Abstract
The purpose of this study is to assess parental perception on continuity of care in pediatric dental settings. There are multiple studies that explain the benefits of continuity of care in a healthcare setting, but little pertaining to the parental perception of their children seeing the same dental providers each time going to the dentist. Parents of pediatric dental patients will be surveyed on their viewpoints regarding continuity of care of dental providers within the pediatric dental setting.

Introduction
Continuity of care has been defined as repeated contact between an individual patient and doctor. Handling pediatric patients adds an additional member into the treatment, creating a triangle between patients, parents, and doctors. There is a clear rationale for the use of continuity of care as doctors can accumulate additional knowledge of patients in order to provide improved treatment outcomes. Continuity of care is considered one of the important attributes of primary health care as it has been associated with improved communication, trust, empathy, and interpersonal relationships.

Methods
- IRB approval is pending.
- Parents of pediatric dental patient will be surveyed.
- We anticipate to have 100 participants who are parents of children that are patients at the East Carolina School of Dental Medicine.
- Surveys will be provided via an iPad during their child’s dental visit.
- Redcap will be used to collect, store, and analyze data.

Conclusions
- Study in process.
- We expect to find that most parents prefer their child to see the same dental provider for each visit.
- It could be anticipated if an appointment was available that was more accommodating with the parents’ schedule, then their preferences could change.

Results to be determined.

References