

Clinico-statistical Study of the Oral and Maxillofacial Treatments for the Five-year Period from 2001 to 2006 in the Department of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Fukuoka University Hospital

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Abstract : A clinico-statistical study was conducted on the oral and maxillofacial treatments administered since April 2001 in the Department of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Fukuoka University Hospital. Five percent of all cases underwent interventional treatments each year, including 141 patients with exogenous diseases (54.9%) and 116 patients with endogenous disease (45.1%). The treatments were divided into two types. One was for the treatment of traumatic injury to the oral and maxillofacial area, while the other was for problems that occurred in the oral cavity during the general systemic management of the whole body. The oral and maxillofacial injuries included minor traumas such as soft tissue lacerations and tooth luxations that were treated with suturing and fixation under local anesthesia at the time of presentation. The patients with major oral and maxillofacial injuries requiring treatment under general anesthesia received immediate first-aid procedures at the emergency department, and any instances of major surgery were conducted only after the patients had recovered from the critical stage. The general status of each individual patient dictated the timing of surgical intervention. The systemic management of the oral problems included the repair of iatrogenic damage such as tooth mobility and soft tissue injuries by the application of medical appliances in 31.0% of the endotracheally intubated patients. The interventional treatments at the initial stage were thought to prevent such iatrogenic damage. Moreover, patients with originally poor oral hygiene showed a deteriorating oral condition as their general condition had deteriorated. Even such cases had a chance for improvement if good oral hygiene could be initiated during the early intervention period. The results of the current study indicate that the treatment approach that was applied for the patients in the emergency and critical care medicine should be modified in the future toward more preventive measures.

Key words : Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Department of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Fukuoka University Hospital, Traumatic injury, Oral management