

## **Module 9 Chapter 61 Family Abuse and Neglect/ The Patient with Endocrine Disorders/ Hormonal Changes**

Obj. 1 Review the key words on pg. 932

**Abuse** – non-accidental physical, emotional (psychological) or sexual acts against a child.

**Neglect** – intentional or unintentional failure to provide for a child's basic physical, emotional, education, and medical/dental needs.

**Dental Neglect** – the willful failure of a parent or guardian to seek and follow through with treatment necessary to ensure a level of oral health essential for adequate function and freedom from pain and infection.

### 2. Appearance and Behavior of an abused child:

- Messy clothing, long sleeves and long pants (covering bruises)
- Uncleanliness – lack of care
- Failure to thrive; malnutrition
- Evidence of Lice
- Not normal behavior, fearful and cry excessively or no fear at all, unhappy, withdrawn,
- Acts different when caregiver is present
- Developmental delays – language or motor skills

### 3. Extraoral/ Intraoral signs of Child Abuse:

- Abrasions and lacerations at varying degrees of healing, inconsistent with explanations
- Skull, face, injuries
- Traumatic alopecia (bald spots from pulling out hair)
- Bilateral periorbital ecchymosis (raccoon sign)
- Nose fractures or displacements
- Lip bruises and lacerations, angular bruising, scarring
- Marks on skin (such as handprint, belt buckle), human bite marks
- Lacerations of tongue, buccal mucosa or palate
- Lingual and labial frenal tears
- Teeth that are fractured, displaced, avulsed, or nonvital
- Radiographic signs of fractures at different healing stages

### 4. Signs of Sexual Abuse:

- Bruising or petechiae of palate can indicate forced oral sex

Sexually transmitted genital lesions (intraorally):

- Condyloma acuminatum
- Primary herpetic gingivostomatitis
- Difficulty walking or sitting
- Extreme fear of oral examination
- Early adolescent pregnancy

Most frequently involves the face, eyes and neck, reluctant to admit abuse. May deny, defend the abuser or provide excuses.

- Dislocations or sprains accompanied by fingertip patterns
- Poor personal hygiene
- Scratches, burns
- Patterned marks or bruising
- Lip trauma
- Bruising of facial tissues
- Eye injuries
- Fractured or bruised mandible. TMD

#### 5. Signs of Neglect:

- Lack of daily personal daily care
- Untreated disease, including rampant dental caries, pain, gingival inflammation and bleeding
- Lack of regular dental care
- Oral healthcare considered a low priority
- Lack of education concerning significance of oral healthcare and the relation to general health

#### 6. Parental attitude factors related to child abuse and neglect:

- Disinterest in child
- Critical, scolding, or belittling
- Lack of interest in proposed dental treatment plan, tendency to want only pain relief
- Unavailable for consultation
- Inconsistent information about causes/sources of child's injury
- Oral healthcare considered a low priority and lack of education
- Limited finances
- Family isolation: access to care
- Religious beliefs

#### Contributing Factors:

- Immature, irresponsible
- May have been abused by their parents
- Unable to handle stress – financial, work, job, marital
- Drug use and alcoholism are sometimes involved

#### **RDH:**

- Provide support, education to caregivers and children
- Discuss clinical findings and treatment plan needs
- Provide references, info about access to care, financial aid, and transportation
- Prepare to share your findings
- Witness may be needed for legality
- \* Document – thorough and accurate documentation for future reference and comparison
- \* Record
- \* Report – laws specific to state. All states mandate reporting suspected child abuse.

## 7. Elder Maltreatment

**Physical abuse** – intentional use of force that results in bodily injury, pain, or anguish

**Physical neglect** – failure to provide basic necessities such as food, clothing, water, shelter, medicine, dental care, and personal hygiene (unintentional or intentional)

**Psychological abuses** – Mental anguish and despair caused by ridicule, name-calling, humiliation, harassment, manipulation, threats, and controlling behavior

**Psychological neglect** – Nonverbal anguish caused by lack of communication and isolation

**Financial abuse** – Improper, illegal, or unethical exploitation of resources or assets

**Sexual abuse** – sexual contact with an elder who is unable to consent or otherwise nonconsensual sexual contact or exploitation

**Self-neglect** – could be from depression from a loss of a loved one. May feel unable to continue living.

## 8. General Signs of Abuse and Neglect

- Withdrawn, anxious, and shy, low self-esteem
- Illogical explanation of how injury occurred
- Depression and hostility
- May dodge a motion of another person
- Overly eager to please and be compliant

## 9. Physical/Extraoral/Intraloral Signs

- Bruises – in areas of restraint – legs or wrists
- Traumatic alopecia (bald spots)
- Human bite marks
- Dislocations or sprains with fingertip pattern
- Poor personal hygiene
- Inadequate clothing for the season
- Scratches or burns
- Patterned marks and bruising of an object
- Cachexia

Extraoral:

- Lip Trauma
- Bruising of facial tissues
- Eye injuries
- Fractured or bruised mandible
- TMJ pain

Intraoral:

- Fractured, displaced, or avulsed teeth
- Bruising of edentulous ridge
- STD lesions – condyloma acuminatum, primary herpetic gingivostomatitis
- Lesions or sore areas in mouth from ill-fitting dentures – epulis fissuratum, atrophic candidiasis
- Fractured denture
- Poor oral hygiene