A 5 YEAR AUDIT OF DENTAL CARIES EXPERIENCE OF 5 YEAR OLD CHILDREN ATTENDING THE DUBLIN CLEFT CENTRE

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It is well recognised that children with a cleft of the lip, palate or both, are at increased risk of oral and from dental caries. Children attending the Dublin Cleft Centre for cleft care are referred by their first birthday to community/primary care dental services for prevention of dental disease. These children also attend the paediatric specialist dental service at their tertiary hospital while attending multidisciplinary team clinics, and/or if advanced dental treatment is required.

As well as joint review and planning clinics, the service also runs audit clinics throughout the year. A measure of dental caries is recorded (by calibrated specialists and consultants in Paediatric Dentistry) for the dental component of the multidisciplinary audit. Dental caries is recorded using the dmft index (decayed, missing, filled, teeth). We report on the dental caries experience of five year old children (born 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011) with a cleft of the lip, palate or both.

The mean dmft of the 277 children included in the audit was 3.25. Excluding children who were caries free, the mean dmft was 5.4. The mean dmft (per year cohort) has reduced from 3.8 for children born in 2007 to 2.1 for children born in 2011. The percentage of children who are caries free (dmft=0) has increased from 32% of children born in 2007 to 66% of children born in 2011. The percentage of children who are dentally fit (d=0) has increased from 46% of children born in 2007 to 77% of children born in 2011.

It is clear that the prevalence of dental caries (mean dmft) has reduced over the 5 year timeframe. There has also been a significant increase in the number of children who are caries free (dmft=0), and in the number of children who are dentally fit (d=0). This improvement in oral health may be as a result of improved tertiary care dental service resources and/or improved communication and follow up with the primary care dental services.

TOO DDLERS, TEENS AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN. SHOULD ALL CHILDREN BE ADMITTED TO THE SAME WARD?

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Aims To define the adolescent population admitted to the Paediatric Ward in Sligo University Hospital. To determine the attitude of adolescents and all parents towards room sharing between children of different age groups and to examine the use of recreational facilities on the Paediatric Ward.

Methods A retrospective review of patients admitted to the Paediatric Ward from October 2018 to December 2018 was performed. We defined adolescents as patients ≥13 years of age (yoa). Three separate questionnaires were designed for three defined groups (adolescents aged ≥13 yoa, parents of adolescents ≥13 yoa, parents of children <13 yoa).

Questionnaires were distributed to each of these three groups admitted to the Paediatric Ward.

Results 529 patients were identified. 158, 192 and 179 in October, November and December respectively. In October 27/158 (17%) of admissions were adolescents. In November 36/192 (19%) of admissions were adolescents. In December 16/179 (9%) of admissions were adolescents.

Conclusion The establishment of an adolescent-specific recreational area for adolescents admitted to the Paediatric Ward in Sligo University Hospital should be established to cater for their recreational needs and well-being. Adolescents on the Paediatric Ward should have different accommodation to younger children.

APPROACH TO MANAGING SPASTICITY IN HEREDITARY SPASTIC PARAPLEGIA

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Aim We aim to provide a guidance in the management of spasticity in children with Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia (HSP).

Introduction Hereditary spastic paraplegia is a group of clinically and genetically diverse disorders that result in progressive and generally severe lower extremity weakness and spasticity. Spinal and brain MRI and exome sequencing are the most useful investigations for diagnosing HSP. There is a lack of evidence base and guidance for the use of anti-spasticity drugs and uncertainty about the place of other modalities such as intrathecal baclofen (ITB), selective dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) and botulinum toxin in HSP.

Method A guideline was prepared based on consultation with experts and regional specialist practice (Level D Evidence) supported by Level A-C evidence for individual treatment options. The guideline includes mode of action, dosage suggestions, side effect profile and cautions for the treatment modalities and summarises key management steps in a flow chart.

Management of spasticity Management of spasticity in HSP is based on identifying clear and realistic goals in the following three areas: improving mobility, increasing range of motion and relieving spasticity. These goals can be achieved through a