ORAL CAVITY AND PAIN MANAGEMENT

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THANK YOU

NO CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

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OBJECTIVES

• Review Common Dental Emergencies
• Review Techniques that Manage Dental Emergencies for the Physician Assistant
• Tools and Innovations that a Physician Assistant Uses to Manage Patient

DENTAL EMERGENCIES

• Multifactorial
  • Odontogenic Origin
  • Periodontal Origin
  • Trauma
  • Miscellaneous
DENTAL EMERGENCIES

• Odontogenic Origin / Caries Disease
  • Bacteria Presence
  • Acid byproduct
  • Saliva Production
  • Extrinsic Factors

DENTAL EMERGENCIES

• Periodontal Origin / Periodontal Disease
  • Changes in the alveolus (maxillary and mandibular) and gingiva
  • Bacteria Presence
  • Limited Hygiene Habits
DENTAL EMERGENCIES

- Trauma
  - Temporomandibular disorders (TMD)
  - Fractured tooth

- Miscellaneous
  - Sinus Infection
  - Impacted teeth

HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- How to help the patient
  - Options?
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Odontogenic / caries disease
  - Locate and Identify
  - Temporary fill material
  - Antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medication (NSAIDs)
  - Provide intraoral anesthesia

IDENTIFY

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Photo: Pathway@ PCC
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Odontogenic / caries disease
- Ask patient about diet
  - Limit presence of acid
- Encourage hygiene habits with preventive tools
- Seek regular dental care
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Periodontal disease
- Locate and Identify
  - Chlorhexidine Gluconate Rinse 0.12%
- Provide intraoral anesthesia
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Periodontal Disease
- Ask patient about medical history of smoking, diabetes, and diet.
- Encourage hygiene habits with preventive tools
- Seek regular dental care
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Trauma
- Locate and Identify
- Ask specific questions
- TMD - multifactorial
- Extrinsic Stressors

IDENTIFY
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

TMJ pain

- Ask patient about diet, use of night guard, daily routine
- Encourage exercises / physical therapy to relax muscles
- Consider prescription of NSAIDs and / or muscle relaxants*
- Seek OMFS for consultation of Botox injections or

HELP PATIENT MANAGE

Fractured Tooth

- Etiology - sports, accident, fall, etc.
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Fractured Tooth
  - Ice to help reduce swelling
  - NSAIDs to help with pain
  - If any pieces found, save until they can seek care from DDS / DMD

HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Miscellaneous
  - Sinusitis
    - Bacterial presence causing inflammation in the sinus

HELP PATIENT MANAGE

- Sinusitis
  - Avoid suggesting it’s “tooth” origin
  - Antibiotics
HELP PATIENT MANAGE

• Miscellaneous
  • Impacted Teeth

HELP PATIENT MANAGE

• Impacted Teeth
  • Check surrounding gingiva
  • Minimal pain prescription
  • Encourage OMFS consult and extraction

TOOLS FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

• Gloves
• Masks
• Eye protection
• Hair tied back
TOOLS FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
• Headlamp
• Long needle (25 gauge)

TOOLS FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
• Fingerless retraction
• Disposable Syringe
• Gauze
TOOLS FOR THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

• Minimum 2.0 ml of anesthetic
• For pediatric patients do calculations based on weight to determine appropriate dosage
• FDA Max dose based on 150 lb (70 kg) patient

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

• Hands on course to learn more
  • Identify landmarks to provide injection
  • Learn more info on anesthetics and different injection techniques
  • Practice placing filling material into tooth
  • Learn trigger points extra orally to help relieve discomfort

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REFERENCES