

# Pre-treatment protocols - POPsPA

The number of technical innovations keeps growing. Keeping up to date and dealing with so many options is difficult for a clinical dentist, who makes a living from the private office. There are few studies about the success of techniques associated with the use of productivity management techniques. And we ask ourselves why the success achieved in some treatments is not the same for all patients.

The problem does not lie only on technique and training. We should add knowledge of production engineering, business management and process management to these other two success factors.

In this article, we discuss the importance of pre-care protocols. Why is it better to be ready or almost ready for patient care? **Why do I use these protocols?**

## APPOINTMENT TIME

For those that provide a service, good care is the differential advantage that will ensure success. In Dentistry, good care is not limited to a satisfactory treatment outcome; I think that care itself should be a brief and smooth experience. The less time patients have to keep their mouth open, sitting on the chair, the better for everyone, dentists and patients. Planning the visit only when the patient arrives or is already on the chair leads to longer appointment times and dissatisfaction!

## CHOOSING THE BEST TECHNIQUE AND USING THE LEAST MATERIAL IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS.

Figure 1 shows a phase 2 pre-care protocol to prepare the tooth and take the impression for a new crown. The protocol should be prepared according to your choice of material and technique. The less material, the greater the chances of your success being repeated.

It is necessary to set up the room and take photographs of how it

should be organized before the visit begins, so that you do not have to stop to look for something that is far from the area where care will be provided.

Pre-care protocols are divided into two types:

1. Before the patient enters the clinical room — phase 1;
1. Before the patient “opens the mouth” — phase 2.

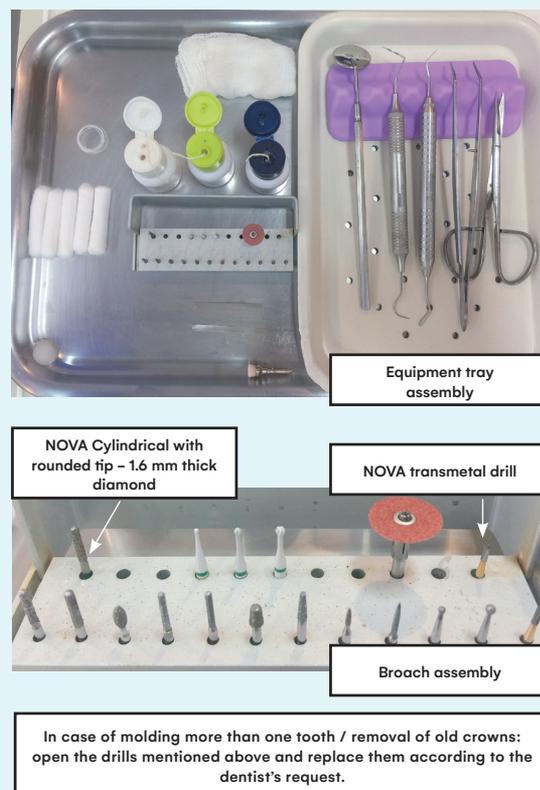


Figure 1: POP PA Stage 2 of preparation and molding.

## PHASE 1 PRE-CARE PROTOCOLS – BEFORE THE PATIENT ARRIVES

The pre-care protocol we are more familiar with is the cleaning and setting up for the next visit: without it, it is not possible to begin any procedure. Depending on your patient and protocol size, give a detailed description of what has to be done, or prepare a checklist with the main steps (Fig. 2). Different protocols may be prepared according to the type of visit or procedure. For the most common, such as prophylaxis, direct resin restorations and impressions, endodontics and third molar extractions, there should be previously written protocols. Some procedures will have different protocols for phases 1 and 2. Honestly, it is nerve-racking when you are focused on beginning a treatment, operating light is on, and then, when you press the foot control, the motor does not work, or there is no water!

## THE SHOW IS ABOUT TO START: PHASE 2 OF PRE-CARE PROTOCOLS

Open-mouth time and anesthesia time are constant concerns during our procedures. Pre-care protocols ensure that the whole procedure is conducted without missing one single step due to lack of planning. Everything contributes to success when the procedure is synchronized.

Figure 3 shows the materials that I need to fabricate a fiber post and some alternatives for this procedure. A written description and photos of your choices may make a substantial difference during the procedure. All together, today I have 22 pre-care protocols. This ensures office productivity and reduces errors.

Until next article!

### CHECKLIST – PREPARATION BETWEEN APPOINTMENTS

#### 1. Disinfection:

- ✓ Paramentation
- ✓ Discard garbage
- ✓ Place reusable materials in the exit screen
- ✓ Clean with Perfix, water and soap
- ✓ Rub the disinfectant with paper towels
- ✓ Remove used karts and trays for supply.

#### 2. Arrangement:

- ✓ Bring the next patient's file, the work box and the entry screen in the supply kart.
- ✓ Computer: open the patient's profile in the CG system, Sidexix (open last panoramic), Carestream and digital folder (most recente photograph of the smiling face).
- ✓ Supply of drawers
- ✓ Tip testing and barrier placement
- ✓ Arrangement + Perioplak + Napkin
- ✓ Flavoring
- ✓ Complete appointment checklist
- ✓ Clean and tidy up the office

Figure 2: Preparation checklist between appointments.



Figure 3: POP PA for the fiber pin.

#### MARCO ANTONIO GUEDES<sup>1,2</sup>

1. Especialista em Prótese Dental, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Rio de Janeiro/RJ, Brazil).
2. Especialista em Implantodontia, Pontifícia Universidade Católica (Rio de Janeiro/RJ, Brazil).

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14436/2447-911x.16.2.166-167,peu>

How to cite: Guedes MA. Pre-treatment protocols. J Clin Dent Res. 2019 May–Aug;16(2):166–7.

Submitted: March 14, 19 – Revised and accepted: May 06, 19