

EXPERIENCE REPORT: ORAL HEALTH CARE QUALITY CENTER (NQASB) ENHANCED PARTNERSHIPS TO STRENGTHEN CARE IN THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract: The oral health condition directly impacts the patient's general health, worsening especially when hospitalized for long periods. In this sense, the Quality Center for Oral Health Care for Inpatients (NQASB) at the Clemente de Faria University Hospital (HUCF) in the north of Minas Gerais, works to promote health education and prevent oral diseases in hospitalized patients. This work describes the experience of the actions carried out by the NQASB team of professionals in partnership with university professors, dentistry students, the Academic League and residents within the scope of hospital dentistry, especially in celebration of the 1st year of implementation of the NQASB. This is a descriptive study, with a qualitative approach, of the Experience Report type. The HUCF is a Unimontes teaching hospital, where on July 10, 2023, actions were held to commemorate the 1st year of implementation of the NQASB, aimed at the hospital's multidisciplinary team and hospitalized patients, especially pediatric, clinical and pregnant women. Through these practices, the principle of oral health care in the hospital environment is gradually spreading and consolidating the role of the dental surgeon in the hospital environment and consequently consolidating the Oral Health Care Network.

Keywords: oral health, hospital dentistry, health promotion.

INTRODUCTION

The oral health condition directly impacts the patient's general health, worsening especially when hospitalized for long periods. This way, several diseases can affect the patient, such as the association of periodontal disease and the worsening of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes, in addition to oral infection and aspiration pneumonia.

It is important to highlight that during this period, the patient becomes more vulnerable,

due to the reason for hospitalization or drug therapy, or due to the consumption of a modified diet, and also due to the use of nasogastric tubes, which may make it impossible to carry out treatment. satisfactory oral hygiene (RODRIGUES; MALACHIAS; DA FONSECA PACHECO, 2017).

In this sense, the Quality Center for Oral Health Care for Inpatients (NQASB) at the Clemente de Faria University Hospital (HUCF) in the north of Minas Gerais, works to promote health education and prevent oral diseases in hospitalized patients. The Center carries out promotional and preventive actions to improve oral health; in addition, it seeks partnerships to strengthen care and maintenance of oral hygiene during the period of stay at HUCF, providing basic inputs and monitoring results through indicators such as the control of Mechanical Ventilation Pneumonia (VAP).

GOAL

This work describes the experience of the actions carried out by the NQASB team of professionals in partnership with university professors, dentistry students, the Academic League and residents within the scope of hospital dentistry, especially in celebration of the 1st year of implementation of the NQASB.

DEVELOPED ACTIVITIES

This is a descriptive study, with a qualitative approach, of the Experience Report type, carried out by academics from the Dentistry course at ``*Universidade Estadual de Montes Claros*`` (Unimontes), members of the Funorte Public Health Academic League (LAOSP). The HUCF is a Unimontes teaching hospital, where on July 10, 2023, actions were held to commemorate the 1st year of implementation of the NQASB, aimed at the hospital's multidisciplinary team and patients, especially pediatrics and pregnant women.

The event featured educational lectures, conversation circles, bed races with interaction and guidance on oral health for patients and professionals present, and basic dental care provided by undergraduate and residency students. The students were divided into groups, each with a guiding teacher, carrying out the following activities: oral hygiene instructions and supply of toothbrushes to the pediatric ward and maternity ward (patients, companions and multidisciplinary team) and dental care assessing treatment needs among hospital staff.

These actions were intended to disseminate the work carried out by NQASB and the importance of its exercise within the hospital.

RESULTS

The hospital environment is strongly associated with strictly medical activities, which corroborates the devaluation of dentistry in hospitals, neglecting basic care for hospitalized patients. In this context, the action carried out by HUCF provided greater knowledge and engagement of the dental surgeon's performance in preventing oral diseases for those who have limitations in carrying out their daily personal hygiene care, reinforcing the necessary attention that must be given to the oral cavity and the importance of having a trained professional for this. Furthermore, the evolution of certain oral diseases can cause systemic effects on the patient, such as VAP, which can be prevented through correct oral hygiene in intubated patients, a reality that has been monitored daily by the NQASB. Reducing the patient's hospitalization time, the costs arising from this hospitalization and the mortality rate.

Although necessary, the nucleus coexists with obstacles that hinder its full exercise, obstacles witnessed during the actions. Most individuals demonstrated apathy during the orientation moments, although they did

not obtain this information. Despite this reality, there was success in achieving the proposed objective, as fundamental information was transmitted. With this, it is inferred that the participating academics had the opportunity to acquire practical knowledge about the dentist's conduct in the face of adversities associated with hospital dentistry. Furthermore, this experience can bring the perception of humanized practice in a reality that goes beyond the walls of the usual clinic.

CONCLUSION

In short, it is clear that the NQASB project positively impacts the quality of health service provision to HUCF patients, promoting health education and preventing diseases. The participation of academics in these actions enables the training of better qualified professionals to deal with challenging realities in the future. Furthermore, through these practices, the principle of oral health care in the hospital environment is gradually spreading and consolidating this role of the dental surgeon in tertiary care. Therefore, it is concluded that preventive oral hygiene interventions enhance the quality of life of hospitalized patients.

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