Coronavirus in Dentistry

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A new version of RNA virus called Nova Coronavirus (nCov) spreaded in china, the new version of coronavirus was speeded very fast in China and limited in some countries.

The Coronavirus are well-established pathogens of humans and animals, Coronavirus disease was first described in 1931, with the first coronavirus (HCoV-229E) isolated from humans in 1965. Most coronaviruses spread the same way other cold-causing viruses do through infected people coughing and sneezing, by touching an infected person’s hands or face, or by touching things such as doorknobs that infected people have touched.

Almost everyone gets a coronavirus infection at least once in their life, most likely as a young child. but anyone can come down with a coronavirus infection at any time. There is no Vaccine for coronavirus. to help the people from Coronavirus infection.

It is unclear which type of animal could be the reservoir of nCoV infection, however the original hosts for both SARS and for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) were most likely bats. It is thought that initial infections with nCoV were zoonotic (animal to human infection).

The human coronaviruses can cause serious illnesses involving the lower respiratory tract, such as pneumonia. The major clinical signs and symptoms of nCoV infection are fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. Serious cases can progress to pneumonia and kidney failure. More serious infections occur in older adults, infants and medically frail and immune compromised patients.

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How the dental office is responsible for controlling and minimize spreading of the infection?

Thorough infection control measures - including respiratory hygiene (cough etiquette) are essential to reduce the spread of nCoV infection. Check with the patients if they had:

1. Recent influenza or respiratory illness.
2. Recently came from Abroad especially, chins or any countries had recorded infection.
3. Any friends, member of the family being abroad especially in china or recorded infected countries.
4. Treat the very urgent condition for a patient who has some sign and symptom respiratory infection.
5. All Dental staffs should have the PPE (protective glasses, mask and gloves).
6. Washing hand soap and Inion to with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
7. Keep hands and fingers away from the eyes, nose, and mouth.
8. Avoid close contact with people who are infected.
9. Controlling the gag or cough reflex.
10. Reducing aerosol/splatter generation and managing contaminated air.

The gag or cough reflex may be stimulated by certain procedures, such as posterior intraoral and bite-wing radiographs and taking impressions. Orthopantomographs or oblique lateral views may be considered instead of intraoral radiographs for screening, in case of whereas oral mucosa in very sensitive patients may be anesthetized before taking impressions. Sedation may also be considered to control gag reflex [1-8].

Bibliography

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