candy.

What behavioral treatment plan do you propose?

What preventive behaviors do you recommend?

What alternative oral hygiene and dental care strategies would you suggest?

DISCUSSION

Using the 4 IPEC Competencies (2016) related to:

1. Working with individuals of other professions to maintain a climate of mutual respect and shared values (Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice);
2. Using the knowledge of one's own role and those of other professions to appropriately assess and address the health care needs of patients and to promote and advance the health of populations (Roles/Responsibilities);
3. Communicating with patients, families, communities, and professionals in health and other fields in a responsive and responsible manner that supports a team approach to the promotion and maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of disease (Interprofessional Communication);
4. Applying relationship-building values and the principles of team dynamics to perform effectively in different team roles to plan, deliver and evaluate patient/population-

centered care and population health programs and policies that are safe, timely, efficient, effective, and equitable (Teams and Teamwork).

Please collaborate as a team to develop a management plan for the above patient.

- Oral-Systemic Risk Assessment
 - Identify the oral-systemic assessment findings (Hx and PE HEENOT)
 - What does the history and physical tell us about this patient?
 - What additional data do you need to collect (eg. labs, diet and exercise, etc)?
 - Identify oral-systemic risk factors

- Differential Diagnosis(es)
 - Identify the tentative diagnoses for the oral health problems
 - Identify the tentative diagnoses for the systemic health problems
 - Discuss the important oral-systemic connections

- Develop a management plan for the oral-systemic conditions affecting this patient, including:
 - Preventive interventions that include screening and behavior change counseling that are fundamental to patient-centered care
 - Anticipatory guidance
 - Oral health maintenance
 - Collaboration and referral

Questions to Guide Your Interprofessional Collaboration

- Roles and Responsibilities
 - What is the scope of the role and responsibilities of each of the providers on your team today?

- Collaboration
 - How can the Nurse Practitioner, Dentist, Physician, Pharmacist, and Social Worker collaborate to promote this patient's health?

- Team Building & Communication
 - What do you think are the most effective strategies to help a Nurse Practitioner, Physician, Dentist, Pharmacist, and Social Worker function as a community-based primary care team?
 - What are the most effective ways for the IP team to communicate?

- Referrals and Follow up
 - What providers does this patient need to see? When? How often?
 - What are the appropriate follow-up actions for each member of the primary care team?