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Level 2 Client Summary

During my time in the clinic I came across a diverse group of clients which could be differentiated based on socio economic status, age, gender and immigration status. The age ranged from 9 years old to 82 years old which affected the dental hygiene process significantly. Older clients needed more precaution in relation to their medications and alert status. For example one of my older clients was being treated for high cholesterol, hypertension and diabetes. She required certain accommodations such as evening appointment times, washroom breaks throughout the appointment, ensuring she had taken her medications and more. This differed from treating a child considering the client presented with no alert status. However the client required more education on linking diet to progression of dental disease. Younger clients presented with a diet high in fermentable carbohydrates and sugar and required appropriate aids and knowledge to ensure optimal health. It was evident to see the difference in health status based on the client's socioeconomic status. For example, a few uninsured immigrants presented with generalized stage 4 periodontitis whereas canadian born clients of the same age and culture showcased localized stage 1 periodontitis. Having treated 4 men and 6 women it was evident that men presented a higher likelihood of periodontitis as literature suggests. "Interestingly, periodontitis has a documented higher prevalence in men as compared to women signifying a possible sex/gender entanglement in the disease pathogenesis."(X). This was interesting to observe during clinical experience considering gender was the only differentiating factor of their health status, all other factors being constant. As I continue to see more clients, I hope I gain more understanding of many factors that interplay in determining someone's oral health status.

LITERATURE CITED

Ioannidou E. The Sex and Gender Intersection in Chronic Periodontitis. *Frontier in Public Health*. 2017 Aug 04 [cited 2025 march 21] Available from:

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