

Job of Dental Nurse in Turkey

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Abstract

The ability to work effectively in a multiprofessional team has become an important aspect of modern dental practice. The team member at each level must fulfill the task completely. Dental nurses are one of the most important groups within the dental team. Dental nurses should have certain professional and individual qualifications. Dental nurses have duties such as controlling infections, protecting the dental materials and assistance. The aim of this study is to present the duties and the work area of dental nurse in Turkey.

Keywords: Dental Nurse, Dental Team, Infection

The ability to work effectively in a multiprofessional team has become an important aspect of modern dental practice. The team member at each level must fulfill the task completely. Dental nurses are one of the most important groups within the dental team. They have many important duties such as four-handed operation and sterilization control. The aim of this study is to present the duties and the work area of dental nurse in Turkey.

Dental team

The dental team consists of dentist, nurse, oral dental health technician, dental hygienist, and medical secretary.

Dentistry education is for five years in Turkey. At the end of five years, doctors take an examination, the Dentistry Specialization Examination (DUS) to become experts. They may choose one of eight branches. These branches; Oral diagnosis and radiology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontology, orthodontics, restorative dentistry, prosthodontics. Some dentists may choose not to specialize.

To become a nurse in Turkey, they need to study in the Nursing vocational school or Nursing faculty. The education lasts four years. At the end of this education, the Academic Personnel and Postgraduate Education Entrance Exam (ALES) will apply. The nurses who are successful in the examination prefer one of ten branches of nursing. These branches; Surgical Nursing Child Health and Disease Nursing Obstetrics and Gynecology Public Health Nursing Master of Nursing Principles Management in Nursing Internal Medicine Nursing Occupational Health Nursing Oncology Nursing Psychiatric Nursing. Legally dental nursing is not defined in Turkey. Just as emergency nursing and intensive care nursing are not defined. However, job descriptions of dental nurses are defined by the institutions they work with. This definition is common. After

graduation, dental nurse acquire knowledge and skills related to dental nursing while working with dentists. Dental nurses have various duties on before, after and during the treatment that works beside the dentist.

Oral dental health technicians are trained in the oral and dental health program of health vocational colleges for two years. To help the dentist in the examination of the patient, to get prepared and prepare the treatment materials provide basic tasks legally defined.

There are not dental hygienists in Turkey as professional group and job description is not available.

In order to become a medical secretary, various courses are sufficient. Medical secretaries keep medical records, organize workflows and are responsible for informing patients.

Dental nurse's skills and abilities

First of all, dental nurses should have the basic skills and abilities that nurses should have. These features:

- Basic / intermediate / advanced computer and internet usage
- Do not share information
- Uniform diction
- Regular and disciplined work
- Consistent and participatory in team work
- Empathy can be built
- Effective written and oral communication
- Quick thinking and decision making
- Be tolerant
- Persuasion skill
- Commitment to corporate and ethical principles
- Be patient
- Problem solving
- Result-oriented
- Taking responsibility

- Stress management
- Representative ability
- Dialogue with superiors and subordinates
- Work in intensive temp
- Regular and disciplined work

Dental nurse's basic work and responsibilities

They help doctors during treatment of patients. They are obliged to fulfill orders concerning the duties and services given by their supervisor. They keep the tools and supplies delivered to them. They have to be careful about not destroying, losing, using the tools for personal purposes. They assist in the collection and cleaning of medical equipment and equipment used in clinics. In order to remove the risk of infection; they help sterilization and autoclave sterilization when necessary in accordance with sterilization and disinfection rules. They enable the distribution of sterile medical devices and equipment as needed for use in clinics. They are responsible for the cleaning and ordering of the unit they work for. They perform inspection and training of cleaning personnel. The senior management will perform other tasks related to the task area. They provide separation of household and medical waste. In order to repair the devices that are found to be faulty in the department, the fault notification form is filled and the repair is followed. They check the expiry times of all used materials and whether they are defective. They provide delivery of defective or expired materials to the warehouse for destruction or return. They keep records of all materials used and informs the relevant physician in order to ensure their availability in case of deficiencies. They conduct their duties in accordance with the quality management system policy, objectives and procedures. When necessary, the medicines given by the physician apply to the patient and follow up. They provide disinfection or sterilization of units and make them ready for patient treatment. They are prepared for the treatment of the patients (apron, scalpel etc) or surgery. They assist during surgery and treatment. They perform follow-up on patients who are operated on. They identify and follow the vital signs of the patient in an emergency situation. They ensure that the 112 (Emergency call center) is called and the responsible physician is informed. They perform additional duties and responsibilities as indicated by their supervisor and other quality management system documents. They obey the warnings and instructions for work safety, use the necessary personal protective equipment [1-3].

Dental nurses have other special duties in the dentistry faculty. In oral diagnosis and radiology; they transfer the physician's examination information to the computer, check the examination sets, help the physician in the examination of disabled patients. In endodontics and restorative dentistry; they help the physician in the treatment of patients, prepare treatment and examination sets. In periodontology, pediatric dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgery; they give the medicine during the surgical procedure, they help the dentist during the treatment under general anesthesia.

Some disabled and elderly patients (patients who cannot go to the hospital) can take oral dental care at home and at nursing homes where they live. During these treatments and care, dental nurses help the physician.

Conclusion

In this study, a dental nurse working areas of a dental nurse in Turkey are presented. The duties and responsibilities of dental nurses in Turkey seems to very broad. But mandates and the job descriptions

of dental nursing in Turkey are not legally regulated. Dental nursing should be defined legally in Turkey and should be integrated into the curricula of nursing faculty

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