

# Treatment Needs Following First General Anesthesia Appointment



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## INTRODUCTION

- There are pediatric dental patients for whom routine dental care using non-pharmacologic behavior guidance techniques is not a viable approach.
- These include children and individuals who have extensive oral healthcare needs, acute situational anxiety, and immature cognitive functioning, require deep sedation/general anesthesia to receive dental treatment in a safe and humane fashion.
- Care pathways, based on a child’s age and caries risk, provide health providers with criteria and protocols for determining the types and frequency of diagnostic, preventative, and restorative care for patient-specific oral health care management.

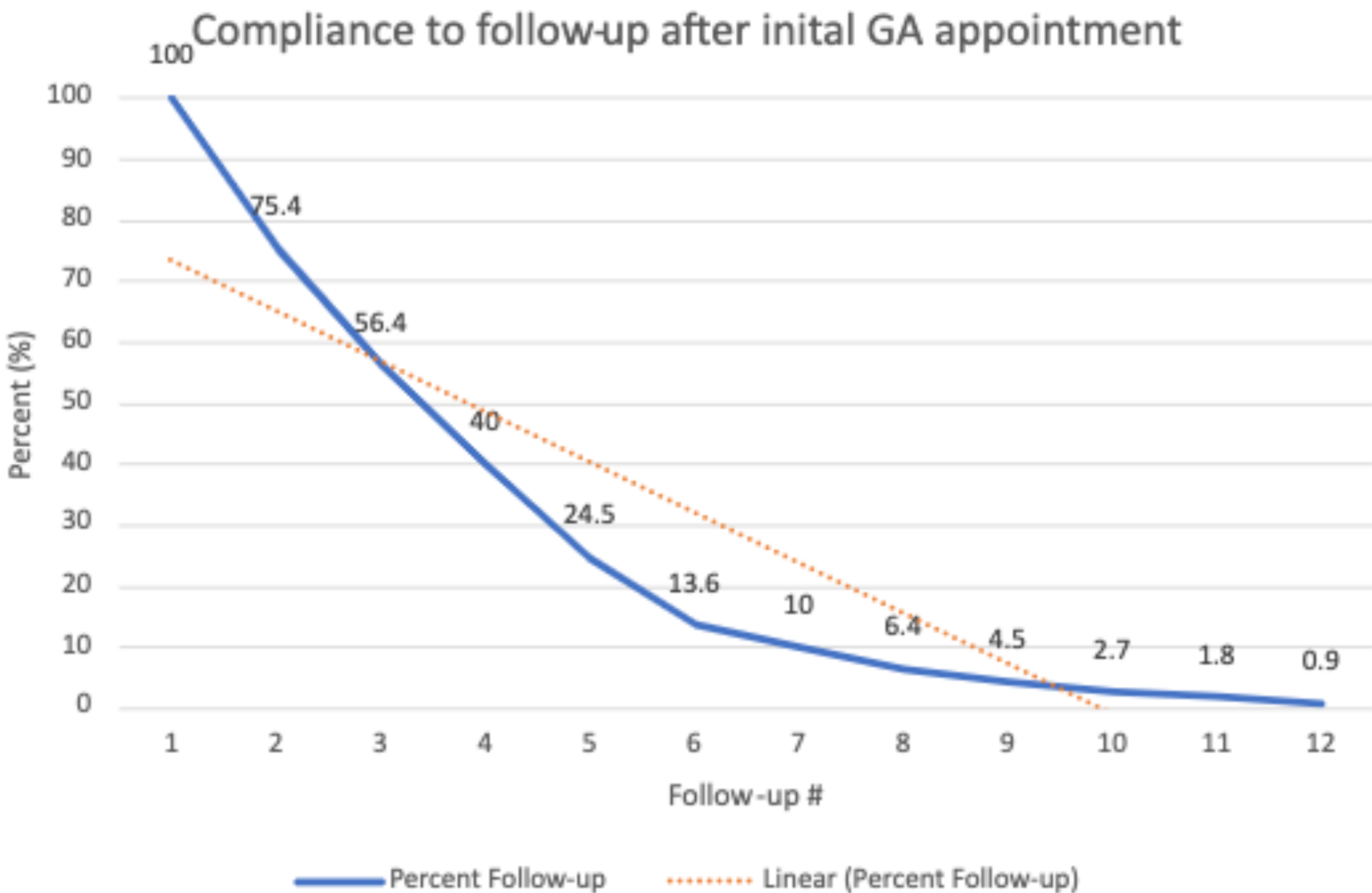
## PURPOSE

- To assess the prevalence of treatment needs after completion of initial general anesthesia (GA) appointment

## METHOD

- A retrospective analysis of children who completed at least one-6 month/12 month recall following an initial GA appointment was assessed.
- No treatment was completed prior to initial GA appointment.
- Treatment plan results at the recall appointment showed the additional treatment needs.
- T-test of children between the ages of 1.5 to 8-years old that completed treatment needs between 2017 - 2020 under GA was reviewed.

FIGURE 1



## RESULTS

- Of 378 pediatric patients identified between 2017 - 2020, a total of 110 (29.10%) children (61 males, 49 females) mean age of 4.9 years at initial examination completed at least one-6 month/12 month recall following an initial GA appointment.
- A significant difference in the mean number of procedures required for infections/abscesses, secondary decay, and/or new caries at the initial GA appointment and subsequent recall appointment (13.4 vs. 1.7, P<.001) was noted.
- The number of procedures required after the initial GA appointment decreased by, on average 77.2 (85%).

## CONCLUSIONS

- The results showed a statistically significant decrease in the prevalence of infection/abscesses, secondary decay, and /or new caries at recall following initial GA.
- Compliance to follow-up decreased by 8.3% for each follow-up appointment after the initial GA appointment.

## REFERENCES

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- <sup>[4]</sup> Foster T, Perinpanayagam H, Pfaffenbach A, Certo M. Recurrence of early childhood caries after comprehensive treatment with general anesthesia and follow-up. *J Dent Child (Chic)*. 2006 Jan-Apr; 73(1):25-30.

FIGURE 2

	Mean		p-value^
	GA	Recall	
Number of procedures for infection/abscesses, secondary decay, and/or new caries	13.4	1.7	<.001