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Pediatric dentist: The difference maker

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Speech and language development is a useful indicator of a child's overall development and cognitive ability. Identification of children at a risk for developmental delay or related problems may lead to intervention and assistance at a young age, when the chances for improvement are the best. Pediatric dentists are primarily involved in treating young children and communication with the child is essential for co-operation and effective treatment. During the process of communicating with the child any evidence of abnormal speech or deviant or delayed language skills can be identified by the pediatric dentist. Thus, screening children for speech and language delay can be integrated into routine clinical practice, followed by referrals for thorough diagnostic evaluation and appropriate intervention.

Biography

Bhagyashree M Thakur practices in the Dental Services Department at Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre. She completed her BDS from Karnataka and MDS from Pune. She earned second position in her Post-graduation Exam of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry. She had undergone extensive training in Cosmetic and Painless Dentistry at the International Centre for Dental Care, Mumbai. She has 5 years of specialized clinical experience in the field of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry, with special interest towards preventive pediatric dentistry and dentistry for children with special healthcare needs. She has been invited as a guest speaker at various CDE and workshops in Mumbai. She has also attended various conferences and workshops that enabled her to learn new treatment modalities and developments in the field.

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