

33rd International Conference on

DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH

August 13-14, 2018 Dubai, UAE

“Meth mouth” - A diagnostic challenge: Case report with literature

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Drug abuse is an alarming health problem in all countries. “Meth mouth” is the general term for methamphetamine induced rampant caries like “early childhood caries” seen in patients who are addicted to use of illicit drug methamphetamine. Victims of meth mouth shows a typical pattern of decay involving the facial and cervical areas of both the maxillary and mandibular teeth commonly anterior with less progression to frank coronal involvement which is a diagnostic challenge and most of the times considered as normal rampant caries. Methamphetamine (MA) is a chemical with stimulant properties similar to adrenaline is a potent central nervous system (CNS) stimulant and is abused commonly by drug addicts because it is cheap and readily available when compared with other illicit drugs. Methamphetamine can be smoked, swallowed, snorted and injected during drug use. Along with the adverse consequences experienced by drug users, such abuse also adversely affects the family members, teachers and law regulatory system. Dentists can play a crucial role in the early detection of abuse by noticing such oral changes and can facilitate the restoration of the health status of patients. All professionals are strongly encouraged to participate in multidisciplinary system in providing patient education, referral to treatment centers and to offer appropriate dental care. This poster aims to highlight the role of oral physician in early and early diagnosis of meth mouth by presenting a case report and mini review of literature describing in brief about sign and symptoms, prevention and management of methamphetamine abusers.

Biography

Parag Bhardwaj pursuing his BDS from PDM Dental College and Research Institute Sarai Aurangabad, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana, India. Dr. Parag Bhardwaj carries immense interest in propagating the oral health care with dexterity in his hands skills and satisfying patients with his total cooperation in alleviating pain.

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