

D Y PATIL DENTAL SCHOOL

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY

Introduction to community dentistry

Definition of community dentistry

It is a branch of dentistry which is practiced in relation to group or population , which derives from epidemiology an awareness of the service required to organize the application of these services for the benefit of the population.

In India dental diseases are increasing due to many reasons

- Increase in population.
- Low literacy rate.
- 80 % of population lives in villages.
- Lack of manpower , money and time .

Aim of community dentistry

prime aims of community dentistry is creating awareness regarding dental health and early diagnosis and prompt treatment of disease.

It also deals with the measures to protect the individuals from dental disease and to keep them in a state of positive dental health.

Three groups of population

Groups

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graph TD; Groups[Groups] --- Healthy[Healthy]; Groups --- IllHealth[Ill health]; Groups --- Disabled[Disabled]; Healthy --- H1[1) Resistant]; Healthy --- H2[2) Susceptible]; IllHealth --- I1[1) Clinical]; IllHealth --- I2[2) Sub clinical]; IllHealth --- I3[3) Fatal]; Disabled --- D1[1) Promotion]; Disabled --- D2[2) Control]; Disabled --- D3[3) Prevention];
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Healthy

- 1) Resistant
- 2) Susceptible

(preventive)

Ill health

- 1) Clinical
- 2) Sub clinical
- 3) Fatal

(control)

Disabled

(promotion)

DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

The science and art of preventing and controlling dental disease and promoting dental health through organized community efforts. It is that branch of dentistry or that form of dental practice , which serves the community as a patient rather than an individual. It is concerned with dental health education of the public with research and application of the findings of the research with the administration of programmes of dental care for groups and with the preventive and control of dental disease through the community approach.

OBJECTIVES

- To create awareness among the public
- Analyze the role of dental profession to work with public.
- To create the need of working with other professionals for the achievement of dental health.
- Motivating public to change their behaviour.
- Conducting group dental care programmes.
- Program planning for prevention and control of dental diseases.

Tools of dental public health

- Epidemiology
- Biostatistics
- Social sciences
- Principles of administration
- Preventive dentistry

PROCEDURAL STEPS IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

- **SURVEY**

These are the methods for collection of data analyzing and evaluating them in order to determine the amount of disease problems in a community and also identify cases that have not been identified.

- **ANALYSIS**

It analyses the data. Stastical techniques like mean median mode and standard deviation can also be applied for the purpose.

- **PROGRAMME PLANNING**

The main objective of any public health professional is to have the designed programme accepted by the community and that the people show an interest in it. community is well informed about the programme and that they participate in all the steps involved.

PROCEDURAL STEPS IN DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH (continued)

- **PROGRAMME OPERATION**

When a specific public health programme has to be adopted for a community, a public health team, which constitutes of professional in various disciplines has to be employed for executing the programme. For example: water fluoridation in a community ; dentists ,engineers, chemists, public health authorities and water works department are required.

- **FINANCING :**

Financing in public health programmes are usually through the funds provided by the governments or by the local or state authorities.

- **PROGRAMME APPRAISAL**

Effectiveness of the programme is assessed

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN PERSONAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE :

PATIENT

- **1. Examination.**
- **2. Diagnosis.**
- **3. Treatment planning.**
- **4. Treatment.**
- **5. Payment for service.**
- **6. Evaluation.**

COMMUNITY

- **1. Survey.**
- **2. Analysis**
- **3. Programme planning**
- **4. Programme operation**
- **5. Finance.**
- **6. Approval.**

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRIVATE DENTAL PRACTICE & PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY.

CHARACTERISTIC	PRIVATE DENTAL PRACTICE	PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY
1. TARGET	Individual patient.	Community or group of individuals.
2.COLLECTION OF INFORMATION	History taking & oral clinical examination.	Analysis of available health & morbidity records.
3. SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS	Radiography, blood test, biopsies, exfoliative cytology.	Epidemiology surveys.
4. CONCLUSIONS	Diagnosis	Situational analysis of oral health status and needs and utilization of services.

5. REMEDIAL MEASURES	Treatment plan based on diagnosis, patients attitude & affordability.	Action plan based on demands, available resources and priorities.
6. MAJOR EMPHASIS	Curative & restorative care	Promotive & preventive care.
7. ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESS	Patient's consent & co – operation.	Community participation.
8. SERVICE PROVIDER	Dentist alone, sometimes with an assistant	Health team professionals & Para professionals, community volunteers.
9. INTERVENTION	Appropriate dental procedure	Promotive & preventive measure at individual & community level.

10.SUPPORTIVE DISCIPLINES	Psychology	Sociology, Social psychology, Education, Epidemiology & Biostatistics.
11. ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT	Not relevant	Very relevant.
12. PERSPECTIVE	Immediate	Long term.
13. EVALUATION & RESULTS	Relief of symptoms & restoration of function	Formal programme evaluation.
14. AFTERCARE	Recall, further sittings	Continuing care, Self care.
15. FUNDING	Generally by the patient	Generally by Government or Local authorities.

SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY:

- **Health education in community, motivation of the individual or community for receiving dental services.**
- **Delivering dental treatments to the community through organized dental health camps especially in rural areas.**
- **Providing dental prophylaxis & other oral hygiene measures, including instructions in home care of the mouth.**
- **Through the school health programmes to deliver dental care for children.**

- **Demonstration of new dental preventive methods and procedures to the community.**
- **Providing dental treatments like extraction, oral prophylaxis, fluoride applications etc. through the dental camps or through the school health programme.**
- **Application of caries preventive measures such as topical applications of fluorides, pit & fissure sealants, etc.**
- **Conducting dental public health activities and field experiences for dental students and dental student nurses.**

THANK YOU