

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES IN THE DENTAL OFFICE

WHY CPR IS NOT ENOUGH

An Eight-Hour Dental Continuing Education Program
by
Larry J. Sangrik, D.D.S.

COURSE OUTLINE

Section 1: A review of normal physiology with an emphasis on the systems that play important roles during a medical emergency

Peripheral nervous system
Respiratory system
Cardiovascular system

Section 2: The “Five P’s of Preparation” for a medical emergency

Prevention: proper use of a medical history
Personnel: staffing requirements and task pre-assignments
Products: monitor, medications and airway adjuncts
Protocols: office manuals to develop a planned response
Practice: ongoing training and review

Section 3: Recognition and response to medical problems common to dental offices

Syncope
Cardiovascular disease: angina, infarction and arrest
Blood pressure anomalies: hypertension and hypotension
Asthma
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Hyperventilation
Allergic reactions
Diabetes
Epileptic disorders and seizures
Bleeding disorders

Section 4: Practical exercises to prepare your response

Written exercise
Cannula administration and syringe loading
Case studies

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Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the participant should be able to:

- 1) Describe the autonomic portion of the peripheral nervous system and how emergency medications influence it
- 2) Describe the respiratory system and critical components of respiration
- 3) Describe the cardiac cycle and how it facilitates circulation and perfusion
- 4) Recognize how to obtain a quality medical history that is both current and accessible
- 5) Describe the minimal staffing requirements and pre-assigned duties for each staff person to respond to a medical emergency
- 6) Understand how to recognize and maintain a patent airway
- 7) Understand how to supplement the oxygen supply to someone with respiratory depression
- 8) Understand artificial respiration for the apenic patient
- 9) Recognize the use of various medications in the dentist's emergency drug kit
- 10) Be capable of developing a response manual for chairside reference during a medical emergency
- 11) Recognize the symptoms and respond appropriately to a patient experiencing any of the following:
 - A. Syncope
 - B. Angina
 - C. Myocardial infarction
 - D. Hypertension
 - E. Hypotension
 - F. Asthma
 - G. COPD
 - H. Hyperventilation
 - I. Allergic reactions
 - J. Diabetic reactions
 - K. Epilepsy or seizure
 - L. Bleeding disorders