

Case #2: Dental Public Health and Dental Rehabilitation under General Anesthesia
(Source: <http://ccnmtl.columbia.edu/projects/otm/pt02.html>)

The Child: Maria Perez - 33 Months

Maria is now 33 months old and has presented with her mother to the local health center dental clinic, because, according to Mrs. Perez, Maria has “been up all night, crying about her teeth”. **(See image below of Maria's teeth)**

Dental History - in the last 2 months, Maria has become increasingly irritable at mealtimes. It began as whining with cold or sweet foods, and has progressed to crying when biting with the front teeth. For the last 3 nights Maria has awoken from sleep and Mrs. Perez has been able to console her with her usual bottle of apple juice. Last night, she was inconsolable and required pain medicine (“baby Tylenol”) to help her sleep.

Mrs. Perez, aware of Maria's problem, had elected to “wait it out” in part because of her physician's statement that the poor appearance of the teeth represented a “developmental problem” and in part because she felt since these are “baby teeth”, that they will “just fall out sooner or later”.

