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Managing Dental Emergencies, Identifying Oral Cancer and Improving Oral Health Outcomes

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This presentation is completed and been developed to teach both registered and dental nurses how to manage dental emergencies and identify oral cancer. It will provide a review of oral anatomy including dentition, gingival tissues and oral landmarks. Attendees will also learning how to identify oral cancer, provide assistance and proper referral for an evaluation. The session will cover other important patient education topics such as teaching the proper dental hygiene techniques for mandible or maxillary factures and managing incidents of avulsed teeth.

Purpose and Target Audience: The educational session has been developed to provide dental and nursing education to both registered and dental nurses. It is applicable to clinical operations, academic departments, students and leaders.

Keywords Step: Keywords in this presentation will be dental, trauma, emergency, oral cancer, avulsed teeth, facial fractures, patient management and outcomes.

Learning Objective #1: The participants will be able to name dentition, gingival tissue and dental landmarks within the oral cavity.

Learning Objective #2: The attendees will be able to identify the manifestations of cancer in the vestibule.

Learning Objective #3: The participants will be able to describe the proper oral hygiene techniques for patients with mandible and maxillary fractures.

Learning Objective #4: The attendees will be able to teach their patients how to manage avulsed teeth incidents from facial trauma or accidents.

Abstract: This presentation has been developed to teach advanced practice, registered and dental nurses on how to manage dental emergencies and identify oral cancer. It will provide a review of oral anatomy of dentition, gingival tissues, oral landmarks and include dental terminology. It is important that all of these health professionals know this information as it is prudent to the documentation of patients' chief complaint (s). Advanced practice, dental and registered nurses must be able to describe the existing or presenting problem. Effective interprofessional communication is essential to improving patients' outcomes. Attendees will learn how to identify oral cancer and assist the patients with a properly written referral for an evaluation. The World Health Organization (WHO) reported, there is an estimated 657,000 new cases of oral cancer and more than 330,000 deaths every year. As healthcare providers, we should be promoting oral cancer self-screening examination to be conducted by the patients at least once a month. Healthcare professionals should be completing oral cancer examinations at every medical and dental visit. The course session will cover how to manage dental trauma events or life threatening emergencies. Along with providing patient education on topics such as: teaching the proper dental hygiene techniques for mandible or maxillary fractures and management of avulsed teeth. The National Institute of Health (NIH) reported approximately 30 million children and adolescents are involved in sports annually in the United States. The impact of dental injuries can be significant. More than five million teeth are avulsed in the United States every year. Treatment is estimated to cost at a total \$500 million annually. Dental trauma patients should be evaluated in the dental office instead of the hospital emergency departments. An avulsed tooth can be treated by a dentist and re-implanted can occur if the tooth been properly handled. The expected outcome is to prevent tooth loss caused by improper management at the time of injury. Patients may call the dental or medical office asking how to handle this type of incident. Advanced practice, registered and dental nurses should be able to triage the patient, provide dental education and assist with obtaining emergency services.

Biography

Mrs. Kimberly Dexter is both a registered dental hygienist and nurse in the United States. She has many years of experience in both professions. Highlights of her career are: She managed and worked in dental clinics for over thirty years. Specifically, Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Medical Dental Clinic and creating their dental electronic medical record. She has worked in various specialties in nursing including jails. At Prince William County her role was the managing health authority and nurse manager. Now she is currently working as a mental health nurse at a Crisis Stabilization Unit at a local Community Service Board and a Doctorate Primary Mental Health Nurse Practitioner student at George Mason University School of Nursing (graduation date 5/2020).

Institution organization name: Epsilon Zeta Sigma Theta Tau International Chapter