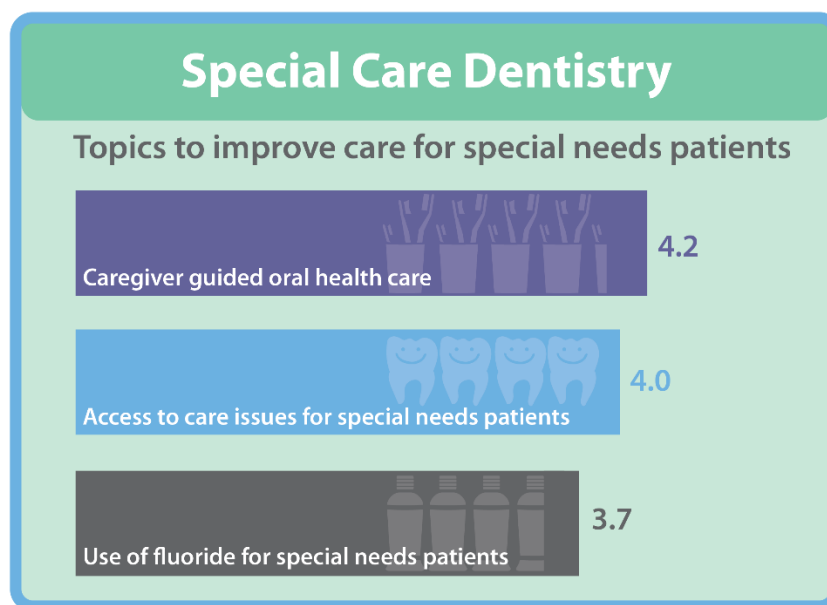


Quick Poll Results: Special Care Dentistry is an Important Topic

Our network recently engaged attendees at the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) 2015 annual meeting in Denver. The SCDA focuses on oral care services for people with physical, medical, development or cognitive conditions that limit their ability to receive routine dental care, and through our February 2016 Quick Poll, we wanted to know our Network's perspectives of a sampling of the issues SCDA attendees viewed important to their practice.



Overall, more than half of Network practitioners (55 percent) saw value in gaining information for the management of patients with special needs. The frequency with which Network practitioners encountered patients with special needs varied. Approximately 25 percent of practitioners saw patients with special needs weekly, 25 percent saw them monthly and 50 percent saw them less frequently. Many practitioners commented that the number of patients they see with special needs is growing and they would like to see more CE available on the topic.

Respondents were also asked to evaluate how important it would be for their practice to learn more about several special care issues. Caregiver guided oral health was a topic of interest for a majority of Network practitioners with 80 percent citing it as 'important' or 'very important.' Similarly, almost 75 percent of respondents felt that it was 'important' or 'very important' to learn more about access to care issues for special needs patients in order to improve their care.

It is clear from this survey that our Network values the care provided to each of our patients and that the Network will be a great help enhancing special care dentistry in the future.