

PEDIATRIC CASE STUDY #3

Smiles for Life

Smilesforlifeoralhealth.org

You work in a community health center in a large urban area. Carlos, a three-year-old boy, is brought in by his mother for a well-child visit. The family has recently emigrated from Mexico. He has not received regular well care and his mother is concerned about cavities in his teeth. She reports that Carlos' grandmother has reassured her that having cavities at this age is normal and that he need not be treated at this age.

Which behavior best exemplifies the mutual respect and trust that are foundational to interprofessional collaborative practice?

- A. Inform the patient's mother that his grandmother's ideas about oral health are outdated and harmful.
- B. Involve dental and medical team-members in the management of Carlos' oral health.
- C. Offer to help Carlos' family to understand and embrace the cultural norms of the United States.
- D. Respect the grandmother's wishes to forgo treatment for Carlos.

During the initial visit with Carlos and his mother, you perform a risk assessment and an oral health history. You determine that Carlos has not had regular health care and that his mother has only been to a dentist to have several of her teeth removed. His diet includes frequent juice and sugary snacks.

Which of the following behaviors best exemplifies the acknowledgement of roles and responsibilities of participating members of the healthcare team?

- A. Encourage each member of the team to work independently.
- B. Explain your role and responsibilities and how you will work independently to provide the best possible care for your patient.
- C. Communicate with other members of the healthcare team when developing a treatment plan.
- D. Do as much as you can for Carlos first before involving other members of the healthcare team.

You perform an oral examination and encounter the following (photo). You determine that Carlos requires the intervention of a dentist for early childhood caries. You discuss treatment options with the family and the medical assistant applies fluoride varnish.



Which of the following behaviors best exemplifies effective teamwork among participating members of the healthcare team?

- A. Use this opportunity to educate the patient about the specific role of your profession in the provision of oral health care.
- B. Ensure team agreement about the role of medical assistants in this case.
- C. Clarify that the medical assistant is solely accountable for the results stemming from fluoride application.
- D. Critically evaluate the effectiveness of the team using process improvement strategies.

CASE STUDY DISCUSSION

Using the 4 IPEC Competencies (2011) related to:

1. Working with individuals of other professions to maintain a climate of mutual respect (Values/Ethics),
2. Using the knowledge of one's own role and those of other professions to appropriately assess and address the healthcare needs of the patients and populations served (Roles/Responsibilities)
3. Communicating with patients, families, communities, and other health professionals in a responsive and responsible manner that supports a team approach to the maintenance of health and the treatment of disease (Interprofessional Communication), and
4. Applying relationship-building values and principles of team dynamics to perform effectively in different team roles to plan and deliver patient/population-centered care that is timely, efficient, effective, and equitable (Teams and Teamwork)

Please collaborate as a team to develop a management plan for the above patient.

- Oral-Systemic Risk Assessment
 - Identify the oral-systemic assessment findings (Hx and PE HEENOT)
 - What does the history and physical tell us about this patient?
 - What additional data do you need to collect (eg. labs, diet and exercise, etc)
 - Identify oral-systemic risk factors

- Differential Diagnosis (es)
 - Identify the tentative diagnoses for the oral health problems
 - Identify the tentative diagnoses for the systemic health problems
 - Discuss the important oral-systemic connections

- Develop a management plan for the oral-systemic conditions affecting this patient, including:
 - Preventive Interventions that include: screening and behavior change counseling that are fundamental to patient centered care
 - Anticipatory guidance
 - Oral health maintenance
 - Collaboration and referral

Questions to Guide Your Interprofessional Collaboration

- Roles and Responsibilities
 - What is the scope of the role and responsibilities of each of the providers on your team today?

- Collaboration
How can the Nurse Practitioner, Dentist and Physician collaborate to promote this patient's health?
- Team Building & Communication
 - What do you think are the most effective strategies to help a Nurse Practitioner, Physician, and Dentist function as a community-based primary care team in a primary care medical home (PCMH)?
 - What are the most effective ways for the IP team to communicate?

- Referrals

What providers does this patient need to see? When? How often?