

10 Common Senses in Paediatric Dentistry

Prof. Soy Eon Bak

Pediatric patients are like cogs. You can't ignore them, but it's difficult to deal with them. In the era of low birthrate, children are precious in family. Nowadays, children are called VIB (Very Important Baby). The child is the basic center of the family. However, pediatric treatment is somewhat different from the adults. Children are not miniaturized versions of adults. I have included five things that GP dentists should definitely remember when treating these pediatric patients.

First, the importance of regular panoramic X-rays. The oral environment is a dynamic process, but the child's mouth is in a whirlwind of change. The period of exchanging primary teeth for permanent teeth, called mixed dentition, takes more than 6 years. Moreover, these days, children's jaws are underdeveloped, and many problems can occur during this transition period. The most important thing in early detection of these problems is the panoramic X-ray. We will look at what should be emphasized in the mixed dentition panoramic X-ray and what points are easily overlooked. Second, fluoride. There is nothing better than fluoride to make teeth strong. However, there is also a risk and fear of fluoride. Since everything in the world has benefits and risks, experts should suggest ways to reduce risks and increase benefits. The way fluoride is used can also vary depending on the child's caries susceptibility and age. Third, the peculiarities of pediatric orthodontics. Since children continue to grow and develop, orthodontic treatment that takes this into account is important. Rather than treating malocclusion as a disease, it can be seen as a concept of prevention or blocking of problems that occur during the growth and development process. Pediatric orthodontics should consider many factors, such as the complex and difficult situation of children's growth and development, the child's cooperation, the parent's experience with orthodontics, and the parenting style. Fourth, myo functional therapy. We are not only dealing with teeth. The lips, tongue, and jaw muscles are all factors that have a significant impact on oral health. In particular, if mouth breathing continues, it can cause many problems. We will examine mouth breathing and various bad habits and look at the latest treatment trends. Finally, it's about dental treatment for a child with a systemic disease. As premature births and miscarriages increase, there are many children with underlying diseases. I would like to discuss the precautions to be taken when treating dental problems in children with underlying diseases and when to refer them.

"A mouth is a mirror that reflects whether a person is healthy or not, a sentinel, and an early warning system," said David Satcher, former director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A child's teeth contain many things such as genetics, environment, constitution, and growth. The dental health of growing children is the basis for their happy and healthy growth. It would be great if dentists could help establish that foundation together.

Profile

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