

# Use of a Neurobehavioral Tool to Treat SHCN Children in a Dental Setting

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## INTRODUCTION

Patients with special needs often face difficulty in accessing dental care. The dental environment can be overwhelming for patients with special needs or sensory issues

Bee Mindful is a program developed at Cohen Children's Medical Center (CCMC) to help these patients. Since its introduction to the dental office setting at CCMC, it may be underutilized. Bee Mindful utilizes a Neurobehavioral assessment tool which is an assessment and intervention tool that individualizes care and provides continuity.

## Purpose

- ❖ This study was conducted to assess the utilization of the Bee Mindful program as a useful tool in the quality of care in the outpatient dental setting.
- ❖ A secondary aim was to spread awareness of its usefulness in hopes that it can be adopted in other outpatient settings.

## METHODS

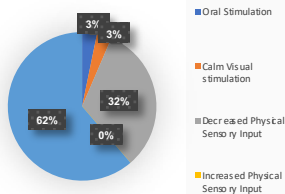
Data was collected from the Bee Mindful sensory tool sign-out book in our pediatric dental department.

Data for each patient was collected regarding:

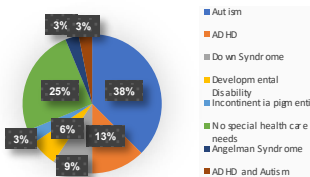
- ❖ Frankl score
- ❖ Frequency of Bee Mindful tool used
- ❖ Bee Mindful alert notification on chart

## RESULTS

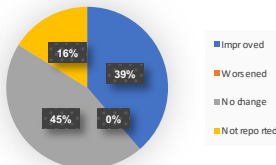
Categories of Bee Mindful Uses Compared In Frequency of Use



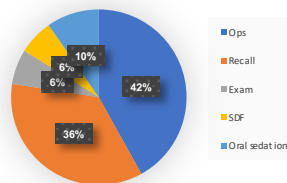
Special Needs Diagnosis Bee Mindful Has Been Used For



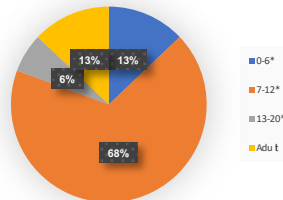
Behavior Change Observed While Using Bee Mindful



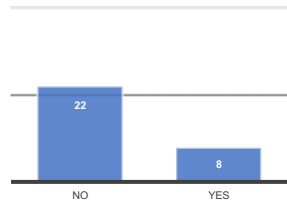
Appointment Type



Age Range



Bee Mindful Alert Utilization



## CONCLUSION/DISCUSSION

- ❖ Length of stay has decreased by an average of 2 days at CCMC inpatient services.
- ❖ Most frequent category utilized from the Bee Mindful cart was active hand and body/anxious fidgeting tool kit
- ❖ Most frequent appointment type was operative procedures
- ❖ Most common diagnosis was Autism
- ❖ Most frequently seen age range was 7-12 years old
- ❖ No patient behavior worsened with Bee Mindful
- ❖ Bee Mindful Alert was utilized in 8 out of 30 patients
- ❖ Bee Mindful is being underutilized in the dental setting. Increased use of the Bee Mindful alert may lead to greater usage and a better patient experience

## REFERENCES

<https://beemindful.northwell.edu/>

Avis, M., & Reardon, R. (2008). Understanding the views of parents of children with special needs about the nursing care their child receives when in hospital: a qualitative study. *Journal of Child Health Care*, 12(1), 7-17.

Agrawal, R., & Antonelli, R. C. (2011). Hospital-based programs for children with special health care needs: Implications for health care reform. *Archives of pediatrics & adolescent medicine*, 165(6), 570-572.

Cohen, E., Jovcevska, V., Kuo, D. Z., & Mahant, S. (2011). Hospital-based comprehensive care programs for children with special health care needs: a systematic review. *Archives of pediatrics & adolescent medicine*, 165(6), 554-561.

