Nutrition in Geriatric Patients

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There is a considerable increase in the number of elderly patients in the current century. The life expectancy has been dramatically increased from age 45 in the year 1900 to age 72 for men and 77 for women in the year 1980. This shift is due to improved practices and better health environment. But nearly half of older the individuals have clinically nutritional problems. However the nutritional risk increases with age factor. Therefore a large number of dental patients are prone to nutritional deficits. The factors responsible for the nutritional deficits are low income, poor cooking facilities and lack of knowledge and interest in food choices. Dental and medical infirmities that interfere with chewing, digestion, or metabolism can also contribute to a poor nutritional status. Proper nutrition is essential to the health and comfort of oral tissues, and healthy tissues to enhance the possibility of successful dental treatment of the elderly. A proper nutritional assessment and suitable dietary advice is often a more appropriate way to cope with malnutrition than merely instituting dental treatment.

Biography

I am Gurleen Kaur, currently an intern at National Dental College, Punjab, India. I have attended multiple dental education programs and conferences, I am actively participating in performing diagnosis and treatment procedures. I have been part of community outreach programs camps organized by my college in nearby villages. I passed my National Board of Dental Examination Part 1 conducted by American dental association last year. In this year 2016, I attended Prosthedopia which was held by Indian Prosthodontics Society and Esperanza. I continually attend public shows and participate in street plays to create general awareness of society on World's No tobacco day and World's environment day.

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