POPULATION HEALTH PROBLEMS



Dental Caries

Facilitator Notes

Scenario Notes and Clarifications

A "child protection medical" refers to the top-to-toe examination done by a paediatrician when a social worker has requested a multiagency (social care, health and police) investigation due to concerns around a child being at high risk of abuse under Section 47 of the Children's Act 1989.

"Safety plan" refers to the advice the paediatrician gives as part of their written report following the child protection medical assessment.

Discussion Prompts

Medics do not usually get teaching on teeth, and doctors are not insured to prescribe for dental health issues, so experience is limited and taking back to basics would be useful.

Discussion of the scenario questions may include:

- what the signs of poor dental hygiene are.
- appropriate terminology to use.
- risk factors and causes of dental caries.
- individual and community level support and interventions.
- the role of specialist dental services for children with additional needs (e.g. phobias, learning disability, or physical impairment).
- ideas of reasonable adjustments (as per Equality Act 2010) and any resources to signpost dentists to about these (e.g. autism.org.uk).

Useful Resources for Trainees

www.autismtoothcare.com
'Advice and support for families of young autistic children to care for their teeth. Created with families, professionals and researchers.'

SUPPORTED BY: BACCH British Association for Community Child Health; British Association for Child & Adolescent Public Health