

SFHOH7 – SQA Unit Code H4R1 04

Provide chairside support during non-surgical endodontic treatment



Overview

This standard concerns chairside support during non-surgical endodontic treatment, such as root canal treatment, and may require the use of four-handed dentistry. You will need to anticipate the operator's needs for equipment, instruments, materials and medicaments, and select the correct ones. You will also need to maintain a clear field of operation, making sure that your actions complement those of other team members.

You will need to know about the purpose and reasons for non-surgical treatment, the potential risks of the treatment, and the equipment, instruments, materials and medicaments involved. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 apply standard precautions for infection control and take other appropriate health and safety measures
- P2 retrieve and make available the patient's charts, records and images and identify correctly the planned treatment
- P3 provide appropriate support during the administration of local or regional analgesia
- P4 anticipate, select and arrange the equipment, instruments, materials and medicaments for the following stages of the endodontic treatment:
 - P4.1 access
 - P4.2 isolation
 - P4.3 preparation
 - P4.4 measurement
 - P4.5 obturation
 - P4.6 restoration
- P5 assist the operator and support the patient during the isolation of the tooth
- P6 aspirate the treatment area, maintaining a clear field of operation, and assist with monitoring and supporting the patient during treatment
- P7 ensure irrigation equipment and solutions are available and handled correctly
- P8 assist the operator in measuring and recording root length
- P9 prepare the resources and contribute to the production of a dental image
- P10 prepare the appropriate materials and medicaments for either temporary or permanent placement in the canals or pulp chamber
- P11 continuously monitor and reassure the patient, identify any complications and take the necessary actions without delay
- P12 correctly prepare, and offer to the operator the required restorative material
- P13 provide post-operative instructions on care of the mouth to the patient
- P14 dispose of waste, spillage promptly and in a safe manner and place
- P15 ensure that all charts and records are complete, accurate and legible following the procedure

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the structure and function of teeth and periodontium including the number of roots
- K2 regional anatomy of the head and neck and dental anatomy
- K3 the purpose of non-surgical endodontic treatment
- K4 the different forms non-surgical endodontic treatment may take including pulpotomies and pulpectomies
- K5 non-surgical endodontic treatment and its relationship to other forms of dental treatment
- K6 the reasons why it may be necessary to undertake non-surgical endodontic treatment
- K7 the potential risks and complications that may arise during and after non-surgical endodontic treatment
- K8 recognised forms of valid consent and their application before any treatment is undertaken
- K9 the equipment used in the administration of local and regional anaesthesia
- K10 methods of cleaning and preparing root canals
- K11 the equipment, instruments, materials and medicaments which are used in endodontic treatment for:
 - K11.1 access
 - K11.2 isolation
 - K11.3 preparation
 - K11.4 measurement
 - K11.5 obturation
- K12 the different materials used in the preparation, obturation and restoration of the root canals following pulpotomies in deciduous teeth
- K13 equipment, methods and reasons for moisture control and isolation
- K14 the ergonomics of dental practice including seating, positioning of the patient and team, instrument passing, suction tip placement
- K15 methods of facilitating a clear view of the treatment area for the operator and the consequences of doing this incorrectly
- K16 methods of aspirating during treatment
- K17 methods of protecting and retracting the soft tissues
- K18 methods of working which will complement the work of the operator and the reasons for this

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- K19 how to monitor, support and reassure the patient throughout treatment including identifying anxiety
- K20 the reasons for continually observing the operator during the procedure
- K21 why it is important that the worker's actions complement the work of other team members and how this is achieved
- K22 health and safety regulations and national policies and procedures
- K23 standard precautions and quality standards of infection prevention and control, including personal protective equipment and your role in maintaining them
- K24 the legal and organisational policies relating to the disposal of waste and spillage from clinical treatments and investigations
- K25 the importance of communicating information clearly and effectively
- K26 how to modify information and communication methods for individuals, including patients with special needs, patients from diverse social and ethnic backgrounds, children and the elderly and where necessary, provide representation for them
- K27 the different types of charts and records used in the organisation including medical history, personal details, dental charts, radiographs/photographs and study models for assessment and treatment planning and their purpose
- K28 the importance of keeping full contemporaneous records and the legislation and guidelines relating to patients' records and confidentiality
- K29 methods of effective team working in oral health care

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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