**Table 3:** Dentists and dental hygienists AO4 assessment: Knowledge and practices.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dentists** | | **Dental Hygienists** | |
| **Characteristic** | **N** | **%** | **N** | **%** |
| **Acceptable oral hygiene (OH) standards** | | | | |
| Poor OH unmanaged with professional periodontal maintenance therapy (PMT) | 4 | 8.2 | - | - |
| Poor OH but managed with professional PMT | 2 | 4.1 | - | - |
| Average OH with presence of biofilm and inflammation managed with PMT | 9 | 18.4 | - | - |
| Excellent OH with minimal need of PMT to manage biofilm and inflammation | 9 | 18.4 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Indicates does not see AO4 cases in their office | 10 | 20.4 | 22 | 62.9 |
| **Systemic contraindicated risk factors to AO4** | | | | |
| Does not screen for systemic risk factors | - | - | 1 | 2.9 |
| Indicates there are no contraindicated risk factors for AO4 treatment (Tx) | - | - | - | - |
| Absence of all systemic diseases | 3 | 6.1 | 1 | 2.9 |
| History of bisphosphonate use | 19 | 38.8 | 1 | 2.9 |
| History of radiation therapy | 20 | 40.8 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Uncontrolled diabetes | 25 | 51.0 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Indicates does not know the contraindicating risk factors for AO4 | 6 | 12.2 | 18 | 51.4 |
| Consider pregnancy and/or lactation a risk factor | 11 | 37.9 | 3 | 23.1 |
| Does not consider pregnancy and/or lactation a risk factor | 18 | 62.1 | 10 | 76.9 |
| **Diagnostic oral assessment evaluation for appropriateness of AO4** | | | | |
| Take patient vital statistics | 19 | 38.8 | 3 | 8.6 |
| Acquire complete and accurate medical and dental health history | 22 | 44.9 | 3 | 8.6 |
| Review oral and nutritional habits | 16 | 32.7 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Evaluate socioeconomic factors affecting treatment | 11 | 22.4 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Evaluate the level of edentulism | 20 | 40.8 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Acquire digital records/photos | 19 | 38.8 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Take pre-operative models: Digital/articulated stone models | 20 | 40.8 | - | - |
| Perform risk assessment | 22 | 44.9 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Level of edentulism | 16 | 32.7 | - | - |
| I do not assess patients for AO4 treatment in my office; They present as a referral from a specialist | 14 | 28.6 | 22 | 62.5 |
| **To what extent do you evaluate the level of edentulism?** | | | | |
| Completely edentulous in both arches | 12 | 24.5 | - | - |
| Completely edentulous in one arch and partially edentulous in the other arch | 12 | 24.5 | - | - |
| Partially edentulous in one or both arches but with the need of extraction of remaining compromised teeth | 13 | 26.5 | - | - |
| **Has established AO4 treatment risk assessment form/protocol in office** |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 3 | 10 | 15 | 42.9 |
| No | 27 | 90 | 20 | 57.1 |
| Total | 30 | 100 | 35 | 100 |
| **Evaluation for risk assessment includes:** | | | | |
| Bone quality | 20 | 40.8 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Maxillary and mandibular profile in either healed or immediate extraction sites | 20 | 40.8 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Parafunctional habits | 22 | 44.9 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Tissue assessment | 22 | 44.9 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Active infection | 22 | 44.9 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Oral hygiene practices | 20 | 40.8 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Systemic health | 23 | 46.9 | 2 | 5.7 |
| History of radiation therapy | 23 | 46.9 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Bisphosphonate use | 23 | 46.9 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Tobacco - smoking | 23 | 46.9 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Patient compliance | 20 | 40.8 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Gender | 4 | 8.2 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Does not screen/evaluate patients for AO4 in their office | 16 | 32.7 | 22 | 62.9 |
| **Total** | 49 | 100 | 35 | 100 |
| **Performs screening for absence or presence of fenestration during tissue assessment during tissue assessment** | | | | |
| Yes | 23 | 67.6 | 7 | 41.2 |
| No | 10 | 29.4 | 10 | 58.8 |
| Felt fenestrations and dehiscences do not affect treatment outcome of AO4 | 1 | 2.9 | - | - |
| **Total** | 34 | 100 | 17 | 100 |
| **During periodontal assessment screens for:** | | | | |
| Gingivitis | - | - | - | - |
| Inactive periodontitis | 2 | 4.1 | - | - |
| Active periodontitis | 11 | 22.4 | 10 | 47.6 |
| Frenum attachment | 1 | 2.0 | 1 | 4.8 |
| Soft tissue pathology | 4 | 8.2 | 3 | 14.3 |
| Adequate keratinized tissue | 9 | 18.4 | 1 | 4.8 |
| None of the above; Periodontal disease and soft tissue pathology are not considered risk factors in AO4 treatment | 4 | 8.2 | 6 | 28.6 |
| **Total** | 31 | 100 | 21 | 100 |
| **Do you obtain digital records?** | | | | |
| Yes | 32 | 76.2 | 20 | 74.1 |
| No | 10 | 23.8 | 7 | 25.9 |
| **Total** | 42 | 100 | 27 | 100 |
| **What do you use to acquire the data for your full-arch impressions?** | | | | |
| Intraoral scanner | 7 | 14.3 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Polyvinylsiloxane material | 27 | 55.1 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Digitized software system | 3 | 6.1 | 3 | 8.6 |
| Intraoral scanner for digital impressions | 3 | 6.1 | - | - |
| I do not take full arch impressions for my AO4 cases | 3 | 6.1 | 3 | 8.6 |
| I do not know anything about full-arch impressions | 3 | 6.1 | 14 | 40 |
| **Total** | 49 | 100 | 35 | 100 |
|  | **Dentists and dental hygienists** | | | |
| **Characteristic** | **N** | | **%** | |
| **What type of digital records do you obtain?** | | | | |
| Clinical digital photographs | 42 | | 80.0 | |
| Occlusal bite registration in maximum intercuspal position | 13 | | 25 | |
| Full-arch impressions | 19 | | 36.5 | |
| CBCT Scan with bite registration | 7 | | 13.5 | |
| CBCT Scan without bite registration | 11 | | 21.2 | |
| Orthopantomography | 26 | | 50 | |
| Full mouth series of radiographs | 38 | | 73.1 | |
| Intraoral scanner for digital impressions | 7 | | 13.5 | |
| **Total** | 52 | | 100 | |