

Epilepsy in dental practice

Abstract

Epilepsy is a neurological condition characterised by seizure activity. It has an approximate incidence of 1%. General dental practitioners will encounter these patients in practice. This article discusses the types of epilepsy, the medical management and considerations in dental management of epileptic patients. General recommendations are made, based on current evidence, with respect to prescribing of medications. The management of an epileptic seizure is discussed. Status epilepticus is a rare but serious complication of epileptic seizures. An easy-to-follow algorithm is provided to assist the practitioner in managing seizures.

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Orthognathic surgery demands of a regional orthodontic unit

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The establishment of a diagnostic reference level for intra-oral dental radiography in Co. Wicklow.

Abstract

The use of diagnostic reference levels (DRLs) is part of the optimisation process of radiation protection, in that it identifies practices that are in need of corrective action, resulting in dose reduction. Their use is provided for in Irish and European legislation. In this project, measurements were carried out at 42 of the 46 licensed intra-oral x-ray machines in Co. Wicklow using an Unfors Mult-O-Meter. The third quartile patient entrance dose for a maxillary molar was calculated at 2.31mGy, and all the measurements were below the European DRL of 4mGy. The effect of digital radiography was analysed. There is always scope for the optimisation of patient dose. To facilitate this, a DRL of 2.5mGy (patient entrance dose) is suggested for Ireland.

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