### **D-Termined Program of Repetitive Tasking and Familiarization in Dentistry**

Dr. Tesini:

This first session represents a very typical first session with a child with autism. Karen, the dental assistant and the mom are teaching Collin to enter the operatory and sit appropriately in the chair. Let us watch more of that first session with Collin. We'll speed up some of the sections in the interest of time.

Speaker 2:

Oh yeah, come on up. Okay big guy. Sit in my chair now. Sit. Can you sit up? Collin, can you sit up?

Collin:

I want to get down. Mommy.

Speaker 2:

Sit up like a big boy. Sit up. Okay sit honey, sit honey. How’s that? Put your legs out. Come on big guy. Okay. Now. Listen, Collin. Do you want to go down?

Dr. Tesini:

You will see that it takes a good dose of patience to repetitively work with the child until he starts to get the hang of it and what is being asked of him, but the effort is well worth it. This footage is good representation of the first step of the D-Termined Program and that we have divided the skill into just the first step of coming into the operatory and being seated. We stay with that until the child can reliably repeat that step when he comes in for a visit. Once the child has mastered the first step, then we move on to the next step and subsequently to the next step until the child is able to accept all of the specific procedures that are involved. At each step of the learning curve it's important that we demonstrate the skill. Usually when we say this, we mean that we're going to get help from the dental professional, the dental assistant, or the dental hygienist. But in this particular case we got some help from Collin's older brother who also was diagnosed with an autistic disorder and had completed the familiarization, repetitive tasking of the D-Termined Program.

Dr. Tesini:

Atta boy.

Speaker 4:

How do you put your head back?

Dr. Tesini:

Put your head back and show him how you put your feet out straight, Sean.

Speaker 4:

Put your feet out straight Sean.

Dr. Tesini:

Put your feet out straight and hands on your tummy. Do you remember?

Speaker 4:

Where your hands go Sean?

Dr. Tesini:

Where do your good hands go? Atta boy. Look, Collin.

Speaker 4:

Oh Sean, do you have your hands on your tummy?

Dr. Tesini:

And watch. Can we show-

Speaker 4:

Cover, cover, cover.

Dr. Tesini:

So show Collin how we go down.

Sean:

I covered my mouth.

Dr. Tesini:

You did. You did a great job. Look, Collin and watch how he goes up and look he keeps his feet out straight and his hands on his tummy.

Speaker 4:

Keep your hands on your tummy. He's a good boy.

Speaker 6:

So the next step is to drill the skill. Can you explain that one to us?

Dr. Tesini:

It simply means that the patient will repeat the skill over and over again until they have mastered it. I think the film will speak for itself. Look at me. Put your head back. Atta boy. Remember the mirror? Look. Do you remember the mirror Bren? Put your hands on your tummy. Hands on your tummy. That a boy. Good boy. Look at the mirror. One, two, three, four. Okay, good job. Can we put our head back in the pillow? That a boy. Can you put your head all the way back and hands on your tummy? Good. One, two, three, four. Hands on your tummy. Five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Very good. Okay, Bren, let's try it again. Put your head all the way back.

Speaker 7:

Legs out straight.

Dr. Tesini:

Very good. Hands on your tummy.

Speaker 7:

Good boy.

Dr. Tesini:

Open up real big for me. Big, big, big.

Speaker 7:

Big Bren, big.

Dr. Tesini:

There we go.

Speaker 7:

Really big.

Dr. Tesini:

There we go. One, two, open up real big-

Speaker 7:

Bren, open. So we can be done. Come on buddy, open.

Dr. Tesini:

Four, five, six, seven, open up real big, eight, nine, ten. Hands on your tummy. Very good.

Speaker 8:

Good job, Bren. You did great. One more time. You’re doing good Bren.

Speaker 7:

Legs out straight. Hands on your tummy.

Dr. Tesini:

All right Bren here we go. Let's count your teeth.

Speaker 7:

Open big.

Dr. Tesini:

Open up real big.

Speaker 7:

Open big, honey bun.

Dr. Tesini:

Can you say, ah? Open up real big. Can you open?

Speaker 8:

Open your mouth, Bren.

Dr. Tesini:

Look at me, open up real big. Big, big, big. Open up real big.

Speaker 8:

He follows instruction if you say, ‘Do this and show him what to do.’

Dr. Tesini:

Okay. Hey Bren, can you do this? Good boy.

Speaker 7:

Good boy.

Dr. Tesini:

Can you do this? Look at me. Look at me. Do this. Good. Ah.

Speaker 8:

More ahhh, Bren.

Dr. Tesini:

One, two, three. Alright. That’s it. Great job. Eight. Nine. Oh, we're doing terrific. Open up real big. Ah. Ah. Atta boy.

Speaker 8:

Good job, Bren.

Dr. Tesini:

Hands on your tummy. It's okay, Bren.

Speaker 8:

Good boy.

Dr. Tesini:

Very good. Look at me, Bren. Open up real big like this. Open up real big like this. That a boy. Open up real big.

Speaker 8:

Ahhhh.

Speaker 7:

No, hands down.

Speaker 8:

You're doing good, Bren.

Speaker 7:

You’re doing awesome.

Dr. Tesini:

There we go. Now wait, can you stay right there in the chair? Look at me. Put your head back. Put your feet out straight. Look at me. Hey, Bren. Bren. Look at me. We're all done. Look at me. But we're going to sit up now. Hold on tight. Look at me.

Speaker 8:

Hold on. Going for a ride, Bren.

Dr. Tesini:

Look at me. We're going to put the chair up. Okay? Feet out straight. That a boy.

Speaker 8:

Good job.

Dr. Tesini:

Good job!