

T Level Technical Qualification in Health

Employer-set project (ESP)

Dental Nursing

Project brief insert

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Reginald

Age: 52

Medication: Clopidogrel (antiplatelet drug for long-term use post-stroke).

Dental history:

Last dental examination: 18 months ago.

Wears an upper acrylic partial denture.

Case notes: Reginald lives alone in a 2-storey home since his partner died 3 years earlier. He suffered a stroke 18 months ago which has left him with limited mobility down his right side including the loss of use of his right arm. Reginald's speech has also been affected. Reginald should wear glasses daily, though he often misplaces them and can go days sometimes without wearing them. A carer attends his home twice a week to support personal care and to support with any errands, such as food shopping.

Reginald has recently had a lower respiratory infection, which was treated with 2 courses of antibiotics. He was also given an inhaler to use to help with his breathing due to the infection.

Reginald has been complaining of a sore mouth and he is unable to wear his partial denture due to the pain. When his carer looked in his mouth, he noticed a white coating on his palate and tongue. The care team have explained to Reginald that they can arrange a visit from a dentist, however, he has declined and said that he is sure it will resolve itself and does not want to bother anyone.

Family members have reported to the care team, that Reginald is much quieter than normal and, on many occasions, has informed family members during visits, that he does not want visitors and often has asked visitors to leave as he does not feel like company. The care team are monitoring him and trying to include Reginald in local activities, however he has declined all invitations and prefers to stay in his bedroom.

Pratima

Age: 80

Medication: takes 75mg of daily aspirin.

Dental history:

Last dental examination: 23 months ago.

No dentures. Has most of her natural teeth.

Case notes: Pratima has lived in the care home for 15 months. Pratima had a mild myocardial infarction last year but had remained relatively active and sociable with the staff and residents. She has a grandson who visits her every week to bring snacks and treats. Pratima's grandson is her only visitor. Pratima will often snack throughout the day on boiled sweets, polo mints being one of her favourites.

Recently her grandson has not been visiting and has passed messages to his grandmother, via the staff, that he is unable to visit as has started a new job and working longer hours in addition to completing a further education qualification. The staff have explained this to Pratima who has told the team that she is very proud of her grandson, and he must live his own life and not waste his time coming to visit her. Pratima has continued to take part in group activities however, the staff have noted that she is more subdued than normal.

Pratima has reduced her snacking due to the lack of gifts received from her grandson, however, has continued to snack on fresh fruit such as apples and oranges in the evening. Pratima has now told the care home staff that she experiences pain when eating so she has decided not to eat. Pratima has since declined most meals provided so the staff have ensured that she has fresh fruit in her room to ensure that she has constant access to food.

Pratima only brushes once a day which is in the morning.

A recent event in the resident's lounge area caused concern and Pratima was involved in an argument with a fellow resident. The team have investigated and have identified that Pratima instigated the event, as she became aggressive and demanding as she wished to sit in a specific chair, however, another resident who was originally seated in this area, explained that they do not wish to move. The team have noted that this is completely out of character for Pratima.

Anna

Age: 16

Medication: Ferrous Fumarate

Dental history:

Last dental examination: 3 years ago

Case notes: Anna lives at home with her mother and 2 younger sisters. Her parents have recently divorced. Anna used to attend regularly for examination until she was 12. Anna has attended an examination and is complaining of pain in her bottom molar teeth. Anna has attended the practice alone, though has provided signed written consent forms from her mother.

The operator has notes that Anna has recent cuts on her arms and, what seems to be, small scars in the same area. As part of her examination, Anna required a full examination with the operator requesting a full mouth x-ray and smaller x-rays of the back teeth.

During her assessment, the operator has discussed her medical history and confirmed that Anna has not disclosed any current medical history issues, although Anna has confirmed that her doctor has prescribed Ferrous Fumarate over a recent telephone appointment, as she was feeling tired a lot.

During her clinical exam, the Dentist has identified that there are clear signs of abrasion and erosion, especially behind the front upper and lower teeth.

Anna has become very upset and has left the building

Document information

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Change History Record

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v1.0	Post approval, updated for publication.		March 2022
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