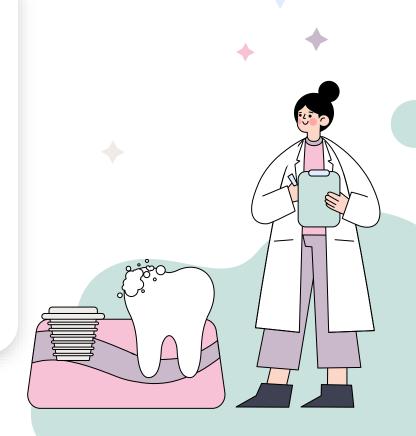
Introduction to Dentistry

Dental Healthcare Team

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By the end of this lecture the student will be able to:

- Define the dental health care team.
- Recognize the responsibilities and duties of each team member
- Identify the importance of dental team collaboration.
- Outline the standards of dental team.

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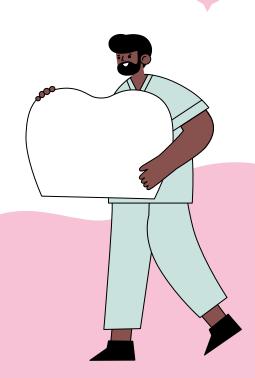
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INTRODUCTION

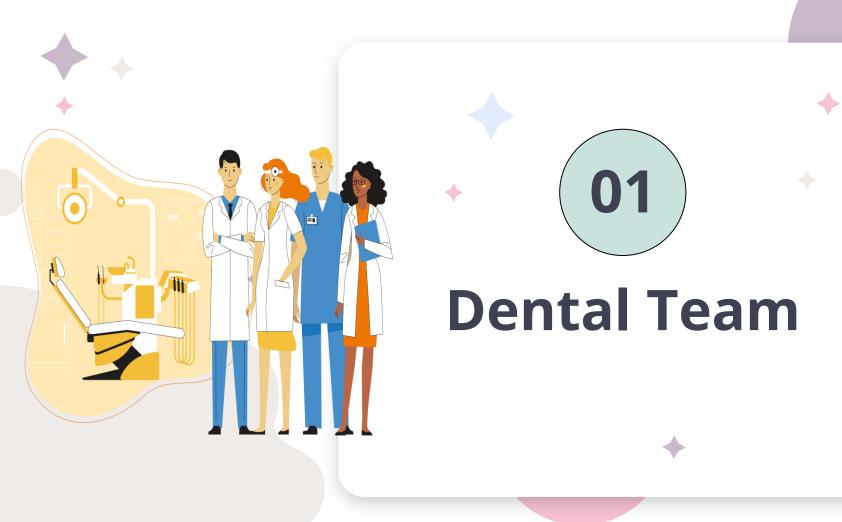
A dental health care team provides more efficient dental service to the largest number of people at a time, and this system is in harmony with the existing social, economic, technological, and demographic factors.



Definition

A dental health care team is a group of individuals working interdependently to provide health services in the best possible manner to the individuals and communities they serve. The goal of such a team is the optimum health status of their clients.





OUR DENTAL HEALTHCARE TEAM





Dentist

Dental Hygienist





Dental Assistant

Dental lab. Technician







Role of dental team



Dentist

- Oral healthcare provider licensed to practice dentistry.
- Assesses the patient's oral health needs as related to physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Uses up-to-date diagnostic skills.



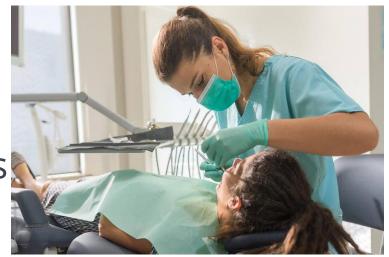
Dentist

- Provides legally required supervision for dental auxiliaries.
- Meeting with patients to discuss and treat dental concerns, perform regular cleanings and other preventative procedures, and establish a plan for better dental hygiene.



Dentist

 Performing dental procedures, such as extractions, root canal treatment, filling cavities and dental prosthetics.

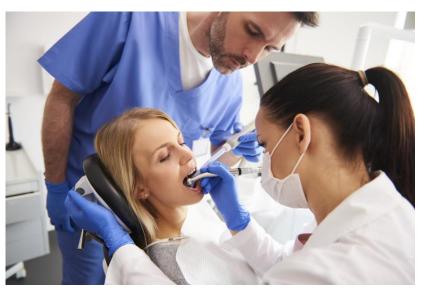


- Oral healthcare professional trained to provide supportive procedures for the dentist and for patients.
- A highly skilled dental assistant is a vital member of the dental healthcare team.



- The dental assistant is trained in dentistry techniques and also performs general office duties.
- Dental assistants work

 chairside as dentists
 examine and treat patients



- Dental assistants record vital signs and dental and medical histories. prepare patients for examinations, treatments or surgical procedures
- They make dental radiographs, and prepare dental materials and injections.



- Dental assistants possess a thorough knowledge of the equipment, supplies, instruments, and techniques required for every dental procedure.
- They sterilize and disinfect instruments and equipment, and instruct patients on postoperative and general oral health care.



 Dental hygienists play a crucial role in providing preventive care, educating patients, and supporting them in maintaining excellent oral health.



 With their expertise, skills, and dedication, they make a significant impact on reducing oral diseases, improving patient outcomes, and promoting overall well-being.



- The duties and responsibilities of a dental hygienist include:
- 1. Dental Cleanings: performing thorough teeth cleanings, also known as dental prophylaxis. They remove plaque, calculus, and stains from the teeth This process helps prevent tooth decay, gum disease, and other oral health issues.



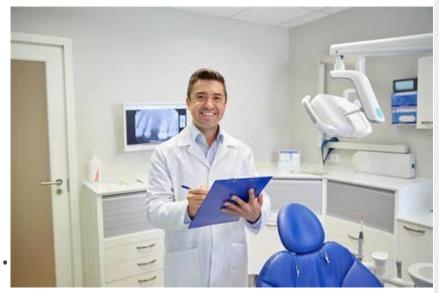
2. Patient Education: Dental hygienists play a crucial role in educating patients about proper oral hygiene practices. They teach patients how to brush and floss effectively, provide guidance on using mouth rinses and other dental products.



- 3. Dental Examinations: Dental hygienists often conduct preliminary dental examinations before the dentist's evaluation.
- **4. Treatment Planning:** Dental hygienists collaborate with dentists to develop individualized treatment plans for patients.



5. Recordkeeping and Documentation: Dental hygienists maintain detailed patient records and document their findings, treatment plans, and procedures performed.



Dental Hygineist workplace



Dental offices or clinics

Work alongside dentists and dental assistants as part of a dental team.



Community health centers, hospitals, or nursing homes.

Focus on providing dental care to underserved populations or individuals with special needs.



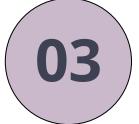
Educational institutions

Work as instructors in dental hygiene programs.

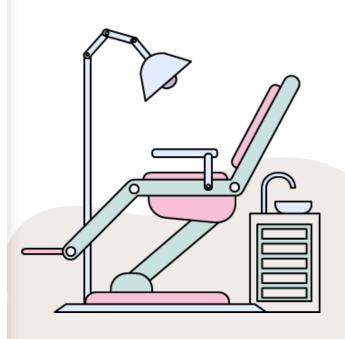
Dental Laboratory Technician

 Professional who performs dental lab services such as fabricating crowns, bridges, dentures and orthodontic appliances as specified by the dentist's written prescription and impressions.

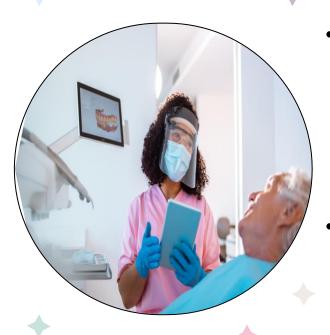




Importance of collaboration of dental health care team



Enhanced Patient Care



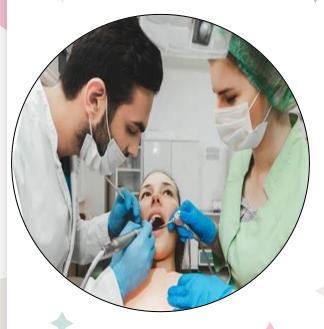
- Team collaboration leads to enhanced patient care. When dental professionals work together, they can pool their expertise, share knowledge, and develop comprehensive treatment plans.
 - This interdisciplinary collaboration allows for a holistic approach to patient care, ensuring that all aspects of oral health are addressed

Improved Treatment Planning

- Collaboration among dental professionals is essential in treatment planning. When dental healthcare team collaborate, they can collectively assess patients' needs, and determine the most appropriate treatment.
- This collaborative approach minimizes errors, optimizes treatment outcomes, and increases patient satisfaction.



Increased Practice Efficiency



- Team collaboration significantly enhances practice efficiency. By working together, dental professionals can improve overall productivity.
- Effective collaboration enables efficient scheduling, coordination of appointments, and smooth patient transitions between different dental departments.

Positive Work Environment

- Collaboration fosters a positive work environment in dental practices.
- When dental professionals feel valued, supported, and engaged in collaborative efforts, it boosts morale and job satisfaction.





Standards for dental team





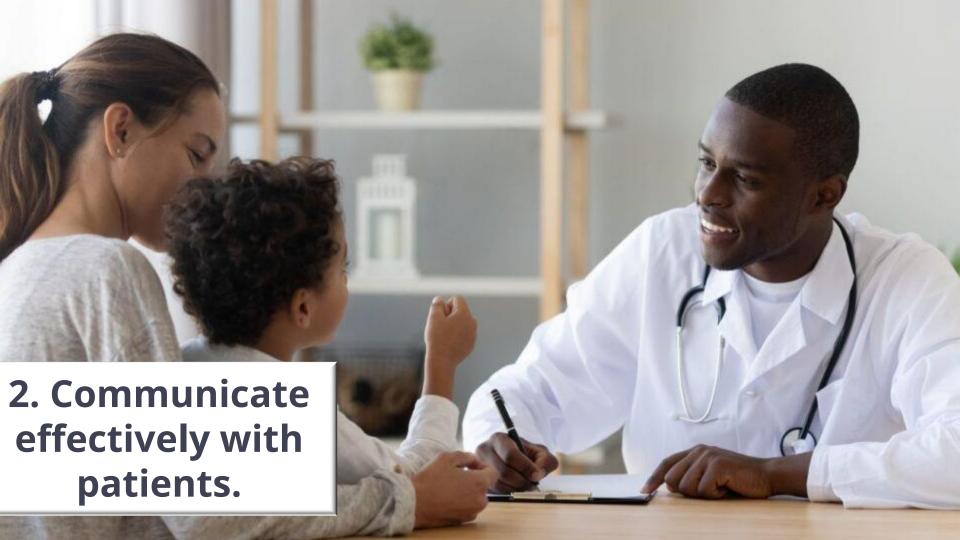
Standards of dental team

- These standards specify the principles, standards, and guidance which govern dental professionals.
- There are nine principles that registered dental professionals must always adhere to.



General Dental Council





















Patients can expect to be listened to, have their preferences and concerns considered.



Patients can expect to be treated as individuals, have their cultures and values respected, and that all members of the dental team will be honest and act with integrity

