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Cerebral palsy and its dental management

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Cerebral palsy (CP) is a physical impairment that affects movement and coordination. It is the most common cause of congenital cause of physical impairment with an estimated incidence of around 1 in 400 children with some degree of CP. It is caused by damage or a lesion to a child's brain early during development, either *in utero*, during birth or in the first few months of infancy. Its severity varies, some may experience movement problems that are barely noticeable, causing movements to appear awkward or clumsy while for others these problems might be very severe leaving them wheelchair bound, with severe learning difficulties requiring a lifetime of personal care. As dental professionals, it is important for us to understand the condition and implications on dental management to provide the best possible care for our patients as it can impact on a wide variety of issues such as obtaining valid consent, access and operative treatment.

Biography

Rajinder Khehra has completed her Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree from Cardiff School of Dentistry in 2015. Following completion of her Dental Foundation training in the West Midlands, she started Dental Core Training in which she has completed rotations in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil and Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport and the Community Dental Service, Keir Hardie, Merthyr Tydfil.

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