

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.

DENTAL COSMESIS

Perspectives. The 'daughter test' in elective esthetic dentistry

Burke FJT, Kelleher MJD *J Esthet Restor Dent* 2009; **21**: 144–146

'Bleaching to improve the color, coupled later with bonding with direct composite, is biologically smart...'

In this robust critique of what is referred to in colloquial language as 'veneer cases', the authors urge a fundamentally different strategy. In order to meet the patient's dental aesthetic need and to conserve tooth tissue, bleaching and, when indicated, the placement of resin composite build-ups invariably has the desired outcome. The authors also question the rationale of carrying out full-mouth reconstructions using conventional crowns, solely to improve dental aesthetics. They quote Richard Simonsen, a pioneer of the use of ceramic veneers, who has stated that such treatments can result in 'outrageous overtreatment for financial gain by some'. The authors propose a somewhat folksy solution known as the 'Daughter Test'... 'Knowing what I know about what is involved with this proposed dentistry would I carry out this treatment on my own daughter's teeth?'.
DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.816

ORAL MALODOUR

Prevalence of halitosis in the population of the city of Bern, Switzerland: A study comparing self-reported and clinical data

Bornstein MM, Kislig K *et al. Eur J Oral Sci* 2009; **117**: 261–267

Patients were rarely informed by their dentist they had bad breath.

Two thousand adult subjects were invited to participate in this study of which only 419 (21%) consented. Oral malodour was measured using two subjective and one quantitative method. Putative factors associated with bad breath were explored by use of a questionnaire. Thirty-two percent 'of all subjects sometimes or often experienced halitosis'. They stated that their dentist rarely informed them of their condition but instead 22.7% learnt about this from friends or relatives. Other studies however, have reported that dentists see patients with bad breath on a regular basis. Regression analysis showed a positive correlation with smoking, tongue coating and periodontal disease and a negative correlation with toothbrushing and the use of mouthrinses.
DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.817

GINGIVITIS AND PERIODONTAL DISEASE

Gingivitis as a risk factor in periodontal disease

Lang NP, Schätzle MA *et al. J Clin Periodontol* 2009; **36** (Suppl. 10): 3–8

'...development of periodontitis only occurs in areas of long-standing gingivitis.'

A cohort of 565 males, aged between 16 and 34 years old who 'had received state-of-the-art professional and personal dental care', were examined 7 times between 1969 and 1995. Less than 40% (n = 223) of the initial group attended the final survey. Gingival units that repeatedly showed health had 'a mean cumulative loss of attachment (LA) over 60 years life span of <2 mm', whereas those that consistently bled on probing had a mean LA of >3 mm. The authors conclude 'it has now convincingly been demonstrated that the development of periodontitis only occurs in areas of long-standing gingivitis'. The raw data is not given in this paper but it cites references for where this can be accessed. This paper also gives a contemporaneous summary of the pathogenesis of periodontal disease.
DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.818

TOOTH MOUSSE

The effect of casein phosphopeptide-amorphous calcium phosphate on erosive dentine wear

Ranjitkar S, Narayana T *et al. Aust Dent J* 2009; **54**: 101–107

Tooth Mousse may minimise tooth wear due to its lubricating property.

The aim of this *in vitro* study was to examine the efficacy of Tooth Mousse (TM) 'to reduce erosive dentine wear involving attrition'. The principal ingredient of TM is an anticariogenic remineralizing agent CPP-ACP (casein phosphopeptide-amorphous calcium phosphate nanocomplexes). Enamel and dentine specimens were subjected to wear by electromechanical tooth wear machines. The experimental design did not use a lubricant that performs like saliva but instead hydrochloric acid or de-ionised water.

When TM was applied every 1,600 cycles in an acidic environment (pH 3.0), there was no reduction in wear although at pH 6.1 there was significantly less wear. With continuous application of TM, wear was significantly reduced in both environments. The authors suggest 'Both remineralization and lubrication seem to contribute to reduction in dentine wear associated with TM application, although lubrication appears to have a more pronounced effect'.
DOI: 10.1038/sj.bdj.2009.819