

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.

Location of the mental foramen

Fontenele R C, Gomes A F, Moreira N R, Costa E D, Oliveira M L, Freitas D Q. Do the location and dimensions of the mental foramen differ among individuals of different facial types and skeletal classes? A CBCT study. *J Prosthet Dent* 2021; doi: 10.1016/j.prosdent.2021.07.004. Online ahead of print.

The most frequent location of the mental foramen was between the first and second premolars, below their apices.

Knowledge about the location and dimensions of the mental foramen is important for surgical planning and implant placement in the posterior mandibular region. This study assessed the location and dimensions of the mental foramen in individuals of different facial type, skeletal class and sex by means of cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) images. CBCT images of 142 individuals (72 women and 70 men) were classified according to the facial type and skeletal class. The vertical and horizontal locations of each mental foramen were evaluated on panoramic reconstructions, and the greatest height and width of the mental foramen were determined on multiplanar reconstructions. The facial type, skeletal class and sex did not influence the vertical or the horizontal location of the mental foramen. The most frequent location of the mental foramen was between the first and second premolars, below their apices. The dimensions of the mental foramen were not influenced by the studied factors in men but were in women.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3468-z>

Dental students – how did they cope?

Hakami Z, Vishwanathaiah S, Abuzinadah S H *et al.* Effects of COVID-19 lockdown on the mental health of dental students: a longitudinal study. *J Dent Educ* 2021; doi: 10.1002/jdd.12758. Online ahead of print.

This study indicates the importance of considering the detrimental mental health consequences on dental students in the event of future pandemics.

A longitudinal cross-sectional study was conducted to evaluate psychological problems experienced by dental students during the COVID-19 lockdown in Saudi Arabia. The dental students were selected from different universities. The validated Arabic version of the 21-item depression, anxiety and stress scale questionnaire was distributed at the beginning and end of the lockdown. A total of 1,287 respondents participated. There were longitudinally significant differences in the students' mental health outcomes based on gender, university, class year and survey time. The lockdown increased the likelihood of female, single and junior students experiencing stress. The students who lived alone recorded a high chance of elevated levels of depression, anxiety and stress, which showed a significant longitudinal reduction during the lockdown.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3479-9>

Peri-implantitis: U.S. vs Europe

Polymeri A, Loos B G, Aronovich S, Steigmann L, Inglehart M R. Risk factors, diagnosis and treatment of peri-implantitis: a cross-cultural comparison of U.S. and European periodontists' considerations. *J Periodontol* 2021; doi: 10.1002/JPER.21-0010. Online ahead of print.

U.S. and European periodontists' considerations concerning risk factors, diagnosis and management of PI were evidence-based, but differences can inform future educational efforts.

The study aimed to compare U.S. vs. European periodontists' considerations of risk factors, diagnostic criteria and management of peri-implantitis (PI). Three hundred and ninety-three periodontists from the U.S. and 100 periodontists from Europe responded to anonymous surveys. Compared to U.S. periodontists, European respondents were younger, more likely to be female and placed fewer implants per month. Poor oral hygiene, history of periodontitis and smoking were considered as very important risk factors by both groups. European periodontists rated poor oral hygiene and history of periodontitis as more important and implant surface, occlusion and presence of keratinised tissue as less important than U.S. periodontists did. Both groups rated clinical probing, radiographic bone loss, and presence of bleeding and suppuration as important diagnostic criteria. They rated implant exposure/mucosal recession as relatively less important, with U.S. periodontists giving higher importance ratings than European periodontists. Both groups nearly always used patient education, plaque control and mechanical debridement when treating PI. U.S. periodontists were more likely to use antibiotics, lasers, allograft and regenerative approaches, but less likely to use resective surgery.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3478-x>

Denture occlusal schemes

Srinivasan R, Chander N G, Reddy J R, Balasubramanian M. Differences in quality of life and patient satisfaction between complete denture occlusion schemes: a parallel randomized control trial. *J Prosthet Dent* 2021; doi: 10.1016/j.prosdent.2021.07.015. Online ahead of print.

There are no significant differences between the non-balanced and bilaterally balanced occlusal schemes in quality of life.

The objective of this parallel randomised control trial was to determine the difference in quality of life and patient satisfaction between the non-balanced and bilaterally balanced occlusal schemes. Thirty participants were recruited. Quality of life was estimated from the oral health quality of life for edentulous patients questionnaire, and patient satisfaction was analysed from a visual analogue scale. The estimation was made at 0, 3 and 6 months after denture insertion. The study detected no significant differences between the two occlusal schemes in quality of life or patient satisfaction.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-021-3480-3>