Oral medicine sheet #17

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***facial pain***

***Pain :*** Unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage ,or described in terms of such damage.

-Pain is the number ***one*** reason people seeking health care .

**-**the pain is consider as a ***5th*** vital sign "pain itself might be a symptom for any disease"

**-**Head and neck region is the most common site of the human body to be involved in a chronic pain conditions; this information is important to us as a dentists because the patient might think that this pain is a dental pain and go to dentist to seek treatment , so as dentist you have to differentiate between facial and dental pain.

Add to your information :

the neck of human and giraffe share the same number of vertebrae (7 vertebrae).

**-**Orofacial region is plagued by a number of acute/chronic ,recurrent painful maladies.

***Characteristics of orofacial pain***

1-high degree of prevalence [common] :

**-**10% of adults and up to to 50% of the elderly.

-Although the prevalence of orofacila pain is high, there are many unrecognized cases; its take a long time to diagnose that the pt have orofacial pain "difficult to diagnoses"

**-**A population –based survey of 45,711 households revealed that 22% of the united state population experienced orofacial pain on more than one occasion in a 6 months period.[no studies in Jordan]

2-high intensities :

- Intensity of orafacial pain is higher, compared to other types of chronic pain conditions.

- Various orofacial pain condition intensities are similar to that observed with those of spinal pain disorders .

3-diagnosis is sometimes challenging and difficult:

-orofacial pain is derived from unique target tissues ,such as:

the meninges ,cornea ,tooth pulp ,oral or nasal mucosa and TMJ.

-When the patient complaint is ulcer or lump, it's more easy to diagnose than the patient who complain from pain bcoz you can see the ulcer or lump by your eyes so you can diagnose, but the patient that come with only pain you depend on your Qs TO THE patient and what patient tells you

***Causes of orofacial pain***

1- *local:*

Dentoalveolar : pulpitis ,apical periodontitis -

–oral mucosa and skin

-sinuses-salivary glands

-ears, nose, eye-teeth.

*2-vascular:*

*-* Migrain.

-tension headache.

-temporal arteritis.

*3-radiating:*

-Angina.

-otitis media.

–lung cancer [rare]

*4-neurological:*

-Trigeminal neuralgia.

–glossopharyngeal neuralgia.

-post herpetic neuralgia.

–neuroma.

\* All of them named neuralgia bcoz the source is neurogenic.

*5-psychological:*

-TMJD/myfacial pain syndrome.

–atypical facial pain(idiopathic without known cause).

–burning mouth syndrome.

–oral dysasthesia

\*The most difficult category to treat.

\* As a dentist you should be able to differentiate between dental pain and facial pain .

***History of pain***

SOCRATIS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Relieving/radiating facto | Character | Onset | Site |
| Signs | Intensity | Treatment | Aggravating factors |

***Examination of patients with facial pain***

Local structures -systemic-cranial nerves

– some time need psychological assessment

-pain mapping/questionnaires help in diagnoses "we will talk about them in next lec.

***investigations in patients with facial pain***

-tooth vitality test. -temporal artery biopsy.

- X-ray. -chest X-ray.

-endoscopy. –ANA.

- MRI/CT. - psychhologic assessment.

- ESR.

\*This lecture was introduction for the upcoming lectures.

Goodluck