Collaborating with Physicians: Making Interprofessional Care Work

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Presentation Objectives

• You will apply your knowledge of the relationship between oral health and general health to improve continuity of care and work with the interprofessional team.
Collaborating with Physicians: Case 1

- Age 78.
- Hypertension
- Runs 10 miles daily
- Presents to dentist with bilateral gum pain, occurs only during jogging.
- No dental cause identified.
Collaborating with Physicians: Case 1

- Exercise Stress Test Abnormal.
- Three Vessel Coronary Artery Disease
- Treated with CABG with resolution of symptoms gum pain
## Caring for Older Adults: Atypical Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cardiovascular</th>
<th>Musculoskeletal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Ischemic heart disease</td>
<td>• Arthritis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Atrial Fibrillation</td>
<td>• Muscle Weakness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Heart failure</td>
<td>• Osteoporosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Heart failure</td>
<td>• Fractures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respiratory</th>
<th>Neurologic/Psychiatric</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• COPD</td>
<td>• Vision loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Respiratory Infection</td>
<td>• Hearing loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• COPD</td>
<td>• Cognitive loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Parkinson’s disease</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gastrointestinal</th>
<th>Metabolic/Endocrine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)</td>
<td>• Diabetes mellitus (Type 2, non insulin-dependent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Peptic Ulceration</td>
<td>• Hypothyroidism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Constipation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genitourinary</th>
<th>Neoplastic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Incontinence</td>
<td>• Breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prostatic Enlargement</td>
<td>• Lung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Urine frequency</td>
<td>• Gastrointestinal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prostate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Collaborating with Physicians: Case 2

- 91 year old man
- Osteoarthritis and Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia
- Has difficulty swallowing vitamin tablet and has a choking episode at meal.
- He presents to dentist with additional complaint of dry mouth
Collaborating with Physicians: Case 2

- Xerostomia
- Constipation
- Taking solifenacin (Vesicare) for overactive bladder
- Video swallow study without significant
- Patient chooses to remain on solifenacin
Caring for Older Adults: Comorbidity

- Co-morbid pathology
- Multiple Medications
- Iatrogenic problems
- Functional Decline
- Increased Disability
Collaborative Care is More Effective Care
Benefits of Working as a Team

• Better Health
• Better Clinical Outcomes
• Higher Patient Satisfaction
• Enhanced Care Delivery

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Not everybody needs a team all the time
Some People Need the Whole Team all the time
Oral Pathology: No Team to Full Team

Fusobacterium, Propionibacterium, and Prevotella.
Siloes and Swim Lanes: Barriers to Teamwork

- Culture
- Rare Interaction (Siloes)
- Focus (Swim Lanes)
- Competencies
- Language
- Busy Ness
- Social Complexity
The Logistics of Bridging the Gap

• Find an early adopter
• Commit to shared responsibility
• Establish channels
• Make referrals meaningful (formal)
• Prepare for early confusion
• If nothing else, share paper.
Shared anxieties and learning: Opportunities
Can Interprofessional Care Work: Yes It Can!

- Full system Integration and shared payment strategies will be hard.
- Collaboration is rooted in shared knowledge, trust, and communication.
- Start a small test of change
- Grow it into something Amazing!