Dental Ethics

Lecture 3

Patient's Best Interest

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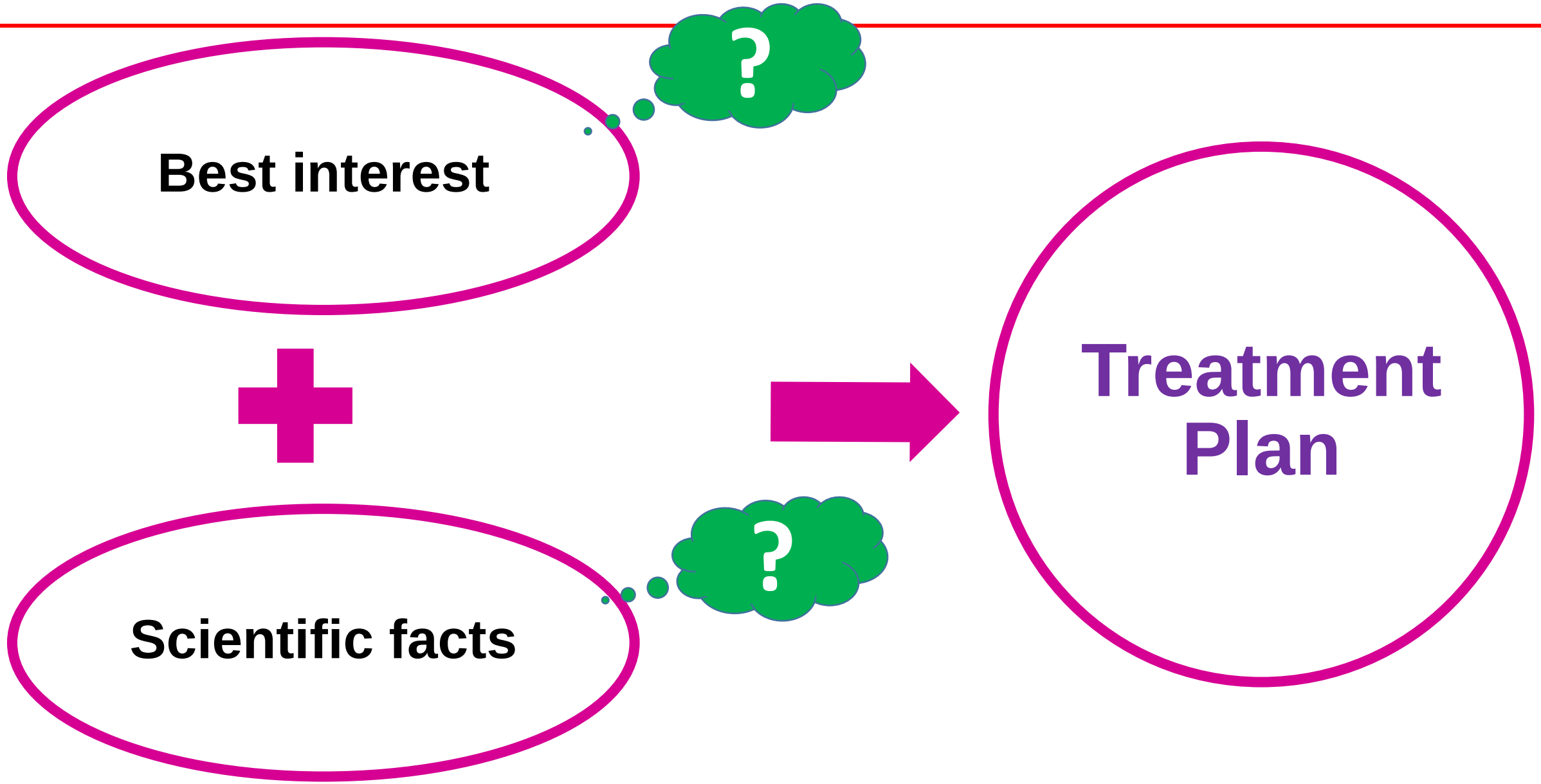
Treatment Plan:

✓ **Patient must be involved in treatment plan decision**

✓ **Treatment plan is based on:**

1. The patient’s best interest
2. Scientific facts.

Treatment Plan:

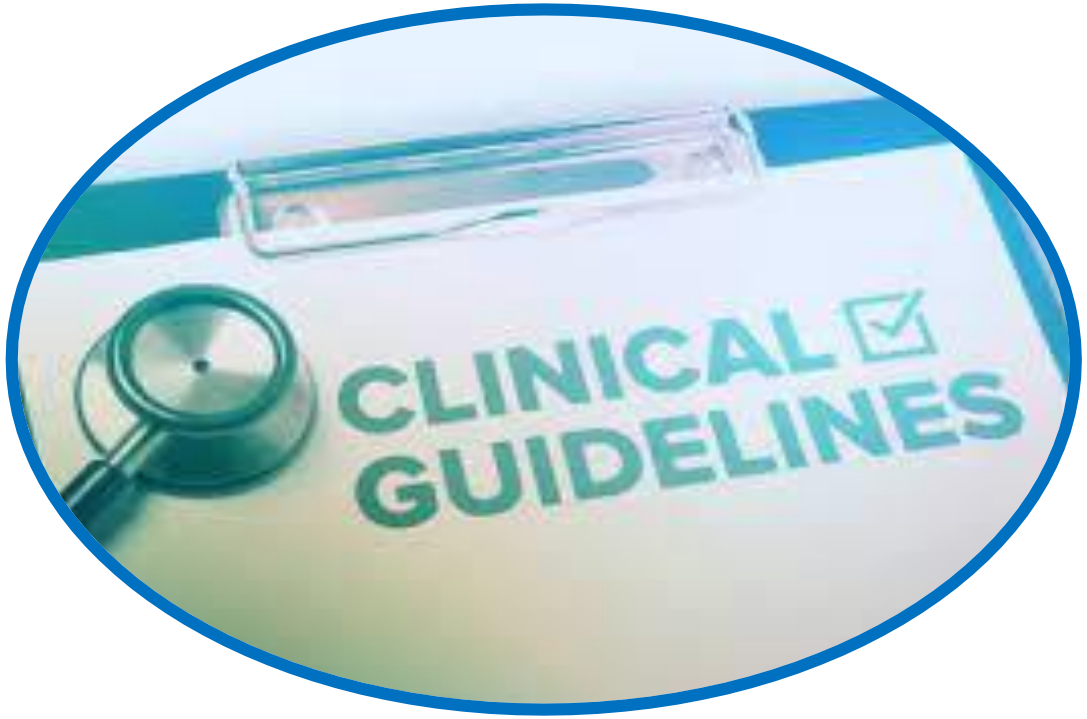


Patient's Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ The treatment given to the patient must follow the **clinical guidelines** that are relevant to the individual case.

- ✓ Providing the patient with appropriate dental health **advice**

Patient's Best Interest Guideline





1. Relevant clinical guidelines

2. Dental health advice

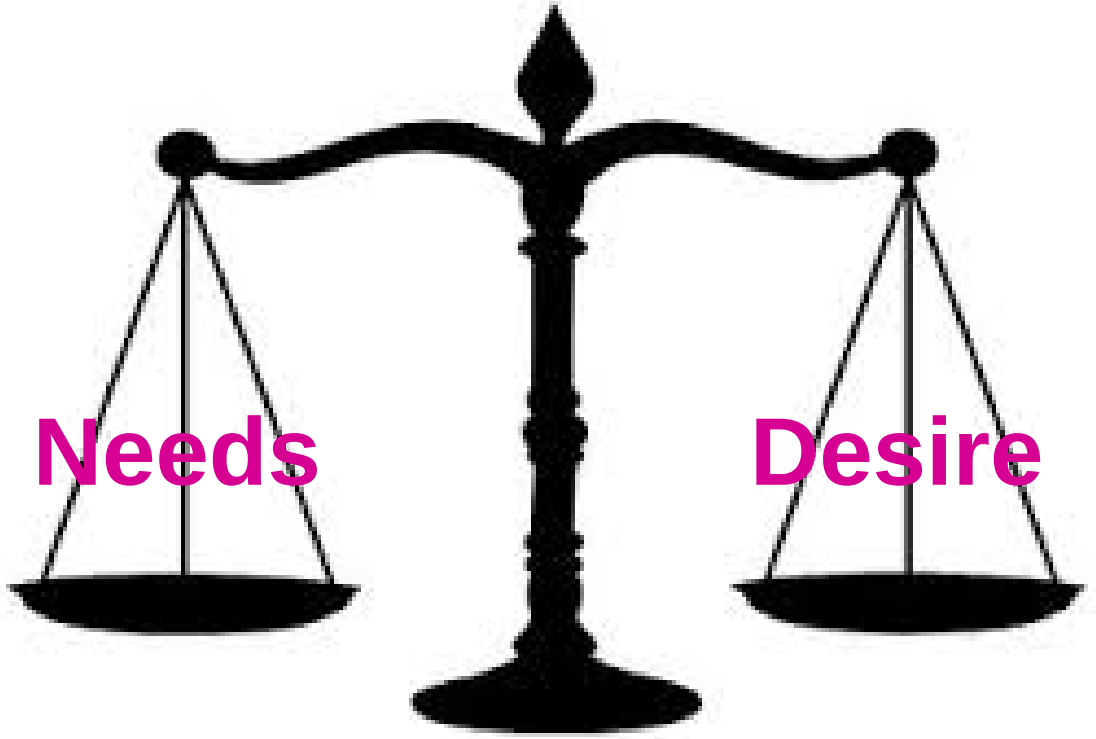
Patient’s Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ The treatment given to patients must be in their **best interests**
- ✓ There's also often a need to **weigh up their health** needs with what they want to get from the treatment

Patient's Best Interest Guideline



3. Best interests



4. Weigh

Patient's Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ If the treatment is not in the patient best interests, you need to help them reach a decision by **explaining** the various risks, benefits and outcomes

- ✓ You must always put your **patients' interests before** any financial, personal benefit.

Patient’s Best Interest Guideline



5. Patient best interests



6. Personal benefit.

Patient's Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ You must make clear to your patients which treatments can be provided **freely** and which can only be provided on a **private** basis.
- ✓ You must **not pressurize** patients (يضغط على المريض) into having private treatment if it is available to them freely

Patient’s Best Interest Guideline



VS



7. Make clear

8. Pressurize patients

Patient's Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ When you are **referring patients** to another member of the dental team, you must make sure that the referral is made in the patients' best interests rather than for your own financial benefit.
- ✓ If you believe that **patients might be at risk** because of your health, or professional, you must take rapid and appropriate action.

Patient’s Best Interest Guideline



9. Referring



10. patient at risk

Patient’s Best Interest Guideline

- ✓ You must refuse any **gifts**, payment or hospitality if accepting them could affect, or could appear to affect, your professional judgment.

- ✓ No dental professional should be forced to provide treatment which is **against their considered professional opinion** and which they consider is not in the patient's best interest.

Patient’s Best Interest Guideline



11. Forced



12. Gifts