AAE and AAPD Symposium Overview: Contemporary Management of Traumatic Injuries to the Permanent Dentition

Following the successful 2007 joint symposium held by the American Association of Endodontics and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the 2 specialties collaborated in organizing a second symposium—"Contemporary Management of Traumatic Injuries to the Permanent Dentition"—in Scottsdale, Arizona, in November 2012. The global purpose of the Symposium was to foster interspecialty collaboration in the treatment of children, specifically, those children with traumatic injuries. The leaders of both organizations strongly believe that by working together, endodontists and pediatric dentists can enhance clinical outcomes and improve the lives of a vulnerable population.

The stage for the Symposium was set with a comprehensive review of the etiology and epidemiology of dental trauma in children and adolescents, along with an update on the Dental Trauma Guide and its enormously useful value to dentists who manage dental trauma. Other specific areas of interest addressed included physical assessment of children following traumatic injuries, patient management of the child (including sedation), relationship of growth and development in treatment planning, restorative techniques and materials, and review of clinical procedures to enhance outcomes including the following: pulp management, apical barrier assessment, regeneration/revascularization techniques, decoronation problems, and trauma prevention.

In order to enhance the interactive component of the joint symposium, a panel discussion featured 1 pair of 2 specialists from private practice and 1 pair of specialists from a hospital setting. This panel brought to light interesting and innovative ways that practitioners can collaborate in patient care and, importantly, guided educators as to how to incorporate interdisciplinary education into Advanced Education Training Programs.

Children present unique challenges when it comes to treatment. Their varying stages of growth and development and the unique issues surrounding patient management make children complex patients. These challenges are magnified in the trauma realm where stress levels generally are elevated for the child, parents, and practitioner. It is essential to consider all of these elements in order to provide appropriate urgent/emergent care to help ensure optimal outcomes for children.

William T. Johnson, DDS, MS
Alan S. Law, DDS, PhD
Dennis J. McTigue, DDS, MS
Heidi L. Moos, DMD
William F. Vann, Jr, DMD, PhD
AAE/AAPD Organizing Committee

The authors deny any conflicts of interest related to this study.

This article is being published concurrently in Pediatric Dentistry 2013;35(2). The articles are identical. Either citation can be used when citing this article.

$0999-2399/ see front matter
Copyright © 2013 American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and American Association of Endodontists.
Refer to doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.joen.2012.10.021