M(oral) Education tested in Dubai Youth Hub: A Creative Way to Tackle Dental Decay

By Dr. Shiamaa Al-Mashhadani

The World Health Organisation (WHO) considers caries, periodontal diseases, loss of teeth, oral cancers and trauma as major causes of health burden. Dental cavities can be found in 60-90 per cent of children of school-going age. Not only is there an alarmingly high prevalence of dental disorders worldwide, but there is also sufficient evidence to suggest that the benefits of the current interventions aimed at reducing these burdens are not reaching the populations at risk.

In similarity with the global trend, surveys in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have also revealed a startlingly high prevalence of various dental diseases. Surveys have revealed that 83 per cent of children aged five years are affected by caries, and 52 per cent have four or more decayed, missing or filled teeth (DMFT). In a study conducted in Abu Dhabi, an Emirate within the UAE, the mean DMFT score was recorded at 8.4, 8.6, and 5.7 for children aged five years in various regions of the Emirate. The latest study focusing on the Emirate of Dubai shows similar high numbers, with caries prevalent in 65 per cent of five-year-olds. 10 per cent of these children have more than five teeth with untreated caries. Data from these studies highly suggests that there is an urgent need for action to counter the widespread dental diseases in the UAE. The WHO has suggested a number of cost effective and holistic interventions to counter the increasing prevalence of dental diseases.

Preschools and schools provide an important base to promote oral health as they reach large numbers of students who pass on these messages to their families. Schools can make substantial contributions to students’ health and well-being. This has been increasingly recognised by many international initiatives including those from the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF and UNESCO. This means that the oral health messages reinforced in schools will eventually reach the whole community. The early years of a child’s life are the most influential in reinforcing habits and attitudes, therefore teaching the students at this age about proper oral health habits will have a lifelong effect. They will be healthier and more productive individuals in their community, having better quality of life with a potential to long term cost saving. To eliminate dental problems, one must follow a tripod approach of education, prevention and availability of oral health care.

The New York University Abu Dhabi Public Health Think Tank (PHTT) is a collaborative, interdisciplinary and locally engaged initiative designed to catalyse public health innovation in and beyond the United Arab Emirates. This year, the PHTT concentrated on oral health in an immersive, two-day event where delegates planned an oral health intervention alongside students from across the UAE, and received lectures and guidance from leading public health professionals.

The winning team (Team Ras Al Khaimah) proposed a project with the aim to decrease the prevalence of caries in children across the UAE by increasing oral health awareness and constant reinforcement through the incorporation of oral health into the moral education curriculum within public schools. To implement this intervention, a pilot study will be conducted on schoolchildren from Grade 1 until they reach Grade 6 from 2018 to 2024. The group cho-sen will be educated each year within the pilot program on multiple levels of dental health awareness, and the results of their decayed, missing and filled teeth (DMFT) will be collected after six years. When comparing these results to the DMFT data of previous sixth graders who were not exposed to the oral health education program, an improvement is expected, which will prove the effectiveness of the intervention. The oral health program will then hopefully be implemented into the moral education curriculum in schools across the UAE. The intervention is essential because, at present, there are pre-existing long-term curricula on oral health. It will also provide reinforcement, which is key for children to break free from unhealthy socio-cultural norms, such as tobacco usage. This intervention also capitalises on resources already available by implementing education through pre-existing jobs while preventing the onset of caries, thereby reducing government expenditure in the long run.

The intervention was recently presented in the Dubai Youth Hub as a prototype with the participation of students from Dubai Modern Education Private School. Feedback collected from students and their parents who attended has shown promising results.

For further information on the project, please visit http://2017.phtt.org/

Optimal secondary prophylaxis with CPS perio

Secondary prophylaxis with CPS perio

As soon as the active treatment phase has been concluded, the patient follows a specific periodontal care protocol that takes into account his or her oral health status, for example if the patient’s papillae are badly injured or if there are black triangles. Regardless of the treatment, the work by the practice team constitutes only 30 per cent of the success. The remaining 70 per cent is up to the patient him- or herself.

Most interdental brushes do not completely fill the interdental space and are much too hard and their use thus leads to pain. The CPS perio is especially suited to periodontitis pa-tients. This interdental brush is sufficiently rigid to give a really efficient clean, but soft enough to avoid pain. The wire used in the CPS perio is stronger than that in the CPS prime, to keep the brush sturdy. The extra-long and fine bristles of the CPS perio effectively and carefully clean the large gaps of bridges, crowns or fillings.

The practice team’s use of a calibrated CURAPROX interdental probe to choose interdental brushes of the right size further supports the patient in performing optimal secondary prophylaxis. The probe is now also available for the CPS perio range. The chartside box contains CPS perio and probes for the precise measurement of interdental spaces. The holders can be reused if required and the probes can be autoclaved.

Secondary prophylaxis

SIMULTANEOUSLY DIAGNOSES FRESH CAVITIES AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, REMINERALISES EARLY CHANGES IN THE ENAMEL AND TREATS ORTHODONTIC MISALIGNMENT EARLY ON. SECONDARY PROPHYLAXIS IS A PART OF DAILY WORK IN MANY DENTAL PRACTICES.

SECONDARY PROPHYLAXIS WITH CPS PERIO

AS SOON AS THE ACTIVE TREATMENT PHASE HAS BEEN CONCLUDED, THE PATIENT FOLLOWS A SPECIFIC PERIODONTAL CARE PROTOCOL THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT HIS OR HER ORAL HEALTH STATUS, FOR EXAMPLE IF THE PATIENT’S PAPILLES ARE BADLY INJURED OR IF THERE ARE BLACK TRICOANGLES. REGARDLESS OF THE TREATMENT, THE WORK BY THE PRACTICE TEAM CONSTITUTES ONLY 30 PER CENT OF THE SUCCESS. THE REMAINING 70 PER CENT IS UP TO THE PATIENT HIM- OR HERSELF.

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THE PRACTICE TEAM’S USE OF A CALIBRATED CURAPROX INTERDENTAL PROBE TO CHOOSE INTERDENTAL BRUSHES OF THE RIGHT SIZE FURTHER SUPPORTS THE PATIENT IN PERFORMING OPTIMAL SECONDARY PROPHYLAXIS. THE PROBE IS NOW ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE CPS PERIO RANGE. THE CHARTSIDE BOX CONTAINS CPS PERIO AND PROBES FOR THE PRECISE MEASUREMENT OF INTERDENTAL SPACES. THE HOLDERS CAN BE REUSED IF REQUIRED AND THE PROBES CAN BE AUTOCLAVED.

INTERDENTAL BRUSHES OF ALL SIZES AND PROBES CAN BE STORED HYGIENICALLY AND NEATLY ORDERED RIGHT IN THE TREATMENT UNIT WITHIN EASY REACH.

Fig 1. IAP
Caries at an early stage in the case of permanent teeth may be affected by progression of caries. The prevention can be challenging in young children, as their enamel has not yet fully hardened. Because oral hygiene and caries prevention can be challenging in young children, the use of fluoride varnish can be beneficial.

For this reason, the IQWiG researchers investigated whether the application of fluoride varnish to primary dentition has advantages in comparison with standard care without fluoride application by comparing the findings of 15 randomised controlled trials. In these, a total of 5,002 children were treated with fluoride varnish, and 4,705 children received no such treatment, being the control group. Children aged up to 6 years with or without caries of their primary teeth were included in the research.

In several of the studies, further measures for caries prevention in addition to the application of fluoride varnish were offered. These included brushing on oral hygiene, instruction on the correct toothbrushing technique, and the provision of toothbrushes and fluoride toothpaste. The follow-up observation period was mostly two years.

The development of caries was investigated in all 15 studies; side-effects were investigated in nearly all of the studies. However, owing to a lack of conclusive data, it is unclear whether fluoride application also has advantages regarding further patient-relevant outcomes, such as tooth preservation, toothache or dental abscesses.

Caries in approximtely every tenth tooth preserves the development and progression of caries.

By P. de Cock

Fluoride varnish in primary dentition positively affects caries prevention

By DTI

COLOGNE, Germany: Whereas caries in primary dentition in Germany is declining, research has found that about 14 per cent of 3-year-olds in the country have cavities in their primary dentition. According to a report by the Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG), fluoride varnish is effective in remineralisation of the tooth surface and prevents the development and progression of caries.

Permanent teeth may be affected by caries at an early stage in the case of caries-affected primary teeth, as the enamel has not yet fully hardened. Because oral hygiene and caries prevention can be challenging in young children, the use of fluoride varnish can be beneficial.

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Caries in approximately every tenth tooth preserves the development and progression of caries. However, owing to a lack of conclusive data, it is unclear whether fluoride application also has advantages regarding further patient-relevant outcomes, such as tooth preservation, toothache or dental abscesses. Therefore, we are excited about the potential of fluoride varnish as a preventive strategy in dentistry. Gum health can help us to convey the awareness message ‘Health begins with healthy gums’, and gravity increase with age and as a result of contributing factors such as smoking and obesity, but it is being prevented and successfully treated, especially if diagnosed early. That is why, as our motto says, ‘Health begins with healthy gums’, and we have an opportunity to take action.

Erythritol functional roles in oral-systemic health

By P. de Cock

Oral health functionality of Erythritol

Mäkinen et al. 2005 demonstrated that in comparison to other sugar alcohols like sorbitol and xylitol, erythritol can decrease dental plaque mass and acids associated. Erythritol has the potential to reduce streptococcus mutans in saliva hence minimizing the risk of dental caries.

Fluoride varnish is effective in remineralisation of the tooth surface and prevents the development and progression of caries. In addition, the time of enamel or dentin caries lesions to progress and the amount of enamel or dentin caries in comparison with sorbitol group. Moreover, the time of enamel or dentin caries lesions to progress and the amount of enamel or dentin caries in comparison with control group. In addition, the time of enamel or dentin caries lesions to progress and the amount of enamel or dentin caries in comparison with control group. In addition, the time of enamel or dentin caries lesions to progress and the amount of enamel or dentin caries in comparison with control group.

Erythritol was the most effective agent to reduce P. gingivalis acclimation onto S. gordonii substrate compared to xylitol and sorbitol.

Systemic health effects

Erythritol is noncaloric, nonosmotic, and nonglycemic besides being well-tolerated. It has a very high bioavailability, showing potential to provide cardiovascular benefits due to its capability to act as an antioxidant systemically.

Effects of Erythritol on the Gastrointestinal Tract

Mäkinen et al. 1998 reported the fact that erythritol due to its small molecular size is rapidly absorbed through passive diffusion. Approximately 90% of the ingested dose is absorbed from the small intestine and excreted in the urine unchanged. European Food Safety Authority also confirmed that young children tolerate erythritol equally well as adults on a body weight basis.

Conclusion & Sales arguments

Erythritol as an antioxidant improves the endothelial function and their vascular health status in people with type 2 diabetes.

Erythritol provides healthier tooth protection than sorbitol and xylitol, in children and teenagers.

Fluoridation is not just an AIR FLOW powder, but a complete effective and safe one-stop solution for dental prophylaxis with additional supportive action as an antioxidant.

Fluoride varnish in primary dentition positively affects caries prevention

By DTI

LEIPZIG, Germany: On 12 May, the European Federation of Periodontology (EFP) and 29 of its affiliated national societies will participate in European Gum Health Day 2018. With the slogan ‘Health begins with healthy gums’, the day seeks to raise awareness of periodontal disease’s deleterious effects through a range of informative and engaging activities.

Co-ordinated by Dr Xavier Struillou, an elected member of the EFP executive committee, European Gum Health Day 2018 aims to build upon the success of last year’s inaugural event. Through television and radio interviews, press releases, press conferences and individually produced video content, many of the participating national societies will be seeking to widely communique and emphasise the importance of periodontal health for general health. Dentists and other dental professionals are also invited to sign up to the EFP Manifesto, a call to action for the prevention, early detection, and early treatment of gum disease.

National societies of periodontology from Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Israel, Ireland, Lithuania, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom will be actively involved in the day. All of these societies have employed the logos, posters, info-graphics and templates provided by the EFP to convey a shared message that transcends borders.

In addition, an agreement with the Bio-PanAmerican Federation of Periodontology (FIPP) will see FIPP’s eight Caribbean and South American member associations, as well as the national periodontology societies of Colombia and Panama, also taking part in European Gum Health Day 2018.

We are very excited that the Latin American perio societies are for the first time joining European Gum Health Day 2018 and that they are helping us to convey the awareness message ‘Health begins with healthy gums’, said Struillou.

‘European Gum Health Day aims to remind people that—even if they are healthy child and would not at least reduce progression of caries in further children. Apparently whether the children already had caries or whether their teeth were completely intact made no difference regarding the benefit of fluoride varnish applications.

The report, titled “Assessment of the application of fluoride varnish on milk teeth to prevent the development and progression of initial caries or new cavities”, was published online by IQWiG on 26 April 2018.

EFP set to celebrate European Gum Health Day 2018

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‘European Gum Health Day aims to remind people that—even if still often overlooked—gum health is a key factor for general health throughout life, and that gum disease is a relevant public-health concern because it is linked to very serious conditions, including heart disease and cerebrovascular disease,” he added. “Gum health can help us to save many lives, to detect or prevent many severe conditions, and to save billions in medical costs.”

Anton Sculean, president of the EFP, added: “Gum disease’s prevalence and gravity increase with age and as a result of contributing factors such as smoking and obesity, but it is being prevented and successfully treated, especially if diagnosed early. That is why, as our motto says, ‘Health begins with healthy gums’, and we have an opportunity to take action.”
World Oral Health Day 2018 celebrated across Dubai

By Dental Tribune MEA/CAPPmea

Philips Sonicare is an official global partner of World Oral Health Day (WOHD), which takes place every year on March 20th, organized by FDI World Dental Federation. This year, the campaign ‘Say Ahh. Think Mouth. Think Health’ encourages people to make the connection between oral health and general health and well-being. World Oral Health Day is committed to educating consumers and dental professionals on the importance of developing good oral healthcare habits at an early age and increasing education on the impact oral health can have on general health conditions.

It’s a day full of activities that make everyone laugh, sing and smile! The Dubai Health Authority (DHA) in cooperation with Philips Sonicare organized an exciting schedule for everyone by inviting The Singing Dentist, Dr. Milad Shadrooh, to join in celebrating WOHD in Dubai. The schedule of activities for WOHD was very exciting. It all started on 11 March on the Clight FM radio, where a competition for children under the age of 16 years was held. The competition task was to rap or sing a song related to oral health. The winner would receive a chance to make a recording with The Singing Dentist himself for the following day’s Breakfast Show. The winner got to join The Singing Dentist in Madifl City Centre the following week and receive a Philips Sonicare electric toothbrush free of charge.

The Madifl City Centre’s audience received a warm welcome for The Singing Dentist. A short question and answer session regarding oral health was held and answered by children. Dr. Rafif Tayara demonstrated the technique of proper toothbrushing. On 20th March the Singing Dentists visited Repton School Dubai where he met 320 exited students from year 3 and year 5. The Singing Dentists interacted with the children asking and answering questions about how to maintain good oral hygiene in line with the WOHD theme “Say Ahh!” With the advice to: - Brush your teeth - Eat Healthy and - Visit the dentist

The year 5 group had used one of the Singing Dentists videos in Moral Education and the children have written their own well-being songs using him as inspiration. The atmosphere was static in the room with the students dancing and singing along with the Singing Dentists. A day to remember of good oral hygiene tips while having fun!

On 21 March, The Singing Dentist, Dr. Milad Shadrooh, visited the Dubai Modern Education School, (DMES) where the students were to form the largest “Human Smile” by having students wear t-shirts in red, blue and white (the WOHD logo colours).

On the day, Dr. Hamda Sultan Al- Mesmar, Director of the Dental Services Department at the DHA, opened the ceremony with the following words, “The Dubai Health Authority’s vision is to have a happy and healthy community and that of the Dental Services Department is to improve the oral health of students of the Emirate of Dubai and to serve the goals of the 2016-2022 DHA strategy to increase oral health literacy among the population of Dubai and decrease dental caries among its children.

The DHA extended their thanks and gratitude to Ms. Hamda Lootah, head of the DMES, Michael Cipriano Principal of DMES, head of the American section, and respected academic and medical staff from the school for accommodating this festival of oral health awareness and the celebration of WOHD that is organised by the FDI World Dental Federation, as well as the inauguration of the second edition of the “My Smile” oral health school programme, of which Dr. Sharmas Shubab al Mashhadani from the DHA is a leader – Additionally, thanks went to the DHA’s strategic partner, Philips Sonicare, for their continuous support of the Dental Services Department, and to the Knowledge and Human Development Authority, as well as the School and Educational Institutes Unit in the DHA.

The main attraction of the day was to have everyone participating, with of course, The Singing Dentist. He performed several of his “hit” songs, during which the entire audience sang along. He also met the students who had won the competition on oral health benefits. At the same time, several stations were placed along the room with different oral health activities in which the students participated. The DHA, together with the Emirates Dental Hygienist Club, educated the youngest in a fun manner about oral health care.

The DHA hopes that the students benefited from the programme and that, in the end, the primary goal was achieved, which was to have every student of Dubai be healthy and happy.

Dubai Modern Education School on World Oral Health Day celebration

Dubai Modern Education School students making the largest “Human Smile”
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