

## Management of a 58-year-old patient with a complex medical history requiring Oral Surgery treatment in secondary care

**Prabjot Garcha**

*Eastman Dental Hospital, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom*

### Aim:

To discuss how a patient taking a combination of an immunosuppressant, bisphosphonate, glucocorticoid and anti TNF- $\alpha$  drug was managed prior to a tooth extraction in secondary care. To also discuss the importance of seeking advice and communicating with other practitioners, in this case the patients' Rheumatologist, to ensure the delivery of high levels of clinical care and patient safety.

**Key Findings:** The reinforced importance and relevance of taking a thorough medical history and researching uncommon drugs and drug combinations. There was a significantly increased risk of Medication Related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ) in this case. The level of immunosuppression was highly relevant and essential need for necessary pre-operative steps was key to mitigate any risks.

### Reflection:

An educational but challenging case to manage that highlights and reinforces the importance of communicating well with practitioners to ensure that necessary steps are taken pre, peri and post operatively to mitigate all presenting risks and for patient safety.

There is little research into the effects of the anti TNF- $\alpha$  drug,

Certolizumab Pegol, on dental procedures and this could benefit from further exploration to allow patients and practitioners to be better informed about the risks relating to dental procedures when taking this drug.

### Recent Publications:

Virdee J, Garcha P, Koshal S and Savla A. Accepting the COVID-19 vaccine: supporting informed decision making. How do healthcare staff feel about the COVID-19 vaccine? Faculty Dental Journal, Royal College of Surgeons. July 2021. Volume 12: Issue 3.

### Biography

Prabjot Garcha is a Dental Core Trainee 2 in Paediatric Dentistry at Eastman Dental Hospital, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. She obtained her Bachelor of Dental Surgery at the University of Birmingham and has previously worked as a Dental Core Trainee 1 in Oral Surgery and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the same trust. She is hoping to pursue a career in Orthodontics.

Prabjot.garcha@gmail.com