

DUTIES OF A STOMATOLOGY NURSE: A SCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE

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Stomatology, or dental medicine, is a specialized field of healthcare that focuses on diagnosing, preventing, and treating conditions related to the oral cavity and its surrounding structures. Within this field, stomatology nurses play a critical role in supporting dental professionals and ensuring high-quality patient care. This article explores the key responsibilities, skills, and contributions of stomatology nurses from a scientific perspective.

Keywords: Stomatology, Sterilization

1. Patient Preparation and Education

- Preparation for Procedures: Stomatology nurses prepare patients for dental examinations and treatments by ensuring they are comfortable and informed about the procedures. This includes gathering patient medical histories and documenting any relevant concerns.

- Oral Health Education: Educating patients on proper oral hygiene practices, the importance of regular dental visits, and post-treatment care is a vital duty. Nurses often provide guidance on brushing, flossing, and diet to maintain oral health.

2. Assistance During Procedures

- Chairside Assistance: Assisting dentists and oral surgeons during procedures by passing instruments, maintaining a sterile environment, and ensuring patient comfort.

- Instrument Sterilization: Stomatology nurses are responsible for cleaning, disinfecting, and sterilizing instruments to prevent cross-contamination and maintain a safe clinical environment.

3. Patient Monitoring and Care

- Vital Sign Monitoring: Monitoring patients' vital signs before, during, and after procedures, especially during surgeries or treatments requiring anesthesia.

- Postoperative Care: Providing post-treatment instructions and monitoring patients for adverse reactions or complications, ensuring their recovery is smooth and effective.

4. Administrative and Logistical Support

- Record Keeping: Maintaining accurate and up-to-date patient records, including treatment plans, progress notes, and medical histories.
- Appointment Coordination: Scheduling patient appointments and managing follow-ups to ensure continuity of care.

Essential Skills and Qualities

1. Technical Competence

- Knowledge of dental anatomy, oral diseases, and treatment procedures.
- Proficiency in using dental instruments, radiographic equipment, and computer systems for record management.

2. Communication and Empathy

- Strong interpersonal skills to communicate effectively with patients and their families.
- The ability to provide emotional support and reassurance to patients, especially those with dental anxiety.

3. Attention to Detail

- Precision in handling instruments and performing tasks to ensure patient safety and procedural accuracy.
- Vigilance in identifying potential complications or signs of distress during and after procedures.

4. Adaptability and Teamwork

- The ability to work collaboratively with dentists, hygienists, and other healthcare professionals in a fast-paced environment.
- Flexibility to handle emergencies and adapt to new technologies and protocols in dental care.

Contributions to Healthcare

Stomatology nurses contribute significantly to the overall efficiency and effectiveness of dental care delivery. Their role in patient education helps prevent oral diseases, reducing the burden on healthcare systems. By ensuring a safe and supportive environment, they enhance patient experiences and outcomes. Additionally, their expertise in infection control is crucial in maintaining high standards of clinical hygiene.

Conclusion

The role of stomatology nurses extends beyond mere assistance in dental procedures; they are integral to patient care, education, and the smooth functioning of dental practices. With advancements in dental technology and increasing awareness of oral health's impact on overall well-being, the importance of stomatology nurses is

more pronounced than ever. Their dedication and expertise continue to make a lasting impact on the field of dental medicine.

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