

Other journals in brief

A selection of abstracts of clinically relevant papers from other journals.
The abstracts on this page have been chosen and edited by Reena Wadia.

Editors of dental journals – women vs men

Bennie K R, Koka S. Leadership diversity in science: women editors of dental journals are underrepresented compared to women editors of medical journals. *J Dent* 2021; doi: 10.1016/j.jdent.2021.103853. Online ahead of print.

Women in dental research attained editor positions less frequently than men.

In this study, the proportion of women editors of prominent medical and dental journals was compared. A list of dental and medical journals, ranked by impact factor, were obtained through Web of Science Journal Citation Reports 2020. Ninety-one dental journals had 100 editors, 15 of whom were women. There were significantly less women chief editors than men compared to the percentage expected. Of 91 comparable medical journals ranked by impact factor, there were 103 chief editors, 41 of whom were women. There was no significant difference in the number of men and women chief editors for medical journals. There were significantly fewer women chief editors for dental journals compared to medical journals. There was no significant difference between the mean impact factor for journals with women and men editors for dental or medical journals. For the 91 dental journals, there were a total of 828 associate editors, of whom 638 were men and 190 were women, and this difference was significant.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3669-5>

Behaviour change intervention for gingival health

Holloway J A, Davies M, McCarthy C, Khan I, Claydon N C A, West N X. Randomised controlled trial demonstrating the impact of behaviour change intervention provided by dental professionals to improve gingival health. *J Dent* 2021; doi: 10.1016/j.jdent.2021.103862. Online ahead of print.

Behaviour change techniques should be routinely considered in patient care.

This study aimed to determine impact of oral hygiene behaviour change intervention compared to the prevailing standard of oral hygiene advice provided in general dental practice, on bleeding on probing (BOP) in gingivitis patients, over three months. The effect of providing power-brushes was also evaluated. NHS dental practices were cluster-randomised to intervention or control (2:1). Dentists at intervention sites received behaviour modification training. Participants were stratified to high ($\geq 20\%$ BOP) or low ($< 20\%$ BOP) presence of gingivitis and a subset assigned a power-brush. A total of 538 participants completed the study. BOP reduced in both gingivitis groups with significantly greater reduction in intervention compared to control group. A highly significant reduction in BOP was demonstrated for volunteers who swapped from manual to power-brush. Plaque score improved more in the control than intervention group.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3671-y>

Dementia and periodontitis

Ma K S, Hasturk H, Carreras I *et al.* Dementia and the risk of periodontitis: a population-based cohort study. *J Dent Res* 2021; doi: 10.1177/00220345211037220. Online ahead of print.

Dementia and Alzheimer's disease were associated with a higher risk of periodontitis, independent of systemic confounding factors.

Dementia and Alzheimer's disease (AD) are proposed to be comorbid with periodontitis (PD). It is unclear whether PD is associated with dementia and AD independent of confounding factors. This study aimed at identifying the relationship between the longitudinal risk of developing PD in a cohort of patients with dementia and AD who did not show any signs of PD at baseline. In this retrospective cohort study, 8,640 patients with dementia without prior PD were recruited, and 8,640 individuals without dementia history were selected as propensity score-matched controls. Overall, 2,670 patients with dementia developed PD. The relative risk of PD in these patients was significantly higher than in the non-dementia group. Cox proportional-hazards models showed that patients with dementia were more likely to have PD than individuals without dementia. The risk of PD in patients with dementia was age-dependent; younger patients with dementia were more likely to develop PD. The findings persisted for patients with AD: the relative risk and adjusted hazard ratio of PD in patients with AD were significantly higher than the non-AD cohort.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3670-z>

Oral clefts and periodontal clinical measures

Marzouk T, Youssef M, Tsigarida A *et al.* Association between oral clefts and periodontal clinical measures: meta-analysis. *Int J Paediatr Dent* 2021; doi: 10.1111/ipd.12934. Online ahead of print.

Individuals with CL/P are more likely to present with more plaque accumulation and gingival inflammation.

This systematic review evaluated the clinical parameters for periodontal diseases in individuals with cleft lip and/or palate (CL/P). The authors searched six indexed databases without language restriction through July 2021. The eligibility criteria were observational studies that compared the periodontal clinical measures of individuals with CL/P to those without CL/P. The literature search generated 1,277 records and 40 full-text articles were reviewed. Twenty-three studies comprising 3,235 individuals from four continents fulfilled the selection criteria. The meta-analysis revealed significant difference in mean plaque index scores, gingival index scores and periodontal pocket depth between individuals with and without CL/P. A slight increase in clinical attachment loss was detected among individuals with CL/P; however, such an increase may have little clinical significance. Clinicians should reinforce preventive dental care from an early age.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3672-x>