SCIENTIFIC

Medical emergencies in dental practice

Abstract

Serious medical emergencies are fortunately a rare occurrence in the dental practice environment; however, if an emergency situation is encountered a delay in treatment may result in potentially avoidable consequences. The risk of mortality or serious morbidity can be reduced by ensuring that basic emergency equipment and medications are in place, and that the dental team is appropriately trained in basic life support measures. This article aims to provide an overview of the basic emergency medications and equipment that should be present in dental practices, and to discuss specific responses to some of the more common adverse medical events that can present while providing dental treatment.

M.H. Wilson N.S. McArdle J.J. Fitzpatrick L.F.A Stassen

Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Dublin Dental School

& Hospital/St James's Hospital

Address for correspondence:

Professor Leo Stassen

Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Dublin Dental Hospital Lincoln Place Dublin 2

Email: leo.stassen@dental.tcd.ie

Journal of the Irish Dental Association 2009; 55 (3): 134 - 143.

Alveolar lymphangioma in infants: report of two cases

Précis

Two cases are presented of alveolar lymphangiomas found in newborns. Presentation, diagnosis and management are discussed. Photographs are shown to help practitioners to recognise these lesions.

Kirsten FitzGerald BDentSc, MFD (RCSI),

MS

Siobhán Barry BDS, MFD (RCSI) Pádraig Fleming BDentSc, FDS (RCSEd), MSc, FFD (RCSI) Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin

Address for correspondence:

Kirsten FitzGerald

Dental Dept. Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin

Dublin 12 Tel: 01 409 6549

Dublin 12

Fax: 01 455 8873

Email: kirsten.fitzgerald@olchc.ie

The alveolar lymphangioma is a benign but relatively rare condition found only in the oral cavities of black infants. Dentists practising in Ireland may be unaware of this condition due to its racial specificity. This paper presents two case reports of multiple alveolar lymphangiomas found in black infants in a children's hospital in Ireland. The epidemiology, aetiology, clinical presentation, histology, and management options are discussed. The photographs should aid the practitioner in recognising these lesions.

Journal of the Irish Dental Association 2009; 55 (3): 144 – 145.