

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 John R. Radford.

RM-GIC HAVE LIMITED CARIOSTATIC EFFECT

Demineralization of hard tooth tissue adjacent to resin-modified glass-ionomers and composite resins: a quantitative systematic review

Mickenausch S, Yengopal V. *J Oral Sci* 2010; 52: 347-357

No difference in cariostatic effect between resin-modified glass-ionomer cements (RM-GIC) and fluoride containing composites.

In this systematic review, 97 continuous data sets were analysed from 9 laboratory trials, 3 randomised *in situ* trials (participants wearing appliances containing enamel slabs) and one randomised control study. Although analysed separately, the authors concede that the inclusion of laboratory studies weaken any clinical implications. This systematic review found that there were no difference in cariostatic effect between RM-GIC and fluoride containing composites. However, when compared with a non-fluoride containing composite, RM-GIC showed a 'higher reduction of demineralization during caries challenge'. Nevertheless, there was no difference in cariostatic property between a non-fluoride containing composite resin and RM-GIC, if the participants used a fluoride containing toothpaste.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2011.215

'CONTROLLING SELF-MUTILATION'

Effective treatment of self-injurious oral trauma in Lesch-Nyhan syndrome: a case report

Arhakis A, Topouzelis N *et al. Dent Traumatol* 2010; 26: 496-500

Use of a simple intra-oral appliance stopped this most harrowing self-injury behaviour in an adolescent with Lesch-Nyhan syndrome.

Lesch-Nyhan syndrome is a rare X-linked recessive disorder. In this, there is a deficiency of an enzyme that results in excessive uric acid production. The affected child appears normal for the first few months of life. The syndrome then manifests itself with damage to neurological, renal and musculoskeletal tissues. Those with Lesch-Nyhan syndrome show self-injury behaviour (SIB). Numerous approaches have been adopted to prevent SIB, ranging from medication, extraction of teeth and restraining wraps to prevent finger biting. This case report describes how self-harm was controlled in a 14-year-old boy with Lesch-Nyhan syndrome. The use of a bite-raising appliance, stopped further mutilation to the tongue and perioral mucosa, over a 3-year period. The design of the appliance was such that it could not be easily removed by the patient.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2011.216

IMPROVING THE PROPERTIES OF RESIN COMPOSITES

Pre-warming of dental composites

Deb S, Di Silvio L *et al. Dent Mater* 2010; DOI:10.1016

Pre-warming of traditional composites enhanced their flow but they were still 'not as flowable as flowable composites', when the latter were at ambient temperature.

When compared with traditional composites, flowable composites have been shown to have improved marginal sealing properties although generally 'there is little clinical evidence to indicate their clear benefits.' The aims of this *in vitro* study were to determine if pre-warming composites (four traditional composites, one compomer and one flowable composite) improved their 'flow observed by measuring film thickness', but not have other adverse biological or physical properties (latter not reported in this abstract). At 60°C, traditional composites did not result in them having similar flowable properties as flowable composite at ambient temperature. Pre-heating did not influence their cytocompatibility, although this characteristic varied between materials.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2011.217

'EGREGIOUS CONDUCT'

Sexual harassment in dentistry: prevalence in dental school

Garbin CAS, Zina LG *et al. J Appl Oral Sci* 2010; 18: 447-52

Male dental students were three times more likely to have been a victim of sexual harassment than female dental students.

Using a questionnaire, self-reported sexual harassment was ascertained in dental students studying at Araçatuba Dental School, Brazil (254 invited to participate of whom 82% responded). The investigators elected not to define sexual harassment; they therefore contend, because there was no connotation as to whether or not the harasser was in a hierarchical superior position, information could be gleaned about patients being potential agents of this behaviour. Fifteen percent of the students stated they had been sexually harassed with males reporting a 3 times higher experience than female students. About half of the perpetrators were patients. The majority of the others were faculty members, with only 3.4% being university staff. The investigators suggest that sexual harassment could be a silent problem. Awareness programmes, possible using models developed in the US, should be implemented.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2011.218