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2011 ISSUE 1

ENDODONTIC DENTAL ASSOCIATES GROUP



A periodic publication of
Endodontic Associates Dental Group
for general dentists and office staff.

News
you can use

Oh My – A Root Canal?!! *Putting Patients At Ease*

We're partnering with the American Association of Endodontists in an attempt to educate patients on root canal treatment and provide factual information on endodontic procedures. Check out the latest video on the home page of our website at www.endofiles.com to see footage capturing an actual root canal procedure followed by unscripted patient testimonials upon completion. You might recognize one of the stars as our own Dr. Kevin Keating!

Feel free to use this as an educational tool for any of your patients, particularly those that may be extremely apprehensive about recommended endodontic treatment.



ENDOFORUM *CE Series*
A small group series for dentists

Back Cover:

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our continuing
education series!

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Antibiotic Prophylaxis for Patients with Joint Replacements

(Yes, the protocol has changed again.)

Due to space considerations, the following is a summary of the article. To view the article in its entirety along with references, please visit www.endofiles.com and click "For Dentists" on the menu and then "Clinical Articles." If you would prefer a copy, please contact Julie Handy at jhandy@endofiles.com or 916-333-5101.

By Kevin M. Keating, DDS, MS



There are more than 1 million total joint replacement surgeries performed annually in the United States, of which approximately 7 percent are to replace failing prosthetic joints. Infections of total joint replacements usually result in failure and lead to the replacement of the prosthesis. Recognizing the risks to prosthetic joints associated with blood born bacteremias, the

American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons have modified their recommendations for preoperative prophylactic antibiotics for medical and dental procedures.

In February of 2009 the American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons presented their most current recommendations for antibiotic prophylaxis in patients with total joint replacements.

Unlike the prior guideline wherein prophylaxis was recommended only for the two years following placement of the prosthetic joint, the current AAOS recommendation again recommends the need for preoperative antibiotic prophylaxis for the life time of the patient.

The AAOS position paper also states that the health care professional who is planning treatment should do so in consultation with the patient's surgeon on the need for prophylactic antibiotics and confirm if that surgeon has specific recommendations that are different

than those of the guidelines. This is also the recommendation of The Dentists Insurance Company (TDIC). TDIC further recommends obtaining written confirmation of the surgeon's recommendations for prophylaxis. According to legal experts, since AAOS and the American Medical Association's recommendations are in conflict with each other, not getting written confirmation could place one in serious jeopardy of making a medical decision without a license. TDIC policy holders can download a faxable medical consultation form from the TDIC website for obtaining the surgeon's recommended antibiotic regimen, if any.

Below is the table from the AAOS guidelines listing those for whom they recommend prophylactic antibiotics. I have also reproduced their antibiotic regimen which is not the same as other prophylactic antibiotic regimens.

Table 1. Patients at Potential Increased Risk of Hematogenous Total Joint Infection

- All patients with prosthetic joint replacement
- Immunocompromised/immunosuppressed patients
- Inflammatory arthropathies (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus)
- Drug-induced immunosuppression
- Radiation-induced immunosuppression
- Patients with co-morbidities (e.g., diabetes, obesity, HIV, smoking)
- Previous prosthetic joint infections
- Malnourishment
- Hemophilia
- HIV infection
- Insulin-dependent (Type 1) diabetes
- Malignancy
- Megaprotheses

AAOS Recommended Protocol for Dental Procedures likely to cause Bacteremias

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|
| • Cephalexin | | 1 hour |
| • Cephradine | 2 grams PO | prior to |
| • Amoxicillin | | treatment |

“We view our office as an extension of yours.”

We recognize your level of trust in our entire practice when you refer a patient to our office for endodontic consultation and/or treatment. Many general dentists who refer patients to our office receive feedback when the patient returns for restorative treatment. We work hard to get it right and are encouraged by the open line of communication with all of you!

Our clinical assistants spend a great deal of time with each and every patient that walks through our door. We provide ongoing clinical training, the latest in technology, but above all our staff sincerely cares about the well being of your patients.

We receive numerous completed “Patient Satisfaction Surveys” both in office and on our website — www.endofiles.com. Below are few recent comments that we have been given permission to share with you.

In the Spotlight **The Patient Experience**



Endodontic Treatment Testimonials from Patients:

“I was very nervous and they made me feel very comfortable.” ~ M’Lisa

“Excellent service! I certainly came to the right place. Thank you!” ~ Tara

“I’m so pleased with the courtesy, gentleness, thoroughness of every person here....” ~ Rachel

“Thanks for making it easy for me.” ~ Glenn

Spanish-speaking staff **Hablamos Español!**

At Endodontic Associates when we say, “Excellence Through Personalized Care,” we mean it! In order to effectively communicate with our Spanish-speaking patients, we are pleased to have employees at each of our

office locations who speak fluent Spanish. We recognize that clear communication is of utmost importance when a patient seeks endodontic treatment.

When referring a Spanish-speaking patient to any of our offices, we hope that you will feel confident that not only will he/she receive top-notch clinical treatment, but a language barrier will not inhibit clear communication.



ENDO FORUM *CE Series*

A small group series for dentists

Continuing education seminar series

Watch for information on our upcoming Endo Forum continuing education seminar series. We will host various CE programs in a small group interactive setting. Certain programs will be designed for dentists and clinical staff while others will address topics pertinent for office staff.

Due to space limitations this CE Series will be by invitation only. If you are interested in being added to the guest list or would like more information, please contact Julie Handy, Professional Relations Coordinator at: jhandy@endofiles.com or 916-333-5101.

Our first Endo Forum CE program is coming soon!

TOPIC: Predictable Dental Anesthesia
 PRESENTER: Dr. Aneet Bal

ENDO FORUM *CE Series*

INSURANCE INFORMATION

We value the relationship we have with you and your patients and recognize that referral services performed outside of a patient's insurance network result in co-payments that are not merely an inconvenience, but may pose financial hardship for them.

To help ease the financial burden, we accept the following insurance plans:

- Delta Dental (Premier & PPO)
- MetLife
- Cigna
- Premier Access
- Interplan Health Group
- Connection Dental – GEHA

In addition to these insurance plans, we also accept **Care Credit** in an effort to most effectively serve patients.



*Committed To Excellence
 Through Personalized Care*

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