

## toolbox

# Questions answered in EBD volumes 1 and 2

Alan Lawrence and Derek Richards

Centre for Evidence-based Dentistry, Oxford, UK

In previous articles<sup>1,2</sup> we have identified both the stages of evidence-based dentistry and the importance of carefully identifying the important clinical question that faces the practitioner. Over the next few pages we have identified all the clinical questions we feel have been addressed in the first two volumes of Evidence-based Dentistry. In all there are eighty-four questions covering a wide range of topics, with the majority of the supporting evidence coming from systematic reviews and randomised controlled trials.

*Evidence-Based Dentistry* (2002) 3, 27–29. DOI: 10.1038/sj/ebd/6400090

### Endodontics

1. Is there any significant difference in the post-operative pain between single and multiple visit root canal treatment? *EBD 2000; 2:12*
2. Is surgical endodontics better than a non-surgical endodontics in treating endodontic failures? *EBD 2001; 2:97*
3. Does surgical endodontics result in more pain than non-surgical endodontics in re-treatment cases? *EBD 2001; 2:97*

### Effective Practice

4. Is printed information effective in changing the behaviour of health care professionals? *EBD 1999; 1(2):28 (short summary)*
5. Does spending more time with patients reduce malpractice claims in medicine? *EBD 1999; 1(2):28 (short summary)*
6. Do computer based clinical decision support systems improve doctors' performance and what is their effect on the outcomes of the patients' treatment? *EBD 2000; 2:29–30 (short summaries)*

7. Is interactive continuing medical education (CME) more effective than didactic CME in changing physician performance? *EBD 2000; 2:54–55 (short summary)*
8. Does the use of surgical teams with specialty expertise carrying out a higher volume of treatment actually produce lower mortality rates for complex oncological procedures? *EBD 2000; 2:29–30 (short summary)*
9. In new babies do pacifiers have a greater analgesic effect than sweet solutions during venipuncture? *EBD 2000; 2:80 (short summary)*
10. Does the teaching of critical appraisal have a positive effect on health-care workers and patients? *EBD 2001; 2:94*

### Epidemiology, Study & Research Design

11. What factors influence the response rates from questionnaires posted to dentists? *EBD 1998; 1(1):15*
12. Which journals should you read to keep up to date? *EBD 1998; 1(1):22–25*
13. How can you measure clinical effectiveness? *EBD 1998; 1(1):27*

14. Is caries prevalence increasing or decreasing in children and adults in African countries? *EBD 2000; 2:35*
15. Does telephoning in advance improve questionnaire response rates from dentists? *EBD 2000; 2:70*
16. How should meta-analyses of observational studies be reported? *EBD 2001; 2:84–85*
17. What is the quality of the literature on enamel erosion? *EBD 2001; 2:100*

### Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology

#### Herpes

18. Does treatment of Herpes Zoster with oral acyclovir reduce the pain of post-herpetic neuralgia? *EBD 1998; 1(1):16; EBD 1999; 1(2):30 (letter)*
19. Does oral acyclovir shorten duration of symptoms in herpetic gingivo-stomatitis? *EBD 1998; 1(1):28 (short summary)*
20. Does the early treatment of acute herpes zoster prevent or shorten the duration of post herpetic neuralgia? *EBD 2000; 2:7–80 (short summary)*

#### Maxillary sinusitis

21. Does amoxicillin shorten the duration of acute maxillary sinusitis in primary care? *EBD 1998; 1(1):28 (short summary)*
22. Are newer more expensive antibiotics more effective than amoxicillin and folate inhibitors in the treatment of acute sinusitis? *EBD 2000; 2:29 (short summary)*
23. Which antibiotic should I use to treat acute maxillary sinusitis? *EBD 2001; 2:110 (short summary)*

**Pain**

24. In patients having an ID Block does the use of patient controlled TENS in reduce discomfort? *EBD 1999; 1(2):6*
25. How can one assess the evidence base in acute pain? *EBD 2000; 2:32–33*
26. In patients with postoperative pain what is the effectiveness and side effects of using single dose aspirin compared with placebo? *EBD 2000; 2:36*
27. In adults with postoperative pain which is more effective ibuprofen or diclofenac? *EBD 2000; 2:37*
28. In adult patients with severe post-operative pain what is the effectiveness of paracetamol, and is there any advantage in combining paracetamol with codeine? *EBD 2000; 2:38*
29. Where can I get information on comparing the effectiveness of treatment of acute and chronic pain in the body? *EBD 2000; 2:48–49*
30. Is acupuncture effective in treating chronic pain? *EBD 2000; 2:79 (short summary)*
31. Is acupuncture effective in treating acute pain? *EBD 2000; 2:53 (short summary)*

**Oral Surgery**

32. Does raising a lingual flap increase the risk of nerve damage? *EBD 1998; 1(1):14 & EBD 2001; 2:92*
33. Should I recall patients after third molar surgery? *EBD 1999; 1(2):13*
34. What is the survival rate for implants in the grafted maxillary sinus and which is the best material to place them in? *EBD 2000; 2:93*
35. Is there any research evidence to support the prophylactic removal of pathology free impacted third molars? *EBD 2000; 2:42–43; EBD 1998; 1(1):11*
36. How can I plan the treatment of unerupted and impacted third molar teeth? *EBD 2000; 2:44–45*
37. Is metoclopramide effective in preventing postoperative nausea and vomiting? *EBD 2000; 2:54 (short summary)*

38. Do prophylactic antibiotics prevent postoperative wound infection following orthognathic surgery? *EBD 2000; 2:66*

**Orthodontics**

39. Is there an index to show the outcome differences in unilateral cleft lip and palate patients at 5 years of age? *EBD 1999; 1(2):7*
40. Is the evidence-based process relevant in orthodontics? *EBD 2000; 2:7–8,19*
41. Is rigid fixation more effective than wire fixation in the health related quality of life following mandibular surgical correction of patients with Class II malocclusions? *EBD 2000; 2:17*
42. In preventing posterior cross-bite is occlusal grinding in the primary dentition with or without expansion effective and which is the most effective form of expansion used in combined treatment? *EBD 2000; 2:19*
43. Do fluoride-releasing elastics reduce enamel decalcification during fixed appliance therapy? *EBD 2001; 2:101*

**Paediatric Dentistry**

44. Do biannual amine fluoride applications reduce caries in first permanent molars and is it cost effective? *EBD 1999; 1(2):10*
45. What are some of the indirect costs of treating dental trauma over and above direct professional treatment time? *EBD 2000; 2:40*
46. Are there symptoms associated with teething and can these be used to predict eruption? *EBD 2000; 2:68*

**Periodontology**

47. In adult patients with moderate or severe periodontal disease does the use of systemic and locally delivered metronidazole in addition to scaling and root planing increase clinical attachment? *EBD 2000; 2:9*
48. In the treatment of intra-bony defects does guided tissue regeneration as opposed to traditional flap surgery increase attachment levels? *EBD 2000; 2:10*

49. In the treatment of periodontal pockets is doxycycline hyclate safe and effective when used in a biodegradable controlled release delivery system compared with traditional treatment methods? *EBD 2000; 2:34*
50. Is there any evidence to link periodontal disease with coronary heart disease? *EBD 2000; 2:59–60, 63,64,71*
51. In the treatment of chronic periodontitis in adults is 25% minocycline slow release gel safe and effective as an adjunct to scale and polish? *EBD 2000; 2:65*
52. Does using a subantimicrobial dose of doxycycline in addition to scaling and polishing improve its effectiveness? *EBD 2001; 2:112 (letter)*

**Prevention****Fluoride**

53. Are fluoride gels effective in inhibiting caries and are they cost effective? *EBD 1999; 1(2):11*
54. During tooth development does the regular use of fluoride supplements in non-fluoridated areas increase the risk of dental fluorosis? *EBD 2000; 2:16*
55. Is fluoridated milk a cost-effective in the prevention of dental caries in children? *EBD 2000;2:39*

**Fissure Sealants**

56. Fissure sealants—how effective are they and what factors influence their effectiveness? *EBD 1998; 1(1):20*

**Oral Health**

57. Is oral health promotion effective in changing people's knowledge about improving oral health? *EBD 1998; 1(1):12*
58. Is oral health promotion effective in changing behaviour to promote oral health? *EBD 1998; 1(1):13*
59. In children with erupting and newly erupting molars does six monthly applications of chlorhexidine varnish reduce caries? *EBD 2000; 2:13*

60. In adolescents with a high caries risk does chlorhexidine varnish reduce caries? *EBD 2001; 2:96*
61. Do glass-ionomer restorations reduce caries? *EBD 2001; 2:99*

### General

62. Do bicycle helmets prevent head and serious facial injuries? *EBD 1998; 1(1):28 (short summary)*
63. What can health professionals do to help with smoking cessation? *EBD 1998; 1(1):29*
64. Can health education help in changing the diet of children? *EBD 1999; 1(2):28 (short summary)*
65. Is Xylitol syrup or Xylitol chewing gum effective in preventing acute otitis media in infants and children? *EBD 2000; 2:29–30 (short summary)*
66. Is there a reduced risk of ischaemic stroke in men and women who have higher intake levels of fresh fruit and vegetables? *EBD 2000; 2:54 (short summary)*
67. Does information in mass media campaigns affect treatment uptake of health services? *EBD 2000; 2:54 (short summary)*
68. How much alcohol per week can men drink safely? *EBD 2000; 2:53–54 (short summary)*

### Radiography

69. Are D and E speed bitewing radiographs equally good at detecting caries? *EBD 1998; 1(1):17*
70. Where can I get information on selection criteria in dental radiography? *EBD 1999; 1(2):17*

### Restorative Dentistry

71. How long do bridges (fixed partial dentures) and their abutments last? *EBD 1998; 1(1):19*
72. Does splinting improve treatment outcomes from oral implants? *EBD 1998; 1(1):21*
73. Do patients benefit from implants? *EBD 1999; 1(2):7*
74. In patients with Class 1 and 2 restorations does the alloy composition effect their survival? *EBD 1999; 1(2):9*
75. How long do porcelain veneer restorations survive? *EBD 1999; 1(2):15*
76. In teeth with intra-coronal CEREC restorations luted with an adhesive composite technique what is the fracture rate and how do they perform clinically? *EBD 2000; 2:39*
77. In permanent teeth how long do simple restorations last? *EBD 2000; 2:41*

78. How long do single tooth implants survive? *EBD 2001; 2:93*

### Temporomandibular Joint

79. In patients with temporomandibular dysfunction do stabilisation appliances improve the short term outcomes? *EBD 1999; 1(2):14*
80. In patients with dislocation of the TMJ Disk is the use of a repositioning splint more effective than the use of a bite plane? *EBD 2000; 2:15*
81. In patients with temporomandibular dysfunction are occlusal splints more effective than occlusal adjustment? *EBD 2000; 2:6*
82. In patients with temporomandibular dysfunction is electromyography (EMG) biofeedback effective? *EBD 2000; 2:69*
83. Is acupuncture effective in treating TMD? *EBD 2000; 2:79 (short summary)*

1. Richards D & Lawrence A, Evidence-based Dentistry. *EBD 1998; 1(1):7–10.*
2. Richards D. Asking the right questions, right. *EBD 2000; 2:20–21.*