

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.

WATER FLUORIDATION

European citizens' opinions on water fluoridation

Griffin M, Shickle D *et al. Community Dent Oral Epidemiol* 2008; **36**: 95-102

EU citizens were against water fluoridation.

The decision whether or not to fluoridate water supplies 'remains polarised' and therefore there is no steer for policy makers. As part of a larger study exploring a range of public health policies, 68 focus groups (qualitative research) in 16 EU countries were asked to explore the sometimes competing views between public and individual interest for water fluoridation.

Most participants were against water fluoridation although groups in Greece, Ireland, Poland, and Sweden were more in favour. Generally it was considered that the potential side effects outweighed the benefit for the minority. Individual comments were cited in the paper, such as '...they will put downers in the water as well' from a young male who lived in Liege with no children nor further education and '...it is like shooting sparrows with cannons' from a Viennese male with children and a standard education.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2008.806

COMPLETE DENTURES

Simplified versus comprehensive fabrication of complete dentures: Patient ratings of denture satisfaction from a randomized crossover trial

Heydecke G, Vogeler M *et al. Quintessence Int* 2008; **39**: 107-116

Patients rated dentures made using a simple method better.

The aim of this study was to determine if a complex method for the construction of complete dentures results in better, patient-centred outcomes than those dentures made using a more simple technique. Twenty edentulous patients attending University Hospital, Freiburg, Germany, each received two dentures in a randomised, within-subject, cross-over study. One set was constructed using gothic tracings, balanced, reduced and lingualised occlusions (Gerber prostheses/complex approach) whereas the other method did not use facebow transfer, adopted a canine/premolar disclusion and used anatomical teeth (Gysi prostheses/simple method). Each set was worn for 3 months.

For the dentures constructed using a simple method, patients rated their general satisfaction, stability and aesthetics statistically better. For speech, comfort and chewing ability, there were no differences.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2008.807

MOUTHGUARDS

Are all mouthguards the same and safe to use? Part 2. The influence of anterior occlusion against a direct impact on maxillary incisors

Tekeda T, Ishigami K *et al. Dent Traumatol* 2008; **24**: 360-365

Mouthguards that incorporate support from the mandibular teeth more effectively resist traumatic forces.

The first paper (*Dent Traumatol* 2004; **20**: 150-156), concluded that increasing the occlusal table of the mouthguard reduced distortion of the mandible during trauma although, somewhat worryingly, it was stated in the text of the paper that these forces were transmitted to the skull. In this second paper, the same group examined the influence of establishing an overbite with the mouthguard. Two different designs of ethylene vinyl acetate mouthguard, one fabricated with an anterior complete overbite against the mandibular teeth and one without this characteristic, were fitted on mounted plastic teeth that were then subjected to pendulum-type traumatic forces from either a steel ball or baseball. Those mouthguards with an overbite were more effective at reducing distortion of the upper teeth than those without this design.

DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2008.808

IMPLANT PLANNING

Accuracy of magnetic resonance imaging compared with computer tomography for implant planning

Aguiar MF, Marques AP *et al. Clin Oral Impl Res* 2008; **19**: 362-365

Magnetic resonance imaging is a reliable method for implant planning.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has the advantage that it does not use ionizing radiation although it is both expensive and uncomfortable for the patient. The aim of this study, therefore, was to compare the reliability of CT and MRI for dental implant planning.

CT (using a spiral CT scanner) and MRI examinations were carried out on the mandibles of 5 dried human skulls that had markers placed in their anterior region. The images were assessed by 4 specialists in oral and maxillofacial radiology, as there can be difficulties in identifying bone edges, and these were compared with direct measurements. The results of this study show that MRI is a technically satisfactory alternative to CT for dental implant planning.

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