



SWAMI VIVEKANAND  
**SUBHARTI**  
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# SET UP OF PEDIATRIC DENTAL CLINIC



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# INTRODUCTION

Dentistry for children is not different but difficult from what practiced from adults because of a known fact that children are not just miniature adults.

- Dentistry for children is perhaps the most needed and yet the most neglected of all services provided by the dentist.
- Most needed because of the inadequate /unsatisfactory treatment provided during the childhood may damage permanently the entire masticatory apparatus leaving the individual with many of the dental problems which are so common in adult population.
- Most neglected because of the unawareness & indifference to newer concepts of present days of Pedodontics.



- Children do have a good place memory which has advantages & disadvantages.
- Advantage: - children like to be in places & catch-up with people which are fun for them.
- Disadvantage:-don't like to be in places where he/she previously experienced discomfort.
- Medical set up and stereotype which are designed to suit doctors requirements are disliked by the children.
- So, a child friendly dental set up has to be separate from routine dental clinic.



## DEFINITION

Clinic : A place or hospital department where out patients are given medical treatment or advice.



## PRIMARY GOAL

- The dental office should not look like a hospital .”
- Fears
- Colors of dental office should be bright and child friendly.
- Child friendly toys, games and paintings
- First goal is to create a ‘non- hospital’ environment





# PEDODONTIC CLINIC DESIGNING

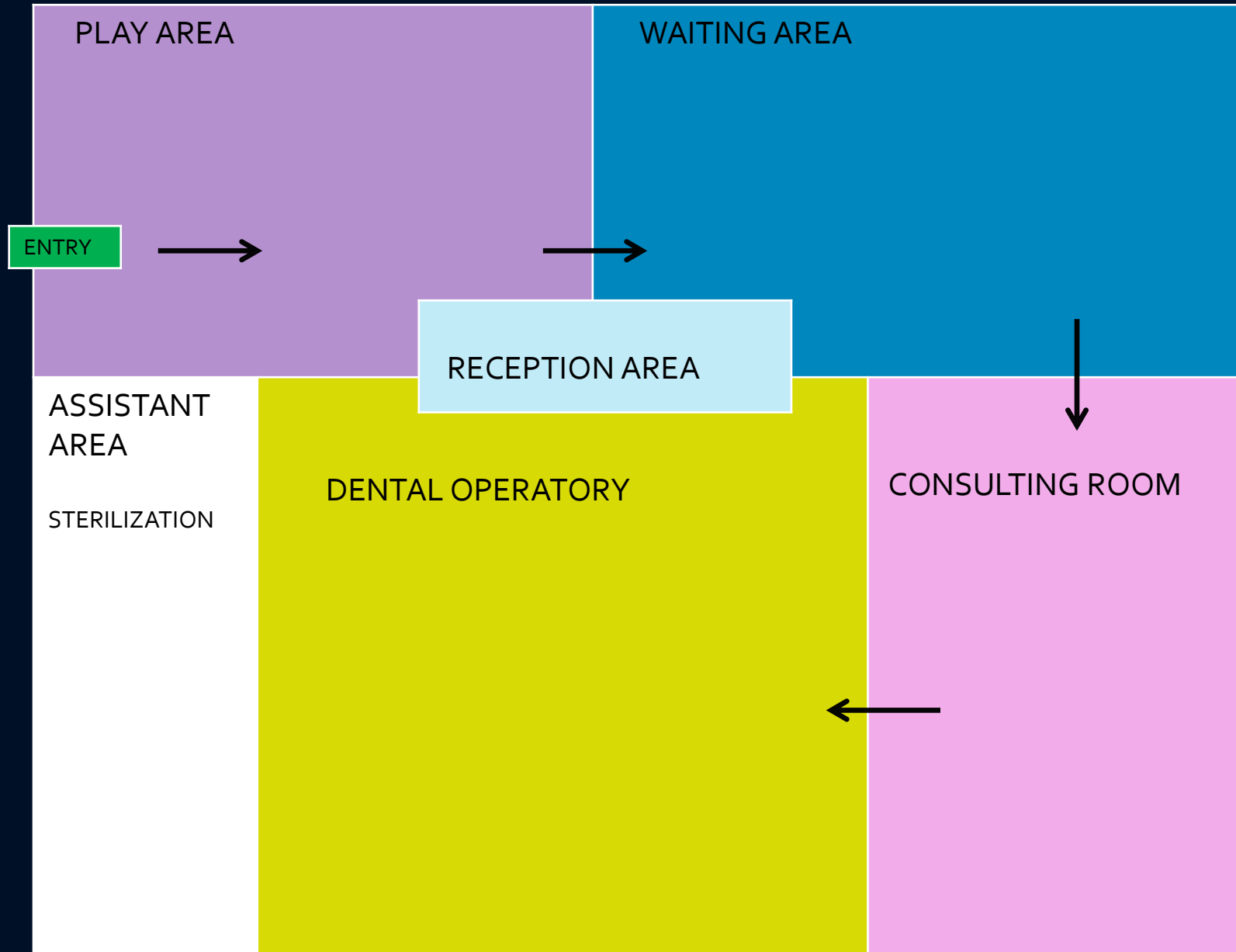
Designing the set-up of the clinic such that

- Children can feel safe ,loved and well cared.
  - Parents can be educated about their children.
  - Staff know that they are an integral part of the practice.
- 
- Before designing the clinic set –up consider
    - Area's social & economic status
    - Transportation & Parking facilities
    - Easy access to schools and residential areas.



To make our dental clinic child friendly the following aspects must be considered :-

- 1) Space provision
- 2) Role of play area
- 3) Waiting area
- 4) Reception at the front desk
- 5) Attire and presentation of the clinic staff
- 6) Health education room
- 7) Colors, smells and sounds
- 8) Audio -visual aids for entertainment
- 9) Aquarium





# SPACE PROVISION

- Free empty spaces
- Do not sit in one place
- Necessary to provide some empty space for them to move around.





# ROLE OF PLAY AREA

- Engage in recreation or have fun
- Spacious play area with drawing boards, bean bag & electronic games make the environment child friendly.
- Wall of play area can be painted with their favorite cartoons, animals, fishes etc.





## RECEPTION AT THE FRONT DESK

- Communication skills
- She/he must call each and every child by his/her name.
- Solid bright colors establish for the child a cheerful feeling of belonging.





## WAITING AREA

- It is of utmost important that a waiting time of a child in the dental clinic is made pleasant.
- Often, children having to wait for long & get bored by the time they are taken for treatment.
- Notice boards in the waiting area
- Cartoon or comic books





# HEALTH EDUCATION ROOM

- Space should be allocated in the dental office
- Instructions to oral hygiene procedures are given
- Demonstration about tooth brushing & flossing should be given.
- Slides , filmstrips , pamphlets , charts & models should be available for proper education.





# ATTIRE AND PRESENTATION OF THE CLINIC STAFF

- Attire of dental staff comprising cap, apron, mask & gloves is certainly not child friendly.
- Meet the child casually and preferably not around dental chair.
- If possible, the consulting room.
- Child is directed to dental chair after showing around clinic & meeting other staff.



# COLORS SMELLS AND SOUNDS

- Children accept bold and bright colors
- Smell of spirit, eugenol, acrylic may not really go well with children.
- Noise of air-rotor hand piece, suction, compressor, ultrasonic cleaner can be disturbing too.





# AUDIO VISUAL AIDS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

- Used in dentistry
- Cartoons & other entertainment programs
- Camera attached to a TV displaying the child on the chair.





# AQUARIUM

- Source of entertainment and may placed either in reception room or in treatment room
- Monitoring the aquarium & maintaining the aquarium cleanliness should be done.





# ADDITIONAL FEATURES

## 1. Location

- Designed to minimize potential negative visual stimuli
- Fear provoking instruments should be located in inconspicuous positions
- Location & size of the equipment must permit the dentist & the patient to remain comfortable for long periods



- Sinks should be at graduated height
- Dental chair should be narrower & thin backed

## 2.Design of equipment

- A sufficient number of instruments, mouth props should be available
- Foot controlled or automatic fanecets for operatory sinks
- Trash container
- Very accessible sterilization



## ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR DENTAL OFFICE

| External/Internal Building Features | Gradient                               | Length                                    | Width   | Surface, Other Specifics  |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Parking space                       | 1:50 max slope                         | Standard                                  | Auto: 96 inches<br>Van: 144 inches              | Nonskid, paved, sign-posted, adjacent to walkway  |
| Walkway                             | 1:12 max slope                         | Not applicable                            | 36 inches                                       | Nonskid, no obstructions, overhangs, smooth   |
| Passenger loading zone              | Flat                                   | 20 feet                                   | 60 inches                                       | Same as above   |
| Curb ramps                          | 1:12 max slope                         |   | 36 inches                                       | Nonskid, side flair <1:10 slope   |
| Door                                | 5-foot entrance and exit platform area | Standard                                  | 32-inch minimum; preferably 36 inches           | Away from prevailing winds, lever with 10-lb pull, auto-assisted door available, kick plate |
| Interior ramp                       | 1:20 max slope                         | 72-inch minimum Length if rise > 6 inches | 36 inches                                       | Nonskid, handrails  |
| Wheelchair lift                     | Bilevel                                | 8-foot max drop                           | 36x48 inches                                    | Nonskid, dependent on specific chair  |
| Corridor                            |  | Standard                                  | 48 inches/64 inches                             | New facility, no obstacles  |
| Flooring thresholds                 | Flat, firm carpet                      | Not applicable                            | half-inch maximum thickness                     | No doormats, level  |
| Signs                               | Braille, raised letters                | Above 5 feet                              | Readable  | Near latch of office door   |
| Waiting room                        | Flat                                   | Standard                                  | 36-inch aisle<br>One cleared area: 36x52 inches | No carpet pad, well insulated, minimum low-frequency background noise                       |
| Restrooms                           | Flat                                   |   | 32-inch stall min, preferably 36 inches         | Nonskid, magnetic catch door  |
| Public telephone                    | No higher than 4 feet                  | 3 feet above floor                        | 26-inch clearance                               | Phone directory near phone, adjustable volume control                                       |
| Elevator                            | Flat                                   |   | 54X68 inches                                    | Nonskid, call and control box 48 inches high, include Braille or incised letters            |
| Operatory                           | Flat 8x10 feet                         | Standard                                  | 32- to 36-inch door                             | Nonskid, rotating or movable chair, drill, and suction                                      |

Adapted from Bill DI, Weddell JA. Dental office access for patients with disabling conditions, *Spec Care Dentist* 6:246-252, 1986.



# SPECIAL OFFICE FOR SPECIAL CHILD

Definition :-

“ A handicapped person, as defined by section 503 & 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, refers to any person who “has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities such as caring of one's self, performing such normal tasks as walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, learning & working.”



## Reasons for not treating handicapped persons in private practice

- 1) Too much time is required
- 2) Patient may have a life threatening medical emergency
- 3) Procedures are too difficult
- 4) Dentist has not received special training
- 5) Dentist fears dealing with handicapped person
- 6) Patients usually require hospitalization



## OFFICE LOCATION

- Ground floor
- Stairways or an elevator –presents problems
- Selection of surrounding area



# PARKING

- Often presents a problem
- Reserved space should be provided
- Designed for easy loading & unloading of wheelchairs
- Specific requirements for parking spaces

standard space - 96 to 108 inches

extra width space – 144 inches



# DOORWAYS

- Minimum opening of 32 inches
- Adjacent areas on either side of door
- Mechanism of the door operated
- Doormats should be removed



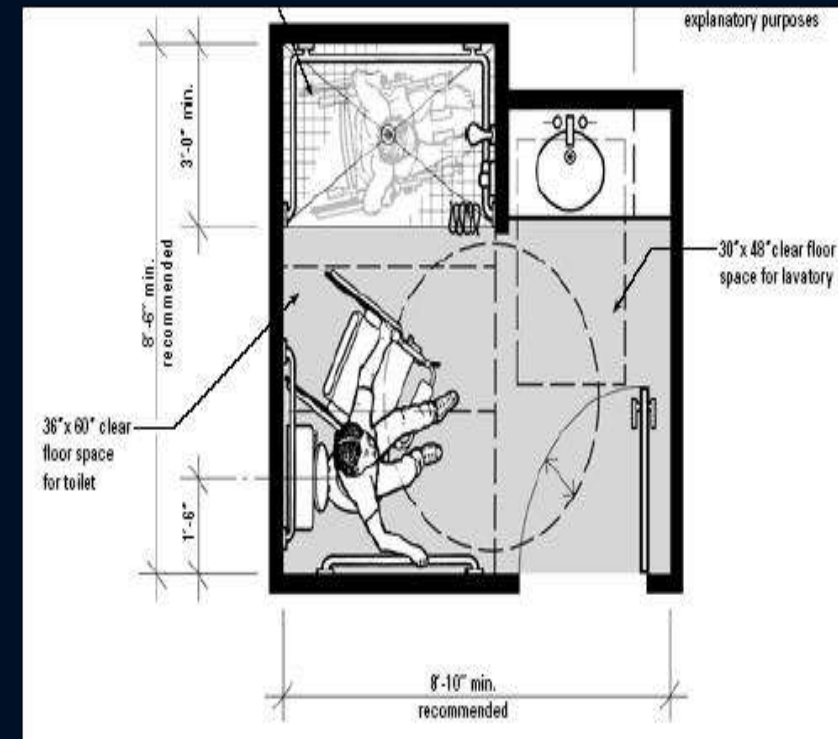
## FLOOR SURFACE

- Nonskid surfaces
- Interior office floors covered with nonskid materials
- Use of thick carpets and rugs should be avoided
- Audible signals used for blind persons
- Raised –letter visual signs for deaf persons



## REST ROOM

- Toilet seats – approximate height of wheel chair
- Handrails must be sturdy & properly located
- Space provision
- Wash basins not higher than 34 inches from floor
- Provide a storage shelf, towel dispenser, lowered or tilt mirror





## WATER FOUNTAIN

- Should located no higher than 32 inches above floor

## TELEPHONES

- Telephone accessible to handicapped
- Located no more than 32 inches above floor

## RECEPTION ROOM

- Adequate space in reception
- Chairs of varying heights should be available
- Communication with the receptionist



## TREATMENT ROOM

- Key word - **FLEXIBILITY**
- Newer dental chairs are extremely maneuverable for transfer of patient from wheelchair to dental chair
- Complete mobility of equipment
- Analgesia machine, unit, suction, cabinets, stools, and work surfaces are stored away from the center of the room until they are to be used.



# SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT

## *Wheelchair Headrest*

- Adjustable headrest attaches to the handgrips on back of wheelchair
- Provides secure, comfortable, head support for patients
- Procedures on mandibular teeth – approach is from front
- Procedures on maxillary teeth – stool should be elevated and approached from 11 o' or 1 o' clock position





## *Molt mouth prop*

- Used in general anesthesia cases
- Used in conscious patient who has compromised muscle strength
- Used in cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease

**Caution :-** Temporomandibular joint dislocation

- Rest for every 10 to 15 minutes



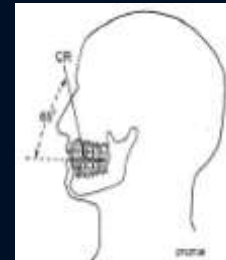


# *Radiographic techniques*

- Most of the handicapped individuals – intraoral radiography
- Conditions like neuromuscular diseases, mental retardation, & spinal injuries

- Techniques like

1) anterior occlusal projection



2) lateral jaw projection



3) buccal bitewing projection

4) Snap-A-Ray



## CONCLUSION

- It is important to plant seeds for the future dental health early in life and to promote positive dental health early in life and to promote positive approach towards dentistry during childhood.
- So a pediatric dentist has a play role in order to facilitate the clinical atmosphere which is child friendly.
- Child friendliness in a set-up can be distinguishing feature of such a clinic & children may be brought to it by parents undergoing treatment.
- Such visits could help reduce fears related to dentistry in a child's mind & prepare him/her better for a treatment visit, if required anytime later.”



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Thank  
You

