

ECC - Early Childhood Caries

ECC-AP ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the anatomy/physiology of ECC.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss anatomy/physiology as it applies to early childhood caries.
2. Discuss pathophysiology of ECC.
3. Explain that it is possible for tooth decay to begin even before tooth eruption.

ECC-C COMPLICATIONS

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the effects and consequences of ECC.

STANDARDS:

1. Review the consequences of severe tooth decay, e.g., infection, tooth loss, speech problems, aesthetics.
2. Review treatment modalities (tooth restoration, behavior management).
3. Review the health risks of general anesthesia.
4. Explain that early tooth loss in children may cause abnormal eruption of permanent teeth.

ECC-DP DISEASE PROCESS

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the causes, identification, and prevention of Early Childhood Caries (ECC).

STANDARDS:

1. Review the current factual information regarding the causes of ECC.
2. Discuss how dental disease can be passed from parent to infant.
3. Discuss the role of sugar.
4. Review how to identify early signs of ECC.

ECC-FU FOLLOW-UP

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the importance of follow-up in the treatment of early childhood caries.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss dental well child visits and the importance of follow up.
2. Discuss the procedure for obtaining follow-up appointments and that follow-up appointments should be kept.
3. Emphasize that full participation in the treatment plan is the responsibility of the patient/family.
4. Discuss the indications for immediate follow up, e.g., bleeding, persistent or increasing pain, and fever.
5. Discuss the availability of community resources and support services and refer as appropriate.

ECC-GD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand primary dentition.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain how dentition begins during fetal development. Review primary tooth development.
2. Discuss the role of primary teeth in the growth and development of the mandible, maxilla, and permanent teeth.

ECC-L LITERATURE

OUTCOME: The parent/family will receive literature about ECC.

STANDARDS:

1. Provide the parent/family with literature on ECC.
2. Discuss the content of the literature.

ECC-LA LIFESTYLE ADAPTATIONS

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand positive oral hygiene habits.

STANDARDS:

1. Review breastfeeding, bottle feeding practices, and oral hygiene.
2. Provide information on alternatives to misuse of baby bottles, e.g., no bottles in the bed, no propping of bottles, weaning at 12 months of age.

ECC-M MEDICATIONS

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the goal of drug therapy and be able to demonstrate and explain use of the prescribed regimen.

STANDARDS:

1. Describe the proper use, benefits, and common or important side effects of the medication.
2. Discuss any significant drug/drug or drug/food interactions.
3. Discuss the importance of keeping a list of current prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbs, traditional remedies, and supplements to keep your doctor informed.

ECC-MNT MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the specific nutritional intervention(s) needed for treatment or management of early childhood caries.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) is a systematic nutrition care process provided by a Registered Dietitian (RD) that consists of the following:
 - a. Assessment of the nutrition related condition.
 - b. Identification of the patient's nutritional problem.
 - c. Specific nutrition intervention therapy plan.
 - d. Evaluation of the patient's nutritional care outcomes.
 - e. Reassessment as needed.
2. Review the basic nutrition recommendations for the treatment plan.
3. Discuss the benefits of nutrition and exercise to health and well-being.
4. Assist the parent/family in developing an appropriate nutrition care plan.
5. Refer to other providers or community resources as needed.

ECC-N NUTRITION

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the role of nutrition and early childhood caries.

STANDARDS:

1. Review normal nutritional needs for optimal dental health.
2. Discuss current nutritional habits. Assist the patient in identifying unhealthy nutritional habits.
3. Discuss nutritional modifications as related to Early Childhood Caries.
4. Explain that allowing a child to fall asleep with a bottle containing milk formula, fruit juices, or other sweet liquids may increase the risk for dental caries.

ECC-P PREVENTION

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand how to prevent ECC with healthy lifestyle behaviors.

STANDARDS:

1. Review infant/child oral hygiene.
2. Discuss methods of prevention, including fluoride supplementation and limitation of sugar in diet.
3. Explain to parents the methods of early identification of dental disease in infants and small children. Explain the importance of early treatment.
4. Review proper use of and alternatives to misuse of the bottle or nipple, e.g., no bottles in bed, no propping of bottles, and weaning at 12 months of age.
5. Emphasize that nothing should be given from a bottle except formula, breastmilk, water, or electrolyte solution, e.g., no juice or soda pop.

ECC-PM PAIN MANAGEMENT

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the plan for pain management.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain that pain management as it relates to ECC. **Refer to PM.**
2. Explain that short-term use of NSAIDS may be helpful in pain management as appropriate.
3. Explain non-pharmacologic measures that may be helpful with pain control, e.g., avoid hot and cold foods.

ECC-PRO PROCEDURES

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand procedures to be performed to treat ECC and the risk of not treating ECC.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the process, indications, risks, and benefits for the proposed procedure.
2. Discuss pain management and anxiolytics as appropriate.
3. Emphasize post-procedure management and follow-up. Instruct to return to the provider for bleeding, persistent or increasing pain and fever.

ECC-TE TESTS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the test(s) to be performed, the potential risks, the expected benefits, and the risks of non-testing.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain test(s) that have been ordered (explain as appropriate):
 - a. method of testing
 - b. necessity, benefits, and risks of test(s) to be performed
 - c. any potential risk of refusal of recommended test(s)
 - d. any advance preparation and instructions required for the test(s)
 - e. how the results will be used for future medical decision-making
 - f. how to obtain the results of the test
2. Explain test results:
 - a. meaning of the test results
 - b. follow-up tests may be ordered based on the results
 - c. how results will impact or effect the treatment plan
 - d. recommendations based on the test results

ECC-TX TREATMENT

OUTCOME: The parent/family will understand the necessary treatment.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the basic procedure to be used (e.g., filling, capping) and the indication, common complications, alternatives, and the risks of non-treatment.
2. Review the specific elements of oral care after treatment. **Refer to DC and ECC-P.**
3. Discuss the indications for returning to the provider, e.g., bleeding, persistent or increasing pain, and fever.