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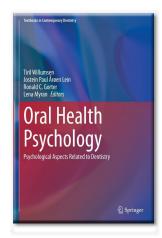
Oral Health Psychology

Psychological Aspects Related to Dentistry Editors: Tiril Willumsen, Jostein Paul Årøen Lein, Ronald C. Gorter, Lena Myran

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In 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued a resolution to provide better oral care, to make oral care accessible to all, to establish a key indicator of overall health, well-being and quality of life. WHO recommends a shift from the traditional curative approach to a preventive approach that includes promoting oral health in the family, schools and workplaces as well as timely, comprehensive and inclusive care in the primary health care system.

Oral Health Psychology is a book which defines oral health psychology as a collection of scientific, pedagogical and professional contributions from psychology to promoting and maintaining oral health, while placing oral health as an integral part of general health and well-being.

The book has 22 chapters divided in five parts. The first part, Basic Oral Health Psychology, approaches the link between basic oral health related to psychology, the importance of trauma, pain, the importance of a safe relationship with dental patients, oral health literacy, communication in dentistry, behavior change for oral health and autonomy support and improving oral

The second part, Children, first comments on positive encounters for children to prevent dental anxiety from the perspective of theory and practice, and then on family violence and child maltreatment.

Dental Anxiety is the third part where we are presented with understanding development and persistence of dental anxiety, psychological prevention and management of dental anxiety, administered CBT for dental anxiety and injection phobia. The fourth part, Patients with Complex Reactions and Co-morbidity, introduces persons with mental disorders as dental patients, how to deal with gagging, child sexual abuse and oral health challenges, providing dental care to torture survivors and the psychosocial impacts of orofacial features with examples from orthognathic surgery.

The last part, Professionalism, makes an eloquent plea on dental professionalism and professional behavior in practice and education, work stress, burnout risk, and engagement in dental practice and working in partnership for better oral health care.

This book is the result of the international collaboration of prestigious authors from various countries and continents and is an indispensable guide both for current and future dentists, as well as for other professionals in the field of oral health. The book Oral Health Psychology contributes both to better oral health for patients of all ages, and to improving collaboration between dental professionals, their patients and patient caregivers, ensuring increased job satisfaction and reducing the risk of burnout among dental staff.

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