

# BDJ Team CPD



## CPD questions March 2024

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### Article: Top tips for managing medical emergencies in primary care



**By Christian Wiggins and Ewen McGill**

**Key points**

- Medical emergencies occur most frequently in primary care.
- Most professionals will encounter medical emergencies in primary care every 1-2 years.
- Healthcare professionals should be trained in the prevention and management of medical emergencies.
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**Top tips**

1. **Prevention and preparation**
  - a. Training plans should be in place.
  - b. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.
  - c. Keep your equipment and where it is.
  - d. Know the location of the nearest hospital.
2. **Recognise and respond**
  - a. Think and double-check are essential.
  - b. Prepare the next step and help to ensure medical assistance and confidence in your team.
  - c. Know your equipment and where it is.
  - d. Know the location of the nearest hospital.
3. **Use checklists**
  - a. Legible.
  - b. Create a plan to facilitate access to your equipment.
  - c. Clear access leader.
  - d. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.
4. **Leadership**
  - a. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.
  - b. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.
  - c. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.
  - d. Know your patient and anticipate their potential medical needs.

**Introduction**

Recent evidence indicates that professionals will encounter medical emergencies in primary care on approximately every 1-2 years. The General Dental Council (GDC) requires that all registrars should be trained in dealing with medical emergencies, including resuscitation, and ensure up to date evidence of skills in dealing with all registrars and follow the guidelines set by the Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK).<sup>1</sup> Considering that conditions can occur in any location, it is essential to ensure that all registrars are prepared to respond to such situations, often when they are not expected. This requires a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of medical emergencies and the ability to respond appropriately. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the signs and symptoms of medical emergencies and the ability to respond appropriately.

**Prevention is always better than cure and communication and recognition of a patient behaving differently to normal can be key.**

**True medical emergencies are challenging in every respect and will require all team members to step outside their comfort zone.**

**CPD questions**

Read this article then answer four multiple-choice questions to earn one free hour of CPD. Visit the CPD Hub at <https://bit.ly/3XuF4Tv> for more information.

### 1. Select the correct statement:

- A. dental professionals encounter medical emergencies in primary dental care approximately every 1-2 months
- B. the GDC states that medical emergency training is optional for registered dental care professionals
- C. in a cross-sectional survey in 2019, only 62% of dental professionals reported undertaking annual medical emergency training
- D. dental professionals will encounter medical emergencies in primary dental care approximately every 1-2 years

### 2. Which items should be kept in the dental practice as a minimum in a medical emergencies kit?

- A. emergency drugs
- B. defibrillator
- C. Bag-Valve-Mask
- D. all of the above

### 3. Which of the following is incorrect?

- A. all members of the dental team should be included in basic life support training, including receptionists
- B. dental teams should train with specially designed medical emergency checklists
- C. the practice principal must be the medical emergency team leader
- D. the dental practice's medical emergency team leader should act as a conduit between the team and emergency services

### 4. Which of the following statements is not made in this article?

- A. when a dental surgery offers sedation, more advanced medical emergency training may be required
- B. it is inappropriate for dental team staff to carry out bodily handling of a patient during a cardiac arrest, or remove their garments
- C. credible medical emergency trainers can offer realistic simulations with useful feedback and debriefing, improving team performance
- D. taking notes during a medical emergency and handing them over to the ambulance team is extremely helpful

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