SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ITS IMPACT ON ORTHODONTIC CARE
Hosted by
American Association of Orthodontists
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Statement on Provision of Dental Treatment for Patients with Substance Abuse Disorders

Guidelines Related to Alcohol, Nicotine, and/or Drug Use by Child or Adolescent Patients

Statement on Alcohol and Other Substance Use by Pregnant and Postpartum Patients

www.ada.org About the ADA ADA Positions, Policies and Statements Substance Use Disorders (6)

I. General Information
   A. Useful Websites for drug information
      www.drugfree.org
      www.dea.gov
      www.drugabuse.gov
      www.nida.nih.gov
      www.streetdrugs.org
      www.drugs.com
   B. Chemical Dependency (Alcoholism as an example) is a Primary, Chronic, Progressive, Relapsing Disease process with Genetic, Psychosocial, and Environmental factors influencing its development and manifestations.
   C. progressive nature of addiction
      - experimental→social use→abuse→addiction
      - “gateway drugs”-nicotine and alcohol
D. The “doctor-shopper” (Warning Signs)
   - Name that drug
   - Rx by telephone
   - After hours requests
   - Out-of-towners
   - Unusual behavior
   - Cutaneous indications

E. Management of the “doctor shopper”
   - Thorough examination
   - Document, document, document
   - Request photo identification
   - Confirm Telephone # and address
   - Prescribe limited amounts
   - NSAIDs are drug of choice

II. Age-Related Trends
A. Guidelines Related to Alcohol, Nicotine, and/or Drug Use by Child or Adolescent Patients”

B. Warning signs of possible substance abuse
   1. behavioral
   2. physical
   3. hygiene
   4. health

C. Possible oral manifestations of substance abuse
   1. nicotine stomatitis
   2. absence of stains on lingual of lower anteriors
   3. spots or sores around mouth
   4. burns on lips
   5. leukoplakia
   6. “meth mouth”
   7. unexplained periodontitis
   8. unusual amount and location of caries
   9. xerostomia (cotton mouth)

D. Inhalants
   1. Inhalants-Volatile Solvents
      a. Fifth most abused drug after alcohol, marijuana, nicotine and prescription drugs
      b. Inhalant abuse peaks in 8th grade
      c. Used by “huffing”, “sniffing”, “bagging”
d. Other inhalant products
- model paints (Gold and Silver)
- magic Markers
- correction fluid
- moth balls
- aerosol keyboard cleaners

e. Causes of death-inhalants
- suffocation
- respiratory depression
- hepatotoxicity
- sudden sniffing death

2. Inhalants-Other types
a. amyl and butyl nitrite (poppers, snappers, etc)
b. nitrous oxide (Whippets, Nossies, Aerosol whipped cream)

E. Prescription Drugs -“Pharming”, Pill parties, “bowling”
- opiate death statistics

F. Over the Counter (OTC) drugs
a. Cough medications containing dextromethorphan (DXM)
b. Energy drinks
c. Diet drugs

III. Marijuana
A. General Information
1. two most popular species are Cannabis Sativa and Cannabis Indica-growth characteristics are different
2. strain is named by grower according to its smell, appearance, etc
3. the marijuana plant contains approximately 400 different chemicals-the major psychoactive chemical is Delta-9-

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
4. another cannabinoid (Cannabidiol-CBD)-does not exhibit psychoactive effects similar to THC-but may have medicinal value because of its depressant effects
5. Sex of plant very important-female plant contains higher concentrations of psychoactive chemicals ex. –Sinsemilla
6. Seeds do not contain THC-used to grow marijuana
7. Marijuana usually smoked or vaporized but can be ingested orally in cookies, candy, cakes, etc.-absorption is slower and unpredictable
B. Pharmacological effects
   1. euphoria/disinhibition
   2. increased appetite (munchies)
   3. disoriented behavior (dysphoria)
   4. paranoia
   5. distortion of time and space
C. Signs and symptoms of marijuana use
   1. blood shot eyes
   2. slow to respond
   3. slurred speech
   4. glazed eyes
   5. odor on breath and clothes
D. Excretion/detection
   1. casual user-2 to 4 days
   2. heavy user-30 to 60 days
   3. presumptive test- 50ng/ml
   4. confirmatory test (GC/MS)-15ng/ml

IV. Narcotics-“Downers”
   A. General information
      - Signs/symptoms of narcotic use
         - lethargy/unresponsive
         - confused
         - slurred speech
         - glazed eyes/pinpoint pupils
   B. Major sources of heroin include
      - South America (Colombia) and Mexico
   C. Heroin and other opioids may be snorted, injected, or smoked
      - intravenous user (2-3%), "snorting" (~25%)
   D. Opioid Detection
      1. Federal guidelines-2000ng/ml or greater is positive
      2. Urine will be positive for about 2-4 days from last dose

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