Oral Health Interventions for Patients with Three Stages of Dementia

After reading Marchini et al. article, complete the chart below with appropriate oral health interventions for patients with each of the three different stages of dementia.

* Marchini, L., Ettinger, R., Caprio, T., & Jucan., A. (2019). Oral health care for patients with Alzheimer's disease: An update. *Special Care in Dentistry,* 39(3):262-273. doi: 10.1111/scd.12375

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| **Stage** | **Characteristics** | **Intervention** | **Student Intervention** |
| Mild | * Duration 2-3 years * Memory impairment * Difficulty performing complex tasks and learning new tasks * Can still do ADLs | Maintenance   * Oral exam * Oral hygiene * Oral hygiene devices   Treatment   * Short visits for prophylaxis q 6 mo (cleaning & X-rays) * Fluoride varnish to prevent tooth decay |  |
| Moderate | * Duration 2-10 years * Language deficits * Needs help with ADLs * Sundowning is common | Focus on maintenance   * Oral exam * Oral hygiene * Oral hygiene adaptive devices * Provide oral hygiene guidance for caregivers as ADL capacity decreases   Treatment   * Short visits for prophylaxis q 6 mo (cleaning & X-rays) * Fluoride varnish/silver diamine fluoride to prevent tooth decay |  |
| **Stage** | **Characteristics** | **Intervention** | **Student Intervention** |
| Severe | * Duration 2-5 years * Severe language and cognitive deficits * Totally dependent on caregivers * May be unmanageable | Focus on maintenance   * Oral exam * Oral hygiene * Oral hygiene adaptive devices * Provide oral hygiene guidance for caregivers as ADL capacity decreases   Treatment   * Transportation arrangements may be needed for dental appointments * Bedside dental treatment may be necessary * Sedation may be needed * Short visits for prophylaxis q 6 mo (cleaning & X-rays) * Fluoride varnish/silver diamine fluoride to prevent tooth decay |  |