Journal 2 - Evidence Informed Practice

DH 201 Clinical Practical

Vishav Sidhu (APR 2024)

November 29, 2024

**Graduates will practice using an evidence-informed approach by incorporating various methods of inquiry such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and reasoning skills to make informed practice decisions to optimize health outcomes.**

**Read the CDHO publication Best Practice for Initiating Dental Hygiene Care. Choose one (1) of the conditions included in the document.**

**Q1: Describe how you have/would use this resource to help guide you in the provision of care to your clients.**

Up until now I have used ADPIE in sequence following assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation. I have overlooked the preceding phase in trying to see how the current phase affects the proceeding one. Reflecting on this document after clinic I can understand how all phases work synergistically. For example a thorough assessment can help a clinician create a specific diagnosis for the patient and a client centered goal helps one focus on certain aspects while assessing. The manner in which these two phases compliment one another, other phases too are intertwined in similar fashion. This resource ensures that a clinician’s treatment plan accounts for various variables in producing specific treatment plans. This plan considers the time allocated, predispositions, behaviors, health history and many others. This resource provides a framework which allows a clinician to focus on continuing care by modifying treatment based on new findings. This is useful as it helps a clinician be cognizant of what therapeutic measures were successful and areas which can be improved. It also holds one accountable for their standard of practice as they are able to track competency across appointments. This guide also helps a clinician in redirecting attention to the core issue, which is addressing the client’s needs. Throughout the ADPIE process client involvement is emphasized which conveys to the clinician that there needs to be a continual dialogue with the client. A clinician must understand how to use his or her skills and expertise to satisfy client needs. Guiding the client throughout the process and asking for input allows one to have an ideal treatment outcome.

**Q2: Discuss what other resources are available to you to help you make informed decisions related to the topic you chose so you could provide safe and effective care to your clients with the condition you chose.**

As cancer becomes more prevalent in today's society, it is the role of health care providers to understand how treatment impacts their clients. During assessment if a client reveals a condition which needs consideration during appointment some useful resources include CDHO knowledge network, ODHA, Darby and Wash and Mosby’s Drug Reference. Using the CDHO knowledge network helps a clinician understand the need for medical consults, contraindications, limitations, need for medications and more. CHDO recommends the following interventions prior to dental hygiene treatment of a client undergoing active chemotherapy “ Blood work should be conducted 24 hours before dental hygiene treatment to determine if the patient/client’s platelet count, clotting factors, and absolute neutrophil count are sufficient to prevent hemorrhage and infection” (CDHO 2016). Understanding how dental hygiene treatment can affect someone’s medical condition allows one to take appropriate precautions. Another useful resource is the ODHA dental hygiene resource sheet. This document highlights factors a clinician should consider for a client undergoing cancer treatment. “Pain, considered an important management role for dental hygienists, may come from more than one source, such as cancer, cancer treatment, damage to the nervous system or other medical conditions not related to cancer”(ODHA 2024). In preparing for a client undergoing chemotherapy, Dary and Walsh is an excellent resource. It highlights physical symptoms of those seeking cancer therapy. “Oral mucositis is a common and very painful side effect for those undergoing chemotherapy (40%), oral radiation therapy (100%), and stem cell transplant therapy (80%)” (Bowen and Pieren 2020). Lastly, to fully conceptualize the intracadies of someone diagnosed with cancer, it is important to understand what medications they are taking. Mosby’s drug reference is a great tool as it highlights mechanisms of action, pharmacokinetics, contraindications and dental considerations. It also includes medications cancer patients are commonly prescribed such as Cisplatin, Doxorubicin and more. The integration of these resources ensures a safe and effective treatment for a client undergoing chemotherapy.

LITERATURE CITED

Ontario Dental Hygienists’ Association. Cancer Treatment and Oral Care. Available at:<https://odha.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/FINAL-DH-RS-Oral-Cancer1.pdf>. Accessed Nov 29, 2024

College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario. Knowledge Network . Available at <https://cdho.org/factsheets/chemotherapy/>. Accessed Nov 29, 2024

College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario. Best Practice for Initiating Dental Hygiene Care. Available at: <https://cdho.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/GUI-Best-Practice.pdf>. Accessed Nov 29, 2024.

Arthur Jeske. Mosbey’s Dental Drug Reference. 13th ed. India: Elsevier; 2021. p 269, 409.

Bowen DM, Pieren JA. Darby and Walsh Dental hygiene: Theory and Practice. 5th ed. India: Elsevier; 2020.p. 821.

