



Case Report

Volume 23 Issue 1 - February 2022
DOI: 10.19080/JGWH.2022.23.556104

J Gynecol Women's Health

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The Importance of Oral Health in the Management of the Pregnant Woman: A Case Report



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Submission: February 19, 2021; **Published:** February 23, 2022

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Keywords: Oral health; Oral health education; Pregnancy

Introduction

Pregnancy is a transient physiological condition which brings about different changes in all parts of woman's body. These complex physiological changes can affect woman oral health and compromise that of the unborn child: the maintenance of optimal conditions of the oral cavity of the woman is crucial for the best outcome of pregnancy and for the promotion of the oral health of the unborn child [1].

In recent decades, many studies have shown the association between maternal oral infections and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Existing scientific evidence emphasizes the association between the presence and severity of gum infections and premature birth, fetal growth retardation, spontaneous abortion, preeclampsia [2].

The role of these infections as a possible risk factor or co-cause of adverse pregnancy outcomes has not, however, always been confirmed while the possibility of vertical transmission, from mother to child, of bacteria that cause tooth decay has been demonstrated. Gingival bleeding often causes the pregnant woman to decrease the brushing of teeth resulting in greater accumulation of bacterial plaque and further impairment of the general state [3-4].

Dietary and oral hygiene changes, morning gravidic hyperemesis, esophageal reflux disease can cause tooth tissue demineralisation with enamel erosion and increase the risk of tooth decay if appropriate preventive interventions are not planned [5-6].

Case Report

A 33-year-old woman, 3-month pregnancy, gravidic gingivitis, no systemic pathologies.

What She Referred

Pain in the gums, gums that bleed when brushing, swollen, tense gums, easily traumatizable, High estrogen levels, hyperemesis gravidarum. During the objective examination, we find what the patient said (Figure 1&2).

Professional Treatment

She received perinatale care with a periodontal treatment. Periodontal therapy consisted of plaque control with a tri-tone-plaque-detector, removing with airflow and scaling (Figure 3&4). Maintenance therapy was provided every to10 days for 1month, and consisted of oralhygiene instruction and supragingival plaqueremoval by instrumentation, as needed (Figure 5&6).

After the first oral hygiene session weobtained a partial healing of the tissues.

The index of plaque and bleeding arereduced.

The teaching and reinforcement of theinformation of personal oral hygienetechniques have contributed to obtainingexcellent results already at the first follow-upafter 10 days (Figure 7-9).

Follow-up 14 days

We have made dietary changes that have led to the disappearance of gravidic hyperemesis.

Reduction of:

-plaque and bleeding index,

-gum edema,

-gums pain.

Professional perinatal treatment significantly reduced gum bleeding and inflammation.



Figure 1: The alteration of the local immune response with increased susceptibility to gingival inflammation and depression of the chemotactic and phagocytic response of neutrophil granulocytes and other cellular-mediated immune functions



Figure 2: The increased permeability of the gingival blood vessels promotes redness, increased volume of the gums, predisposing them to greater bleeding.



Figure 3: She received perinatale care with aperiodontal treatment.

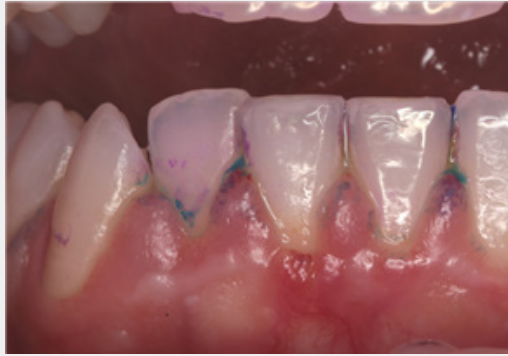


Figure 4: Maintenance therapy was provided every to 10 days for 1 month, and consisted of oral hygiene instruction and supragingival plaque removal by instrumentation, as needed.



Figure 5: Maintenance therapy was provided every to 10 days for 1 month, and consisted of oral hygiene instruction and supragingival plaque removal by instrumentation, as needed.



Figure 6: After the first oral hygiene session we obtained a partial healing of the tissues. The index of plaque and bleeding are reduced. The teaching and reinforcement of the information of personal oral hygiene techniques have contributed to obtaining excellent results already at the first follow-up after 10 days.



Figure 7: floss once a day, good nutrition, regular visits to the dental hygienist can prevent gingivitis in early stages.



Figure 8: periodontal disease and pregnancy complications. J Am Dent



Figure 9: examination of periodontal treatment, dental care, and pregnancy outcomes in an insured disappearance of gravidic hyperemesis.

Conclusion

Dental procedures during pregnancy are safe and necessary: every pregnant woman should be assessed for dental hygiene habits and oral problems. The maintenance of optimal conditions of the oral cavity of the woman is crucial for the best outcome of pregnancy. Good oral hygiene, brush twice a day and floss once a day, good nutrition, regular visits to the dental hygienist can prevent gingivitis in early stages.

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DOI: [10.19080/JGWH.2022.23.556104](https://doi.org/10.19080/JGWH.2022.23.556104)

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