

Clinical Risk Assessment

Introduction

Clinical rationale



What is Dental Caries?

- Caries is an infectious disease
- Cavities result when pathogenic risk factors prevail over protective factors
- 75% of cavities are found in 8% of children
- Progression is entirely preventable
- Identify risk, individualize prevention

Caries Management: A New Model of Identification and Treatment

Objective:

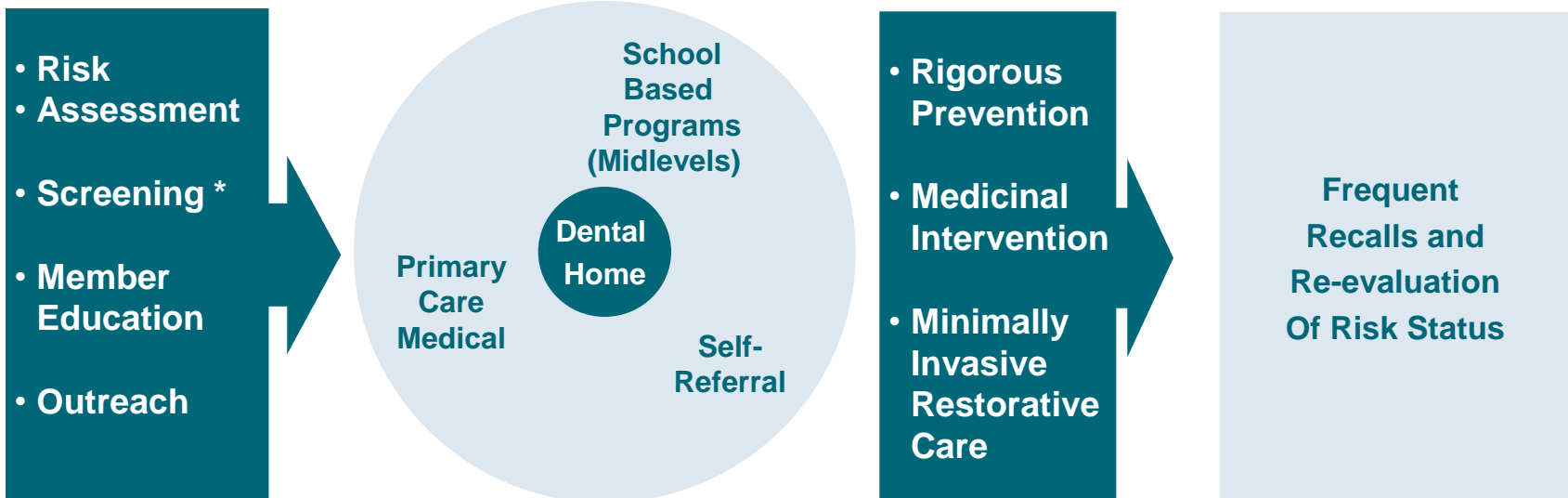
- Move beyond the historical model of surgically treating the damage caused by caries, to treating caries as a disease through prevention, early detection and conservative treatment

Identify the Child

Refer the Child

Treat the Child

Maintain the Child



* Including pregnant and post pregnant caregivers

Understanding Risk: Risk Factors vs. Protective Factors



Caries Risk Factors:

- Previous history of caries
- Parent/caregiver history of caries
- Heavy plaque
- Frequent Snacking
- Deep pits or fissures on teeth
- Low salivary flow
- Exposed roots
- Orthodontics Appliances

Caries Protective Factors:

- Fluoridated Water
- Use of fluoridated toothpaste daily
- Topical fluoride application (varnish) w/in last 6 months
- Fluoride mouthrinses at home
- Xylitol sprays, mouthrinses, lozenges or gum daily
- Chlorohexidine rinses as needed
- Adequate salivary flow

**Patient
Risk**

Clinical Risk Assessment: A Patient Centered Approach



Risk vs. Protective Factors
Biological and demographic
considerations

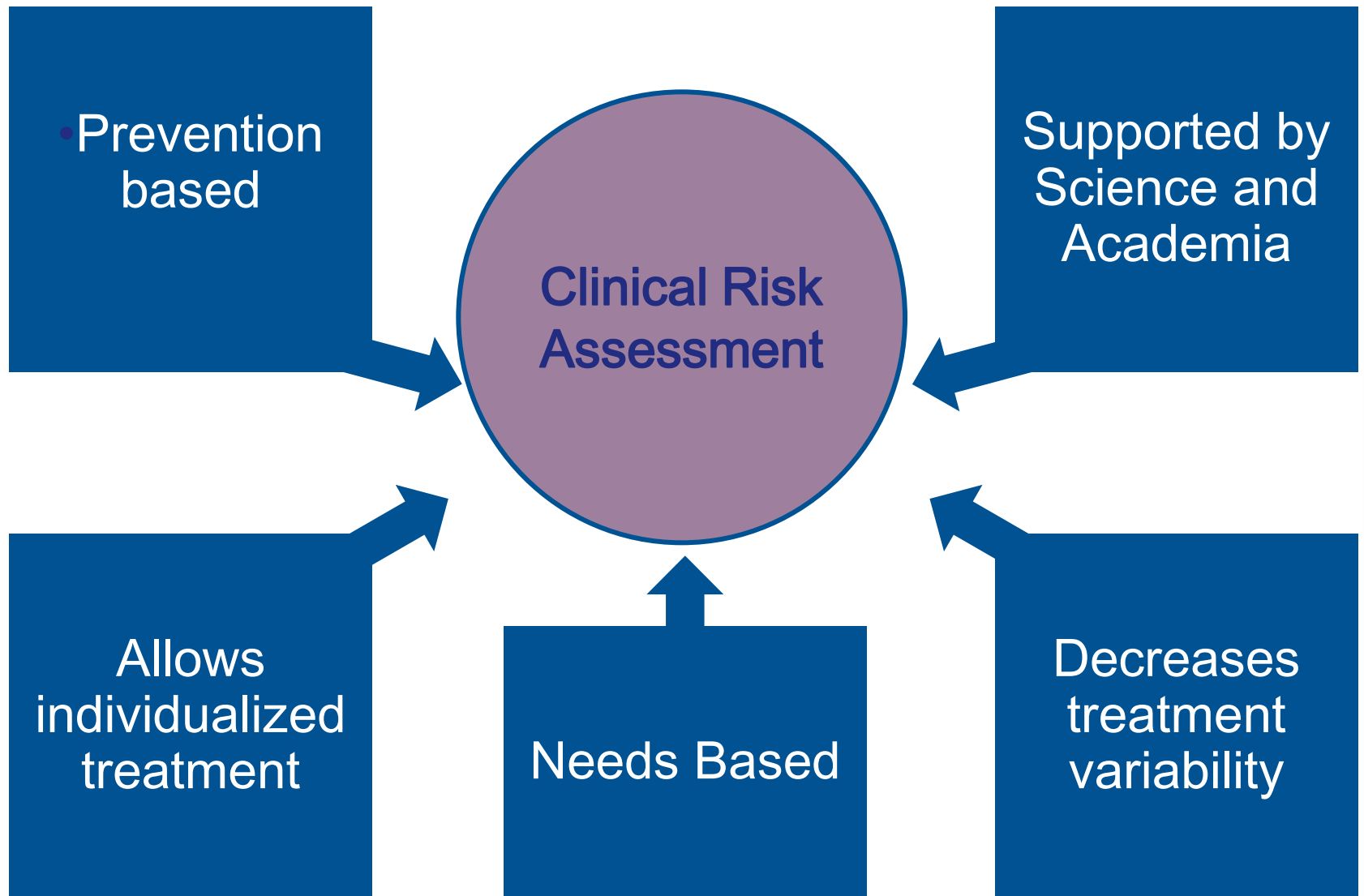
Clinical findings

Overall assessment of
caries risk (based on
preponderance of factors):
low, medium, high

Recommended follow up



Clinical Risk Assessment: Focusing Resources to Increase Impact



Clinical Risk Assessment: Supported by Science



Evidence Based

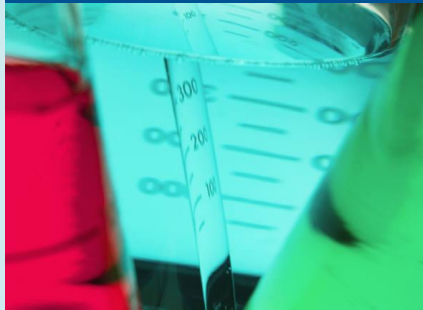
Evidence-Based Treatment
(New ADA Guidelines)

Cutting Edge Approaches
(CAMBRA)

Risk Assessment Tools
(AAPD, ADA, AAP)

Unbiased Evaluation
(PBRN, Cochrane)

A Strong Scientific Foundation



Patient Focused

Research/Guidelines
(Clinical Policy Committee)

ID Members at Risk
(PCP Caries Risk Tool)

Clinical Programs
(DM, Wellness, Integration)

External Alliances
(CAMBRA, IOH, Academia)

Translating Science into Clinical Practice

- Preventive treatment based on evidence based guidelines and assessment of individual patient risk
- Practice Based Research Network (PBRN) – a study designed to determine the impacts of risk based prevention in private practice
- Analysis of clinical outcomes and cost to determine long term impact

