

Anticipatory Guidance to Prevent Caries in Cases Of Dental Neglect in Children

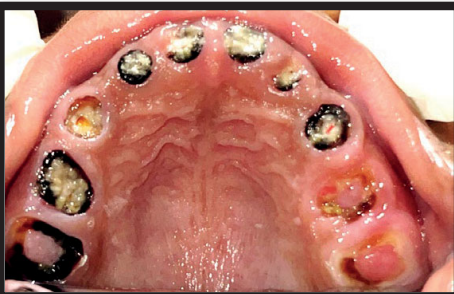
Introduction: Prevention of caries in primary dentition requires multidisciplinary efforts and good child rearing practices. Anticipatory guidance becomes case specific in cases of dental neglect amongst preschool children. It requires management at both the parental and patient level. Anticipatory guidance is proactive counselling of parents and patients about daily care of teeth when talking about caries prevention.

Objective: Present cases of dental neglect need anticipatory guidance for caries prevention in newly erupted teeth and development of regular oral health practices in children supported by parents. Communication, education, and motivation to guide the parents and children were carried out in these dental neglect cases of severe early childhood caries (SECC).

Case 1: Unattended caries in patient with dental neglect



Age & Sex- 5.5yr/M



ETIOLOGY

>20 sugar exposure per day

Pre picture



Post operative picture after sealant application



Materials & methods:

Pit and fissure sealants are used as primary preventive method for caries prevention in primary molars and permanent molars. The customized anticipatory guidance is required in cases suffering from severe dental neglect due to SECC.

Discussion: For the first case the patient received pit & fissure sealant for newly erupted permanent 1st molar and was educated regarding brushing. Space management requirements after extractions and diet chart were given. For the second case the patient received pit & fissure sealant for the primary molars, SDF application in upper anteriors, pulpectomy w.r.t 55,65 and was educated regarding brushing technique. A diet chart was also provided.

Case 2: Severe early childhood caries in patient with dental neglect



Age & Sex- 3.5yr/F

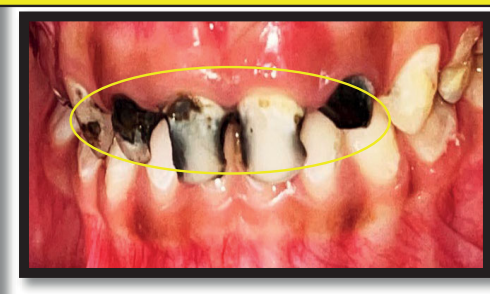
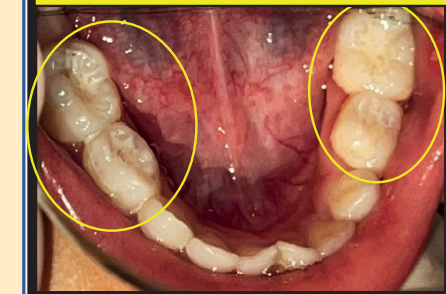
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Sleeping with bottle



Results

Post operative picture after sealant & SDF application



Conclusion: Organized case-specific anticipatory guidance is needed to prevent caries progression in children with dental neglect.

Reference : 1. Wright JT, Crall JJ, Fontana M, et al. Evidence-based Clinical Practice Guideline for the Use of Pit-and-Fissure Sealants. American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, American Dental Association. *Pediatr Dent* 2016;38(5):E120-E36.
 2. Dr. Savitha Sathyaprasad, Dr. Aravind, A., Dr. Irfana Ilyas and Dr. Shainitha, C.M. "Anticipatory guidance in pediatric dentistry-a literature review". 2021. *International Journal of Current Research*, 13, (03), 16549-16561