

Determining dental students' and dental hygiene students' perceptions of eating disorders and their management

Précis

There is a need for development within the dental curriculum to improve the teaching and training regarding the diagnosis and management of eating disorders.

Abstract

Statement of the problem: Pathological tooth surface loss (TSL) is an increasing challenge for dental healthcare professionals (DHCPs). Patients with eating disorders (EDs) may present with TSL and future DHCPs should be aware of the medical, dental and general management of patients with EDs who may present with TSL.

Purpose of the study: Determine perceptions of undergraduate students at Cork University Dental School and Hospital (CUDSH) regarding their training and the management of eating disorders.

Methods: A questionnaire was distributed to final year dental (FYD; n=47) and dental hygiene (FYDH; n=14) students approaching the end of their studies at University College Cork.

Results: A response rate of 40% for FYD (n=19) and 86% for FYDH (n=12) students showed no obvious trends differentiating between perceptions of FYDs and FYDHs. The perceived confidence of students in managing patients with EDs varied widely. A number of respondents perceived inadequate training in relation to oral manifestations (32%) and dental management (16%) of patients with EDs. In relation to the medical management (90%), personality traits (71%) and psychological needs (81%), students perceived a requirement for further training. A total of 77% of respondents were unaware of local support services available to ED patients, with 94% also unaware of Eating Disorder Centre Cork (EDCC).

Conclusion: There is a need for improvement within the dental curricula in education regarding patients with EDs, specifically their comprehensive management by DHCPs and surrounding services.

Journal of the Irish Dental Association 2020; 66 (4): 187- 191.



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Case report of a spontaneous occurrence of MRONJ

Abstract

This is a case report of a patient with bone cancer who developed medicine-related osteonecrosis of the jaws (MRONJ). The case management, lesion progression, sequestration and sequelae are discussed.

Journal of the Irish Dental Association 2020; 66 (4): 192-194.



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Periodontal disease as a manifestation of cyclic neutropenia: case report with a 34-year follow-up

Précis

Case report: oral manifestations of cyclic neutropenia.

Abstract

Introduction: Cyclic neutropenia is an autosomal-dominant haematological disorder. It is characterised by a periodic depression of peripheral blood neutrophils at 21-day intervals. Patients have a decreased ability to fight infection and commonly experience fever, ulceration, skin infections and lymphadenopathy.

Case report: A 17-year-old patient was referred by her consultant haematologist for periodontal assessment due to painful oral tissues and loose teeth. Clinical and radiographic examination revealed advanced periodontal destruction. A course of cause-related, non-surgical periodontal treatment, followed by an orthodontic and reconstructive phase, was carried out to arrest disease progression and stabilise her dentition. This case was followed up intermittently for over 34 years.

Discussion: The oral manifestations of cyclic neutropenia include oral ulcerations, angular cheilitis, periodontal destruction and early tooth loss. Early identification and regular follow-up should be employed for this patient cohort. Restorative procedures should be meticulously planned and executed to facilitate plaque control.

Conclusion: This case report illustrates the challenges of long-term management of severe periodontitis in a young individual who suffers from cyclic neutropenia. Delivery of dental and periodontal care was complicated by long travel distances, periods of non-attendance and financial issues. Early interventions to improve periodontal health and align the teeth proved successful, and this case report illustrates the benefit of planning periodontal care on a case-by-case basis. Regular supportive oral care is essential.

Journal of the Irish Dental Association 2020; 66 (4): 195-200.

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