LESSON PLAN & TEST QUESTIONS

Course: DNTH 305 Dental hygiene theory II

Topic: Dental Hygiene Care for the Infant, Child, and Adolescent

Audience: Adult Learners (Junior level dental hygiene students)

Instructional

Objectives: Upon completion of the lecture, the student should be able to:

- 1. Identify early childhood caries.
- 2. List teeth eruption times.
- 3. Distinguish the differences in oral health needs between each age group.
- 4. Apply pediatric behavior management during dental hygiene care.
- 5. Reflect on the importance of caregivers' oral health care literacy.

Materials: PowerPoint

Video

References:

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (2022). Who is AAPD? Retrieved from https://www.aapd.org/

American Dental Hygiene Association (2016). ADHA standards for clinical dental hygiene c practice. Retrieved from https://www.adha.org/

Bhoopathi, V., Luo, H., Moss, M., & Bhagavatula, P. (2021). Unmet Dental Care Need and Associated Barriers by Race/Ethnicity among US Adults. JDR clinical and translational research, 6(2), 213–221. https://doi.org/10.1177/2380084420923576

Bowen, D., Pieren, J., & Darby, M. (2020). Darby and Walsh dental hygiene theory and practice (Fifth ed.).

Wilkins, E., & Wyche, C. (2020). Clinical practice of the dental hygienist (13th ed.).

Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Personnel: None needed

Time: 50 minutes

TIME 2 minutes

LESSON CONTENT

T. INSTRUCTIONAL SET

A. Introduction

Pediatric patients make up a considerable portion of the patients that dental hygienists face during day-to-day clinical practice. Therefore, understanding their oral health care needs and clinical management is a critical skill for a competent dental hygienist.

B. Established Mood

By attending today's lecture, you are taking the initiative to learn more about pediatric dentistry. Today, we will learn about the different conditions that concern this age group, their oral health needs, and some methods to better manage them in the clinic. We will also learn about the importance of caregivers' oral health knowledge and the role of a dental hygienist.

C. Gain Attention/Motivate

Who is excited to have a pediatric patient in their clinic? I can tell you from my humble experience that they can either make or break your day, but they are sure fun to have. However, handling them clinic means that you will also be handling their caregivers, who are essential to a child's oral health condition. So, today we will learn about the tips and tricks of managing pediatric patients and will learn more about their oral health needs.

D. Established Rational

By understanding today's lecture, you will gain insight into pediatric dentistry, which will introduce you to each aged group's particular oral health needs and how to manage them in your clinic. This lecture is essential as it will also introduce you to early childhood caries, a worldwide public health crisis. Finally, by understanding the concept of oral health literacy,

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Slide #1 Dental Hygiene Care for the Infant, Child, and Adolescent Title

Note: Let the student speak about how they feel about treating this group and share personal stories to gain attention.

Note: The trajectory of a child's oral health is dependent on the caregiver's oral health behaviors, beliefs, and attitudes.

S Slide #2 Ice-breaker A picture of moods with th question "which mood are you today?"

Q: In your opinion, why is it important to know about each age group? A: Answers will vary, but the students will learn that each group has its own oral health needs and differs in developmental stages by the end of the lecture.

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	you value the importance of providing OHI to caregivers.	
2 minutes	E. Established Knowledge Base	Slide #3 lesson's objectives
	Have you ever had a pediatric patient in your clinic? If so, can you share with us what was your experience like? If you haven't, do you any background information about pediatric patients? are excited to have them in your clinic? Why? Or why not? Have you read or heard about anything related to pediatric dentistry?	
	F. Instructional Objective	
	After today's lecture, you should be able to identify early childhood caries. List teeth eruption times. Distinguish the differences in oral health needs between each age group. Apply pediatric behavior management during DH care. Reflect on the importance of caregivers' oral health care literacy.	

TIME

LESSON CONTENT

5 minutes

I. What is pediatric dentistry?

A. Definition: Age-defined specialty that provides both primary and comprehensive preventive and therapeutic oral health care for infants and children through adolescence, including those with special healthcare needs.

B. Age categories for pediatric patients

- 1. Infants
 - a. 0-1 years of age
- 2. Toddlers
 - a. 1-5 years of age
- 3. Preschoolers
 - a. 3-6 years of age
- 4. School-age children
 - a. 6-12 years of age
- 5. Adolescents
 - a. 12-17 years of age

C. American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry AAPD

1. Membership organization for pediatric dentistry.

D. The role of the RDH

- 1. Promote early oral health preventative measures
- 2. Interprofessional collaboration.
 - a. Interprofessional education.
 - i. "When students from two or more professions learn from, about, and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes."
 - b. Interprofessional collaborative practice.
 - i. "Multiple health workers from different backgrounds work together with patients, families, and communities to deliver the highest quality of care."
- 3. Deliver evidence-based dental hygiene care.

NOTES

Slide #4 "what is pediatric dentistry?" Slide

Slide #5 age categories for pediatric patients

Note: AAPD

Mission statement:
"To advocate
policies, guidelines,
and programs that
promote optimal oral
health and oral
health care for
children."

Slide #6 American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry AAPD

Slide #7 the role of the registered dental hygienist

Q: Why do dental hygienists have to adhere to the concept of interprofessional collaboration?

A: To deliver the highest quality of care according to each patient's specific oral health need.

Slide #8 what is oral health literacy?

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
2 minutes	 Definition: "the degree to which individuals can obtain, process, and understand the basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions." OHL is directly related to the prevalence of dental caries risk in children. Early childhood caries EEC 	Note: Inadequate OHI among caregivers yields an increased risk of dental caries in children. Slide #9 What could happen?
	 A. EEC Definition: The presence of one or more decayed (non-cavitated or cavitated lesions), missing (due to caries), or filled tooth surfaces in a primary tooth. Public health crisis Cause fermentable carbohydrates (milk or formula). Streprococcus mutans Most susceptible Maxillary anterior teeth Characteristics Chronic Infectious 	Note: In slide 9, Show and tell! I will share a picture of one of my patients, showing what could happen when caregivers' oral health literacy is low. Slide #10 early childhood caries EEC.
2 minutes	c. Rapid progression d. Difficult to detect B. Bacterial and viral transmissions 1. Vertical transmission a. "Transmission through the	Slide #11 Bacterial and viral transmissions
	mother's saliva to the child." 2. Horizontal transmission a. "Indirect exposure of saliva through sharing of spoons, testing foods before feeding to child, and cleaning off pacifier with mouth instead of water." a. Dental caries. b. Herpetic infection c. Children between 19-33 months are most susceptible.	
	C. Caries risk levels 1. Low caries risk	Slide #12 figure 47-2 from the Wilkins's

2. Moderate caries risk3. High caries risk

textbook.

TIME 3 minutes

LESSON CONTENT

4. Extreme caries risk

D. Clinical findings related to EEC

- 1. White spots (decalcification)
- 2. Obvious decay
- 3. Severe tooth decay

E. Progression of EEC

- 1. Earliest caries
 - a. Maxillary anterior teeth
 - b. Molars as they erupt
- 2. Severe extensive lesions
 - a. all except the mandibular anterior teeth

F. Epidemiological indices for assessing dental caries prevalence and incidence

- 1. DMFT/dmft
 - a. "The total number teeth decayed, missing, or filled in an individual."
 - b. Decayed
 - c. Missing
 - d. Filled
 - e. Do not count
 - i. Unerupted
 - ii. Congenitally missing
 - iii. Supernumerary
 - iv. Extracted for non-carious reasons

2. DMFS

- a. Counts tooth surfaces
 - i. Posterior surfaces
 - ii. Anterior surfaces

III. Teeth eruption times

A. Primary teeth eruption chart

- 1. Upper teeth
 - a. Central incisors (8-12 months)
 - b. Lateral incisors (9-13 months)
 - c. Canin (16-22 months)
 - d. First molar (13-19 months)
 - e. Second molar (25-33 months)
- 2. Lower teeth
 - a. Central incisors (6-10 months)
 - b. Lateral incisors (10-16 months)
 - c. Canin (17-23 months)
 - d. First molar (14-18 months)
 - e. Second molar (23-21 months)

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Slide #13 pictures from the Wilkins's textbook, illustrating cavitated lesions and white pot lesions.

Q: what is the difference between cavitated lesions vs. white spot lesions?

A: white spite lesions are opaque, chalky enamel, indicate that the surface and underlying enamel are demineralized (initial caries). While cavitated lesion are small brownish cavitated areas (later stage).

Slide #14 3 pictures showing the progression of caries from white spot lesions to cavitated large carious lesions.

Slide #15 clinical photos demonstrating the progression of EEC.

Slide #16 Figure 47-5 progression of EEC from the Wilkins's textbook

Q: why do you think that severe caries affect all teeth

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
5 minutes	B. Permanent teeth eruption chart 1. Upper teeth a. Central incisors (7-8 yrs.) b. Lateral incisors (8-9 yrs.) c. Canine (11-12 yrs.) d. First premolar (10-11 yrs.) e. Second premolar (10-12 yrs.) f. First molar (6-7 yrs.) g. Second molar (12-13 yrs.) h. Third molar (17-21 yrs.) 2. Lower teeth a. Central incisors (6-7 yrs.) b. Lateral incisors (7-8 yrs.) c. Canine (9-10 yrs.) d. First premolar (10-12 yrs.) e. Second premolar (11-12 yrs.)	except the mandibular anterior? A: Protection for the mandibular incisors and canines is provided by the tongue during the sucking process. Slide #17 Epidemiological indices for assessing dental caries prevalence and incidence
	f. First molar (6-7 yrs.) g. Second molar (11-13 yrs.) h. Third molar (17-21 yrs.) IV. Dental visits	Slide #18 primary teeth eruption chart Slide #19 permanent
	A. Dental home concept	teeth eruption chart
	1. Purpose	1
	 a. APPD definition: "an ongoing relationship between the dentists and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way." b. No later than 12 months c. Early intervention 	Q: Why do you think that the permanent 1 st molars are called non-succedaneous teeth? A: because they do not replace any primary teeth
	B. Management	Slide #20 dental
	 Establish rapport a. Positive fun environment OHI a. Parents (caregivers) i. Nutrition ii. Fluoride 	visits title Slide #21-24 Dental visits
	 iii. toothbrushing techniques iv. Increase parents' oral health literacy b. Schedule visits according to the child's need i. Early morning 	Slide #25 Barriers to dental care

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	ii. After naps Planned intervention c. Engage both caregiver and child i. Informed consent ii. Education iii. Self-care recommendations	Slide #26 Age Categories of pediatric patients title Slide #27 Infant oral
5 minutes	d. Report suspected abuse or neglect e. Ask parents f. Barriers to dental care i. Availability ii. Geographic area iii. Financial iv. Parental oral health literacy v. Language vi. Racial and ethnic disparities V. Age categories of pediatric patients	care (0-1 yrs.) Note: chewing on a baby toothbrush with soft bristles can be soothing during the teething process while also developing a daily
	 A. Infant (0-1 yrs.) 1. Eruption of mandibular teeth (5-6 months) 2. All primary teeth are present (20-30 months) 3. Delayed eruption (common issue) 4. Teething education a. Manage symptoms 	habit for toothbrushing before the child can learn a specific method of brushing
	i. Increased bitingii. Droolingiii. Gum rubbingiv. Suckingv. Irritability	Slide #28 Prevent transmission of bacteria associated with caries
	vi. Wakefulness vii. Ear rubbing viii. Facial rash ix. Decreased appetite x. Temperature elevation. 5. Teething intervention	Q: why do you think the reason behind recommending caregivers to seek preventative dental care every 6 months?
	 6. OTC analgesic gels a. No benzocaine-based if under 2 yrs. 7. Healthy eating habits 8. Caries prevention measures 	A: It is not just for their own benefit but because they may have an effect on their children's oral
	 a. caregivers seek preventative dental care every 6 months. b. Clean pacifiers. i. Don't dip them in sugar ii. Never clean them with someone's mouth. 	health as well.

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	c. Never share eating utensils. 9. Educational tips to caregivers a. Brush as soon as teeth erupt b. Brush infant's gums c. Water bottles for bed d. Encourage cups at 12-14 months e. Reduce pacifiers f. Brush after sugary medicine g. Regular appointments	Slide #29 Educational tips to caregivers: Infants (Birth to 1 year of age) Note: Clean infants' gums with a wet, clean wash cloth or
	h. Fluoride	gauze.
	 B. Toddlers to preschool (1-6 yrs.) 1. Oral hygiene is the caregivers' responsibility 1. 2-3 years a. Most susceptible to dental trauma b. Teach proper brushing techniques 	Slide #30 Toddler to preschool oral health (1-6 years of age)
2 minutes	 2. Age 4 a. Discourage thumb sucking 3. Age 6 a. Teaching independent tooth 	Note: at pre-school age go over exfoliation sequence/patterns
	brushing 4. Emphasize preventive oral hygiene care a. Fluoride application b. Pits and fissure sealants	and avoid cariogenic behaviors. Slide#31 Oral health
	 5. Oral health considerations a. Establish a routine i. Recommend brushing after breakfast and before bedtime. b. Control the amount of toothpaste is on toothbrush i. < 3 years: a smear or grain of rice size 	considerations for toddlers/preschoolers Note: insert 47-8 figure from the Wilkins's textbook
2 minutes	ii. 3-6 years: a pea sized amount iii. Teach them to spit out the toothpaste. 6. Speech and language development a. Premature loss of primary teeth, b. Digit habits (Prolonged thumb and finger sucking) i. Narrow max. arch ii. Open bite iii. Posterior crossbite	Slide #32 Speech and language development

TIME		LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
		iv. Increased overjetv. Decreased overbiteMalocclusions	Slide #33 Dietary and feeding recommendations
		Accident and Injury Prevention i. Greatest incidence: 2-3 years of age	Slide #34 Schoolage children and oral
	7. Dietar a.	y and feeding recommendations Small healthy meals during the day.	health (6-12 years of age)
		Healthy snacks (noncariogenic).	uge)
	c.	Limit sweet foods/drinks to 2-3 or	Q: why we not
		less per day.	supposed to used
		Limit juice to 4-6 ounces per day	ultrasonic scalers on
		Do not send to bed with a sippy cup	primary teeth?
	f.	Use "healthy vs unhealthy" rather	A: ultrasonic scaling
	C Sahaal aa	than "good vs bad"? ge children (6-12 yrs.)	are not recommended to use
	1. Chara	• • •	on primary teeth due
	a.	Oral exam should occur prior to	to them having large
5 minutes		school	pulp champers,
	b.	More independent with oral hygiene	cause sensitivity and
	c.	Primary teeth will begin to exfoliate	possible damage to
	d.	1 3	the pulp.
		i. 50-90%: Upper lip,	
		maxillary incisors	Slide #35 tips for
	_	ii. Recommend mouth guards	effective clinical
	e.	Ultrasonic scaling used only on	management
	2 Effect	permanent teeth ive clinical managmnet	Note: box 47-1 form
	a.	Knee-to-knee position (0-3 years	the Wilkins's
	u.	old)	textbook
	b.	Explain prior examination	
	c.	Avoid using negative words (hurt,	Slide #36 pictures of
		pain)	the knee-to-knee
		Parental involvment	position, figure 64-
	e.	Use show-tell-do to gain	04 for the Wilkins's
		cooperation.	textbook
	f.	Use pictures, videos, and positive	CU: 1. #25
	D Adologoo	engagement	Slide #37 Radiographic
	1. Chara	nt (12-12 yrs.)	assessment
		High susceptibility	absessment
	u.	i. high caries incidence	Slide #38-39
		ii. traumatic injury	Adolescent stage and
		iii. periodontal disease	

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	iv. Poor nutritional habits v. orthodontics vi. Restorative care	oral health (12-17 years of age)
	vii. Oral malodor (halitosis)	Q: why does the
	b. Into esthetic appearance.	incidence and
	c. Puberty and Menses	severity of
	d. Hormonal changes	periodontal disease
	i. Plaque induced gingivitis	may increase during
	modified by systemic factors	puberty?
	ii. Puberty associated gingivitis	A: due to hormonal
	and menstrual cycle	changes.
F	gingivitis	Cl. 1 - #40 D 4 - 1
5 minutes	2. Dental hygiene role	Slide #40 Dental
	a. Assess the presence, position, and development of third molars	Hygiene Treatment Adolescents (12-17)
	i. Provide referral if removal is	Adolescents (12-17)
	indicated	Slide #41
	b. Oral manifestations of sexually	Adolescent stage and
	transmitted diseases	oral health (12-17
	c. Potential effects of hormone	years of age)
	fluctuations and use of oral	
	contraceptives on periodontal	Slide #42
	tissues	Periodontal
	d. Oral findings of anorexia nervosa or	Infections
	bulimia.	
	e. Traumatic injury to teeth	
	 i. Providing athletic mouth guards. 	
	f. Pregnancy	
	i. Educated about oral health	
	of mother and infant	
	g. Teach:	
	i. Tobacco cessation	
	ii. Smoking, smokeless	
	tobacco, secondhand smoke	
	h. Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)	
	i. Dry mouth and sore throat.i. Piercings	
	j. Substance abuse	
	3. Periodontal Infections	
	a. Biofilm-Induced gingivitis	
	i. Incidence and severity may	
	increase during puberty	

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
2 minutes	ii. Clinical changes due to increased biofilm iii. Exaggerated host response to dental biofilm b. Risk factors for periodontitis i. Local factors ii. Pathogenic microorganisms iii. Untreaded dental decay/defective restorations iv. Poor oral hygiene v. Infrequent dental or dental hygiene vi. Socioeconomic influences	Slide #43-44 picture of periodontal disease in children
	vii. Use of tobacco viii. Systemic diseases ix. Host immune factors x. Genetic factors	Slide #45 Reasons for Referral
	E. Reasons for Referral	Slide #46
	1. Severely crowded, malposed, or	Documentation
	congenitally missing teeth	
	2. Overbite, overjet, crossbites, or other	1
	malocclusions requiring intervention	Note: documentation should include
	3. Premature loss of primary molars: a. Usually disrupts the eruption and	child's behavior and
	alignment of permanent molars and	level of cooperation
	premolars	(quiet, talkative,
	4. Pathology or illness	nervous,
	5. Suspected Child abuse or neglect	cooperative, opens
	6. Substance abuse in the family	well, can handle
	7. Failure to provide safety measures	prophy
	F. Documentation	
	1. Overall appraisal of physical status and key health history findings	
	2. Existing pathology: soft tissue, gingiva,	
	caries, occlusal status	
	3. Oral hygiene status and caries risk	
	assessment	
	4. Anticipatory guidance provided	
	5. Procedures completed: examination,	
	scaling, x-rays, fluoride, etc.	
	6. Child's behavior throughout appointment	
	7. Treatment planned for next visit	

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	G. ODU SODH Clinical considerations	Slide #47 ODU
	1. Only ages 5 years and older can be seen	SODH Clinical
	2. Parent or caregiver is encouraged to wait	considerations
3 minutes	in the waiting room	
	a. Need to discuss health history, sign	
	for informed consent, pay for	
	treatment, and participate in OHI	
	3. Ages 5-12	
	a. Use the Child medical history and	
	dental history form	
	b. No vitals	
	4. Ages 13+	
	a. Record vitals	
	b. Use adult medical and dental forms	
	5. Occlusion: Angle's class	
	a. Only if permanent canines and/or	
	first molars are present	
	6. Additional findings	
	7. Periodontal charting:	
	a. FGM- full mouth	
	b. Probe any permanent teeth	
	8. Dental charting	
	a. Primate spacing	
	9. Scaling	
	a. Only if calculus is present	
	b. No calc = no scaling grade 10. Tx Plan:	
	a. Ages 5-12: D1120 (includes varnish)	
	b. Do NOT treatment plan calculus	
	class	
	Class	

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	VI. CLOSURE	Slide #48 Summary
2 minutes	A. Summary of Major Points - Relate Back to Objectives	
	I hope that you now have a better understanding of Early Childhood Caries EEC, the clinical findings, and how to manage them. From today's lecture, I hope that you have learned each age category has its own oral health needs that must be addressed. Keep in mind that a child's oral health trajectory depends on the caregiver's oral health behaviors, beliefs, and attitudes. Remember that you have a critical role in preventing oral disease and promoting oral health care in the pediatric population.	
	Provide a Sense of Accomplishment	
	I hope you will be more comfortable and able to treat and manage your future pediatric patients effectively. Also, you can give valuable oral hygiene instruction to their caregivers. B. Assignment:	Slide #49 References and articles to explore.
	For a better understanding of our topic today you should:	1
	 Explore the article listed on your handout Search magazines for current articles in various journals about pediatric dentistry Research dental hygiene care for pediatric patients to keep updated with new methods and instructions. 	

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	
	CRITICAL THINKING ACTIVITY	
3 minutes	Case: Sarah and her 2-year daughter (Mae), arrive for the first dental visit. Mae is very anxious and nervous when she comes through the dental office door. The mother is soothing and bribing Mae with fruit snacks, and a "sippy" cup that contains juice. After reviewing the medical and dental history with Sara, the oral health assessment, and examination is performed. Based on the data collected from the assessment, it is determined that Mae is considered "high" risk for dental caries.	
	1. What would you do to reduce Mae's anxiousness? Answer: Knee-to-knee position (0-3 years old) Explain prior examination. Avoid using negative words (hurt, pain). Parental involvement. Use show-tell-do to gain cooperation. Use pictures, videos, and positive engagement	
	2. How would you explain to Sarah that Mae is at high risk for dental caries? Answer: that since Mae has multiple observable carious lesions and consumes fruit snacks and a "sippy" cup that contains juice, she is considered to be high risk to develop more dental cavities.	
	 3. What specific oral hygiene instructions are needed for Sara? Answer: Oral hygiene care → caregiver's responsibility, teach proper brushing techniques. Emphasize preventive oral hygiene care → topical fluoride application and dental sealants Avoid cariogenic behaviors → no cariogenic snacking and drinking. Instead of juice, water should be consumed. Children in her age are becoming more independent, parents should take turns brushing with the child 	

brushing with the child

NOTES

Slide #50 Let's look at a practice case! Slide #51 Critical thinking activity: Case for Analysis

Note: Class discussion

TIME	LESSON CONTENT	NOTES
	 Establish a routine, recommend brushing after breakfast and before bedtime. Control the amount of toothpaste is on toothbrush < 3 years: a smear or grain of rice size Teach her to spit out the toothpaste. Mae should have regular dental visits to establish the concept of the dental home and reduced her anxiety. 	Slide #52 Thank you slide

Test Questions

1. Objective #1: Identify early childhood caries.

Test Item: all of the following are true about early childhood caries **EXCEPT** one. Which one is the **EXCEPTION**?

- a. It is a public health crisis
- b. Mandibular teeth are most susceptible
- c. Highly infectious
- d. Initially appear as white spots.
- **2. Objective #2:** List teeth eruption times.

Test Item: At what age do primary mandibular central incisors usually erupt?

- a. 6-10 mos.
- b. 8-12 mos.
- c. 9-13 mos.
- d. 10-16 mos.
- 3. Objective #3: Distinguish the differences in oral health needs between each age group.

Test Item: By which age should the habit of thumb sucking be discouraged?

- a. 2 years old
- b. 3 years old
- c. 4 years old
- d. 5 years old
- **4. Objective #4:** Apply pediatric behavior management during dental hygiene care.

Test Item: As a professional dental hygienist, what should you teach parents, caregivers, or legal guardians to help better manage pediatric patients in clinic (In 2-3 sentences)?

5. Objective #5: Reflect on the importance of caregivers' oral health care literacy.

Test Item: In 2-3 sentences, explain why it is important to increase the oral health literacy of patient's caregivers?

Answers Key:

- **1.** B
- **2.** A
- **3.** C
- **4.** Establish the dental home concept. According to AAPD, "an ongoing relationship between the dentists and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care delivered

- comprehensively, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way." Recommend the first dental visits for children no later than 12 months of age. Early intervention before serious health problems can develop. Establish rapport to create a positive, fun environment. Schedule dental hygiene visits according to the child's needs. Usually, every 4-6 months. Schedule early morning or after naps. Use tell-show-do to gain cooperation. Use pictures, videos, and positive engagement. Knee-to-knee position (1-3 years old). Explain prior examination. Avoid using negative words (hurt, pain).
- 5. Caregivers' oral health literacy is directly related to the prevalence of dental caries risk in children. Dental hygienists must consider the economic status, cultural differences, beliefs, values, attitudes, traditions, and language barriers and adapt information and services to these differences. Inadequate OHI among caregivers yields an increased risk of dental caries in children.