Domestic violence survivors

According to the American Psychological Association, nearly one in three adult women experience at least one domestic assault by a partner during adulthood, which translates into approximately 4 million American women who experience domestic violence during a 12-month period.

As a dentist in Kalamazoo, Mich., Brett Magnuson, DDS, performs a spectrum of procedures designed to give his patients a fresh start in life. In cooperation with the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD), Magnuson dedicates his time and cosmetic dentistry expertise to the Give Back a Smile (GBAS) program, which provides free consultations and dental treatments for survivors of domestic violence.

The need is great for those affected by domestic violence, says Magnuson. “Through the Give Back a Smile program, AACD members like me assist those in need by treating any dental injuries sustained from domestic violence,” he says. “The AACD and I remain dedicated to helping these patients reclaim their smiles, their self-esteem, and ultimately, their lives.”

Victims of domestic violence who have suffered dental injuries can contact GRAS toll-free at (800) 773-GBAS (4227), or visit www.givebackasmile.com for more information. Survivors of domestic violence must make an appointment with a counselor, domestic violence advocate, social worker, or therapist to complete the advocate section of the GBAS application.

GBAS then reviews the application and turns it over to the dentist. If eligible, the AACD connects the survivor with a local GRAS volunteer who provides treatment at no charge to the recipient.

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Findings provide a simple approach that can be easily used in all dental care settings.

Other authors who contributed are: Dr. Carol Kunzel, associate clinical professor at the College of Dental Medicine and at Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health; Dr. Sandra Burkett, at the College of Dental Medicine; and Dr. Bin Cheng, an assistant professor in the Department of Biostatistics at the Mailman School of Public Health.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in five people in the United States affected with type 2 diabetes remains undiagnosed. And those with prediabetes are at an increased risk for type 2 diabetes and also for heart disease, stroke and other vascular conditions typical of individuals with diabetes.

Citation

Lalla E, Kunzel C, Burkett S, Cheng B and Lamster IB. Identification of diabetes, stroke and other vascular disease, in medical and health sciences education, and in patient care. The medical center trains future leaders and includes the dedicated work of many physicians, scientists, public health professionals, dentists, and nurses at the College of Physicians & Surgeons, the Mailman School of Public Health, the College of Dental Medicine, the School of Nursing, the biomedical departments of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and allied research centers and institutions.

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