



*Evidence-Based  
Practice Project*

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## *Clinical Significance*



**Improve  
dental care  
in pediatric  
patients**

**Decrease  
dental  
cavities &  
poor oral  
hygiene**

## *Background*



**Lack of awareness &  
preventative oral health  
measures that are in  
accordance with the  
American Academy of  
Pediatric Dentistry  
(AAPD)**

# *Purpose of the Project*

- Child Health Priority
  - What is going on nationally that makes pediatric dental health a priority?
- Organizational Priority
  - What Strategic Goal does this align with?

# TEAM



- **Patients**
- **Nurses**
- **Educators**
- **Outpatient Dentist**
- **Healthy Smile Agency**
- **Families**
- **Physicians**
- **Clinical Nurse Associates**

## *Clinical Question*

Among pediatric patients, does the use of American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) clinical guidelines by health care providers compared to those who use standard dental care result in reduced risk of dental caries, improved dental hygiene practices, and increased dentist referral?

# Best Evidence



- Search Databases
  - CINAHL database
  - Medline (PUBMED) database
- Key Words
  - Dental care, dental hygiene, dental decay, dental caries, oral health, clinical guidelines
- Number of Studies
  - Minimum of 10 studies
- Level of Evidence
  - Clinical practice guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (Level I)
  - Literature Review (Level II)





# *Critique & Synthesis of the Evidence*

- **Caries-Risk Assessment Tool (CAT) identifies high risk children**
- **Referral to a dentist increases likelihood of dental care**
- **Provider's dental knowledge is unlikely to be effective in increase dental referral**
  - **Referral environment is more important than provider knowledge, experience, or patient characteristics**
- **Guidelines to address oral health care in special health care needs in pediatric patients**
- **Guidelines for caries-risk assessment, anticipatory guidance, preventive strategies, and appropriate therapeutic interventions in pediatric oral health**

# *Critique & Synthesis of the Evidence*

- There is sufficient research to establish clinical guidelines recommended by the AAPD at CHOC

# *Adopt Change into Practice*

**To decrease dental cavities & poor oral hygiene there are recommendations necessary to adopt a change into clinical practice :**

- **Change in policy (what P&P?)**
- **Change in admission questionnaire (what?)**
- **Create an educational tool for nurses (what?)**
- **Promote health providers referral to outside dentist (how?)**
- **No changes needed with this slide, just discuss with me, please.**

# References

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- Nield, L., Stenger, J., & Kamat, D. (2007). *Dental disease: Pearls about those pearly whites.* Consultant for Pediatricians, (8), 449-454.
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# *QUESTIONS*

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