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Editorial

Tooth bug catcher - A new euphemism for endodontic files in children

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Behavior management in pediatric dentistry is sketchily done by two means, non-pharmacological and pharmacological. The 'pharmacological' refers to drug, pharmacy etc. and when these drugs or pharmacy is involved in controlling behavior of the child, it is known as pharmacological means of behavior management. It is usually done by nitrous oxide conscious sedation or general anaesthesia. And, when no drug or pharmacological means are involved, it is known as non-pharmacological method. This involves lot of techniques and methods and is always the first step of managing behavior of children in Pediatric Dentistry. The fundamental and universal technique in this category is communication, both verbal and non-verbal. Communication is simply defined as the way of exchanging ideas with each other.¹ The way in which a pediatric dentist communicates with the child patient, lays the cornerstone of child behavior management in pediatric dental practice. Fear and anxiety are two emotions that can be ebbed by proper communication. The message from the operator to the child should be clear, precise and in simple words. And, there comes the use of 'Euphemisms' in picture.

Euphemisms are substitute words used in place of scientific words, which are difficult to comprehend by the child to make him understand the procedure in a simple way. It is also known as a second language. It is an imperative fragment of non-pharmacological means of behavior management in pediatric dentistry. There are a lot

of euphemisms used in dentistry for children as follows:^{2,3}

Scientific word	Euphemism
Caries	Sugar bugs
Local Anaesthesia	Sleepy water/ medicine
Impression material	Pudding
Rubber dam	Rain coat
Rubber dam clamp	Tooth button
Rubber dam frame	Coat rack
Sealant	Tooth paint
Study models	Statues
X-ray machine	Camera
Radiograph	Picture
Handpiece	Whistling train
Stainless steel crown	Hat for the tooth
Bur	Brush/ Pencil
Suction/ Evacuator	Vacuum cleaner
Fluoride varnish	Tooth vitamins
Air syringe	Wind gun
Water syringe	Water gun
Endodontic files in children	Tooth Bug Catcher ⁴

A new euphemism, 'Tooth Bug Catcher' for 'Endodontic files used for root canal treatment in young children' is now added to the literature of pediatric dentistry by Vipin Ahuja and Annapurna Ahuja (Registered in the Copyright Office, Government of India with registration no. L-104586/2021).⁴ At the outset, Euphemisms are a collection of simple words which are also known as substitute words used frequently in dentistry for children.

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Conflict of Interest

None.

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