

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE AMONG ITALIAN DENTISTS: A SURVEY STUDY

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Aim: antibiotic resistance is a growing phenomenon that is estimated to result in the deaths of many people in the coming years. Therefore, it is crucial to prescribe antibiotics according to the guidelines. The aim of this study was to describe the knowledge of antibiotics prescription and the phenomenon of antibiotic resistance among Italian dentists.

Methods: an online questionnaire was submitted to Italian dentists from October 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, with items regarding general characteristics of the sample, main activity performed, years of experience, knowledge of the phenomenon of antibiotic resistance, and antibiotic prescribing habits.

Results: a total of 384 participants answered the multiple-choice questionnaire. Nearly all dentists (99%) were aware of

antibiotic resistance, but half (53.4%) did not regularly consult antibiotic prescribing guidelines. In addition, 43% of dentists believed that their prescribing habits could increase antibiotic resistance. Surprisingly, 34.8% declared that the primary motivation for administering antibiotics was to avoid legal controversy. Dentists prescribed antibiotic therapy as prophylaxis for complex extractions (87.4%), implant placement (70.7%), and simple extractions (62.3%), whereas it was prescribed as a treatment for pulpitis in 35.6% of cases.

Conclusions: the majority of dentists are familiar with the phenomenon of antibiotic resistance but often ignore guidelines for proper administration, increasing the risk of antibiotic resistance in patients.

A NOVEL METHOD FOR THE CLINICAL ASSESSMENT OF MASTICATORY PERFORMANCE

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Aim: during their clinical practice, clinicians should be able to assess whether the masticatory function of their patients achieves its purpose. Many methods were proposed to measure masticatory performance (MP), but none of them can be easily used in clinical settings. The present study aims at assessing the reliability of a novel device for the clinical measurement of MP.

Methods: fully dentate adult volunteers were enrolled in the study. All the subjects performed the two-color mixing ability test, chewing a two-colored chewing-gum for 20 chewing cycles. Boluses were flattened to a standard thickness of 1 mm using a purpose-built press. The two sides of the flattened samples were digitalized using a conventional flatbed scanner (control group) and using a purpose-built camera applied on

the top of the novel device (test group). The images were evaluated optoelectronically to obtain the variance of hue (VoH) and the percentage of the mixing-colored area (MI).

Results: fifty young adults (mean age: 23.0 ± 2.7 years old) were enrolled in this study. The results obtained by the optoelectronic evaluations of the chewing-gums were comparable within the two study groups as no statistically significant differences were observed ($p > 0.05$). In the control group, VoH and MI were 0.394 ± 0.044 and 0.443 ± 0.138, respectively, while they were 0.409 ± 0.111 and 0.421 ± 0.142 in the test group.

Conclusions: the novel device avoids data loss, and it may be used to digitalize the samples obtained by the application of the two-color mixing ability test in clinical settings.

TELEHEALTH IN SPECIAL CARE DENTISTRY

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Aim: the aim of this work is to evaluate the effectiveness of Televisita's service in the post-operative monitoring of patients with collaboration deficits treated under general anesthesia for dental treatment.

Methods: 62 non collaborating patients undergoing dental treatment under general anesthesia at the Department of Dentistry and Oral Surgery, Mauriziano Umberto I Hospital, Torino, from May 2021 to March 2022. While discharging, the next follow up visit is planned, and the instructions are provided to the family member/caregiver. The patient could log into the Televisita's service through a dedicated app available for personal

computer and smartphone. The adherence rate and the patient satisfaction rate were evaluated with the TUQ test (Telehealth Usability Questionnaire).

Results: during Televisita post-operative complications were intercepted in 2 patients and so re-evaluated in presence.

Conclusions: Televisita's service is a suitable tool to improve access to patient care and to monitor the immediate post-operative period in non collaborating patients. The Televisita's service needs further studies in order to assess the satisfaction rate and effectiveness.

UPDATE ON REMINERALISING AGENT

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Aim: the general objective is to know the current situation of the different remineralizing agents for the remineralizing agents for tooth hard tissues. The secondary objectives: To evaluate their efficacy on enamel and dentine, to know their mechanism of action and to assess the efficacy of two or more combined agents.

Methods: 22 scientific articles in Spanish and English were searched for and analyzed; the search included articles from 2010 to February 2020.

Results: among the various active ingredients, those with higher biomimetic activity seem to promise better results for effective remineralization of the hard tissue of teeth. The increased presence and bioavailability of ions such as calcium and phosphate seem to be connected to a better remineralizing action resulting from these principles. The progressive increa-

se in knowledge and the advent of nanotechnology have certainly helped the development of highly bioavailable mineral particles, mainly based on calcium, phosphates and fluorine.

Conclusions: beyond the active ingredient used, only the intervention of the biological processes that normally take place within the oral cavity can lead any product to find the ideal environment to work. It is therefore essential to understand when a remineralization treatment should be used, to know in depth the biological mechanisms that regulate the balance between acid demineralization and remineralization, to understand the biochemical mechanisms by which an active ingredient contained in a product that the practitioner is about to use must work, to identify risk factors that could reduce the efficacy of the treatment and to remove, if possible, any obstacles to the functioning of the therapy.

CARIES-RISK ASSESSMENT WITH KIDS CARIO TEST APP: A PILOT STUDY

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Aim: formulating personalized prevention plans is the strategy to manage chronic diseases like dental caries. Aim of this study is to present Kids Cario Test (KCT), a smartphone application that provides a caries-risk assessment.

Methods: sixty-two patients from 4 to 12 years old, were enrolled and evaluated with KCT for five indicators:

- Dmft;
- dietary habits;
- oral hygiene;
- fluoroprophylaxis;
- general factors

which were given a 0-9 severity score.

Then, a total score indicated the *overall caries-risk* of the pa-

tient [low (0-8), medium (9-15) and high (16-45)].

Results: sixty-two patients were evaluated for KCT. The median age was 6,3 years old. For the 83% was the first dental visit. The overall dmft score was 0,75 (range 0-9). No patient was following a specific diet with at least five meals during the day. Less than two-thirds of the patients had optimal oral hygiene. Only 12% of patients were not using any fluoride product.

Conclusions: every patient received a personalized treatment plan according to KCT score. KCT represents an easy instrument to evaluate the caries risk assessment and prediction that need to be validated with future prospective studies. It is also a good way for motivation and instruction to the patient's parents.

A NEW PATENT TO DETECT HUMAN CORONAVIRUSES(HCOVS) IN 1195 PATIENTS BY MULTIPLEX PCR

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Aim: the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic struck several countries worldwide with 430.257.564 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 5.922.049 deaths as of February 25, 2022. A more efficient tool to detect Human Coronaviruses can be critical to contain and prevent future infection surges. This study aims to assess the ability of this rapid and sensitive diagnostic approach for multiple detections of pandemic Coronaviridae family viruses, including SARS-CoV-2, SARS-CoV, MERS-CoV, and four HCoVs, in clinical specimens obtained from persons suspected to have COVID-19.

Methods: 1195 nasopharyngeal swabs were collected from patients suspected of having COVID-19 in several Apulian hospitals and forwarded to the IZSPB. A multiplex PCR test specific to SARS-CoV-2, SARS-CoV, MERS-CoV, and HCoVs viral

targets was run using viral RNA isolated from nasopharyngeal swabs. Pham et al. published a study in 2020 that revealed the precise nucleotidic sequence of the primers and probes that needed to be used for this purpose.

Results: the assays yielded a positive rate of 69 per cent (835/1195) for SARS-CoV-2. SARS-COV-2 positive and negative samples were confirmed using the GSD NovaType II SARS-CoV-2 and GSD NovaType III SARS-CoV-2.

Conclusions: the assay has excellent performance and a low reagent cost; it is simple to perform and does not require specialists. It can detect the presence of multiple viruses from the *Coronaviridae* family, all of which are potentially fatal. Because of these findings, this tool is ideal for large-scale population screening.

SHORT- AND LONG-TERM BNT162B2 VACCINE RESPONSE EVALUATION IN 230 HEALTHCARE WORKERS

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Aim: the aim of this study was to evaluate the immune reaction in health workers of the Polyclinic of Bari to identify the relationship of antispikes titer with blood type, sex, age and comorbidities after vaccination with BNT162b2.

Methods: the primary objective of this prospective observational research (RENAISSANCE) was the assessment of serologic response to BNT162b2 at three blood draws: 1st at 60 days after the second dose; 2nd draw at 75 days after the first draw; and 3rd draw at 130 days after the second draw. Anti-SARS-CoV-2 Spike IgG antibodies were assessed with the LIAISON® SARS-CoV-2 TrimericS IgG assay.

Results: out of 230 enrolled staff members, all responded to mRNA Pfizer (BNT162b) VACCINE. All the patients responded to vaccine with an antispikes IgG level above 500 BAU/ml at the

first anti-spike protein Essay; at the second draw 1.7% of patients showed antispikes IgG level under 500 BAU/ml; at the third draw 16.1% of patients showed antispikes IgG level under 500 BAU/ml.

The data analysis revealed that patients with blood group 0 had the highest amount of antibodies compared to the other groups, regardless of their rhesus factor. There was no correlation between low antibody levels and sex or age.

Conclusions: the vaccination campaign led to an excellent serological response and the complete absence of COVID-19 incident cases, so the antibody response was excellent.

Covid 19 Vaccine Booster Shot should be given after 9 months, but not before an anti-spike titer is taken to see whether there is any sign of diminishing immunity in that patient.

OLFACTORY DYSFUNCTION IN COVID-19 PATIENTS: A PILOT STUDY WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR DENTISTS

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Aim: smell and taste dysfunction are frequently reported by SARS-CoV-2 positive patients. The degree of olfactory and gustatory dysfunction varies from a very mild reduction to their complete loss. Several studies have been performed to determine their prevalence in COVID-19 patients, mostly using subjective measurement methods. The literature lacks long-term studies regarding duration and recovery.

Methods: we assessed olfactory performance, using the Sniffin' Sticks olfactory test, in a group of patients who had not reported olfactory dysfunction, around 131 days after their COVID-19 diagnosis.

Results: 11 out of 20 subjects showed no olfactory reduction (65%), while 9 subjects showed reduced TDI score (45%). A total of 13 subjects (65%) scored above the cutoff point for Threshold, 16 subjects (80%) scored above the cutoff point for discrimination and 13 subjects (65%) scored above the cutoff point for identification.

Conclusions: objective measurement methods of olfactory performance show a higher prevalence of olfactory reduction compared to patients' self-reported questionnaires. Olfactory dysfunction can last even months after its onset and because of its high prevalence, it could be a screening symptom for suspect COVID-19 cases.

ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION IN CHILDREN WITH DOWN SYNDROME

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Aim: to promote healthy oral habits in Down Syndrome (DS) children through a personalized motivation path that includes information and instruction; to evaluate whether the acquisition of new skills regarding personal care interferes on the child's self-esteem and personal relationships positively.

Methods: 6 to 16 years old DS children were included. After the first visit, the child and parents were accompanied to a separate room where the *ad hoc* prepared dentist promoted healthy oral habits using a computer, video projector, plastic mouth and toothbrush model. The proposed material was created considering DS children's characteristics with regards to communication and presented respecting individuality and each child's processing time. Lastly we distributed: a brochure with the information provided to the child; a weekly chart

for the child to mark the oral health habits; a kit with toothbrush, toothpaste and hourglass; "Guidelines for children's oral health" for parents. A questionnaire for parents and children was distributed to evaluate self-esteem and personal relationships.

Results: our preliminary results on 34 DS children are satisfactory, with a reduction of IP mean values from 1,82 (T0), 1,2 (3 months) to 0,32 (6 months). A general improvement regarding patient cooperation was noticed.

Conclusions: despite the difficulty induced by the COVID-19 pandemic regarding dental visits, our results are satisfactory and encourage a long term study. It will be possible therefore to evaluate the obtained results in time, together with the impact on the patient's quality of life.

C-CONTROLLED LOCAL ANESTHETIC DELIVERY SYSTEM IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF PATIENTS MANAGEMENT

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Aim: the demanding of technical instrument able to improve patient compliance is essential in modern dentistry. The aim of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of Computer-Controlled anesthesia (C-Clad) system, comparing it to traditional anesthetics' techniques in order to minimize pain and reduce high levels of anxiety.

Methods: 90 Patients (age ranged between 12-60 years) from the Department of Oral and Maxillo-Facial Sciences, underwent to endodontic therapy were enrolled for the study. The selected teeth were randomly allocated to three different groups differentiated for anesthesia method: Loco regional block nerve; Intraligamentary Anesthesia; Single tooth anesthesia through C- Clad system. The efficiency of anesthetic procedure was evaluated through vitality scanner test at base-

line, T1 = 60 sec and T2 = 5 minutes. The pain's perception is measured through Visual Analogue Scale (VAS).

Results: the results obtained shows that the probability that teeth are anesthetized at T1 is expected to be higher among patients with computer based anesthesia and it is expected to be lower among smokers rather than no smokers. Among teeth not asleep at T1, Traditional anesthesia ranks at the first place in terms of probability that teeth are asleep at T2. The VAS score was significantly lower in the C-Clad group compared to others.

Conclusions: our results suggest that C-Clad anesthesia is an effective technique which generates lower levels of pain perceptions among subjects. These results are important to promote the empowerment of patients in dental care.

ATTITUDES OF DENTISTS TREATING HIV PATIENTS: A 10 YEARS LATER UPDATE

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Aim: the purpose of the study is to update the data published in a report of 2009 that assessed the relationship between HIV-patients and dentists, which revealed that about 4.5% of the dentists participating had discriminatory attitudes towards HIV-patients.

Methods: cross sectional study was performed in 2021 through a national observational survey involving dentists from almost all Italian regions. The questionnaire was developed by 2 dentists, a specialist in infectious diseases and a psychologist. An external society dealt with the dissemination of the questionnaire with the help of the main national dental scientific labour association through a special link. The data was collected after 6 months. The questionnaire consisted in 4 major sections, following our previous report published in 2009.

Results: 1529 from all Italy answered the questionnaire in a 6 months time frame. All dentists answered the question “Do

you think it is right not to treat someone who is HIV positive?” and 45 (0.04%) answered “YES”. Feeling greater stress when treating HIV positive patients (odds ratio [OR] 2.7; 95% confidence interval [CI] 1.4-5.4 and $p = 0.005$); charging different fees for HIV positive patients (OR 6.6; 95% CI 1.9-18.9 and $p = 0.002$); wearing particular protective clothing while treating HIV positive patients (OR 2.5; 95% CI 1.2-5.3 and $p = 0.01$); deliberate refusal to treat HIV positive patients (OR 9.6; 95% CI 3.8-24.2 and $p = 0.001$) were associated with thinking it was right not to treat an HIV positive patient.

Conclusions: we are witnessing to a substantial maintenance of the data recorded 10 years ago. These discriminative attitudes may increase the risk of cross-infection, in order to prevent those episodes, it is necessary to widen the knowledge of the matter and the moral and ethical propensity on the part of the dental profession.

PPE AND INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES AMONG HEALTH WORKERS: A NEW AWARENESS IN COVID-19 ERA

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Aim: health workers (HW) were particularly affected by COVID-19 in terms of infection rates and deaths, especially at the beginning, when adequate PPE was lacking. Of the 500 COVID-19-related deaths among Italian HW, 370 were doctors, of which more than 200 were general practitioners (GPs) and physicians, while about 30 were dentists. Dentistry is an exposure prone profession; therefore, strict PPE use and infection control procedures are routinary among dentists. National and international data reported that COVID-19 did not impact on dental professionals more than other categories of HW. The aim of this study was to analyze data from FNOMCeO, to assess the number of COVID-19-related deaths among its associates and among identifiable categories like GPs and dentists.

Methods: we extrapolated professional, demographic and geographical data for each listed death, from the board's public files and by googling.

Results: Italy counts about 63000 dentists and 396000 doctors, 42000 of which are GPs. As of December 31, 2021, 364 deaths were reported. Dentists and doctors, in general, seem to have been similarly affected, concerning death proportion, geographic and temporal trend, by COVID-19. Of the 364 deaths, 140 were GPs and 38 dentists. GPs seem to have died about 3 times more than other doctors and dentists. All groups displayed similar ages.

Conclusions: considering the outcome “death”, dentists, despite at high risk, were apparently not particularly affected by COVID-19.

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON DENTAL CARE OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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Aim: according to the WHO and United Nations, the COVID-19 pandemic brought a range of additional barriers for people with disabilities, who constitute approximately 15% of the world population, including access to dental treatments. The aim of this retrospective study is to report changes in dental care for patients with disabilities before (year 2019) and during the COVID-19 pandemic (year 2020).

Methods: the study included patients with disabilities referred at the Gorizia-Monfalcone Dental Unit, who were treated in outpatient mode or general anesthesia during the years 2019 and 2020. Demographic and clinical characteristics, as well as the type of treatments provided were recorded. Statistical analysis was performed employing Mann-Whitney U test and Fischer's exact test.

Results: the total number of patients with disabilities referred before and during pandemic was similar (129 patients in 2019, 131 in 2020), while the total number of treatments performed decreased in 2020 (1140 versus 820). Mean age of patients was significantly lower in 2020 ($p < 0.0001$). Results show a significant increase in the number of outpatient therapies compared to general anesthesia ($p = 0.0427$). There was also a significant change ($p = 0.0480$) in the proportion of different types of therapies (conservative, endodontic, surgery, dental hygiene).

Conclusions: the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on oral treatments in patients with disabilities. There was a higher proportion of interventions performed in outpatient mode, and a higher frequency of surgical treatments compared to conservative ones.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON POST LOCKDOWN ACCESS TO PUBLIC DENTAL CARE: PILOT STUDY

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Aim: the worldwide spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has led to a severe international health crisis, which has significantly impacted the delivery of health services in both the public and private settings, inevitably including the dental sector. The aim of the study is investigate the impact of pandemic on access to dental and medical care and also investigate the influence that the use of masks has had on the perception of patient care needs.

Methods: questionnaire was administered online via google form platform, during the first visit to patients attending the dental clinic of the Policlinico Umberto I in Rome, Italy. The only one exclusion criterion was barrier language.

Results: 15 female and 27 male patients were enrolled. 48% of these access after more than 1 year from the appearance of

this problem, the 67% believes that the pandemic played a crucial role and 33% delayed dental care although he needed it. For 45% the face mask has influenced on the situation of discomfort caused by oral disorder of his mouth, of this for 68% had impacted positively in dissemble own oral condition and 32% became aware of the problem.

Conclusions: the survey shows that the mandatory use of the mask has significantly influenced the patients' uncomfortable situations and the perception of the need for oral care. Due to the decline in the provision of primary and secondary prevention services observed in the most critical period, today the complexity of the treatments necessary to restore good oral health is greater.

FRAGILITY AND ELDERLY: A QUESTIONNAIRE TO EVALUATE TWO WORK TOOLS FOR ORAL HEALTH IN NON COMMUNICATIVE FRAIL ELDER

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Aim: the aim of present study is to present a questionnaire to evaluate two work tools for oral health: ODONTOALERT and MOUTH.

Methods: mouth and Odontoalert objectives are to intercept oral problems in the non-communicative frail elders and to improve oral health skills in the formal and informal caregivers. The questionnaire proposed is anonymous, is made of 25 questions: it collects and records data and opinions from clinicians and caregivers to evaluate the tools created to intercept oral problems in the non communicative frail elders. People surveyed: health professionals in hospital setting are called to evaluate the tool MOUTH, and formal and informal caregivers

the ODONTOALERT. The survey areas of the questionnaire are: socio-demographic and occupational data, oral health opinions and knowledge on frailty in non-communicative patients, evaluation of two instruments.

Results: the dissemination of the questionnaire has just begun, and it is planned to reach more clinicians and caregivers.

Conclusions: the creation of questionnaire has highlighted the importance of integration between different professional figures in order to frame the elderly person in the whole, especially when he is in a situation of fragility and lack of independence. The oral health is essential for overall good health and it plays a crucial role in quality of life during old age.

TELEDENTISTRY: OUR PROTOCOL FOR INTRA-ORAL HOME-TAKING PICS. REALITY OR FANTASY?

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Aim: the aims of this study were to create a protocol for home-taking intra-oral photographs for telediagnosis of caries using a smartphone and to assess the viability to used it at home.

Methods: two authors tested different perspectives and settings to take intra-oral photographs at home. One of the authors played the patient and the second author shot the photographs. To achieve a wider view, spoons were used by "patient". Photos were shot with a smartphone with 10 mpx. 10 photos were shot from 5 different perspectives with a room light (one with flash and one without): frontal, maxillary and mandibular occlusal surfaces, left and right vestibular side. The distance between camera and teeth was ranged between 5 to 10 cm. 300 photographs were taken and sharpness, absence of dark areas, presence of teeth (7 to 7), exposition

and focus were assessed by two authors and scored (0 to 5 for each parameter). Mann-Whitney tests were carried out to assess differences for each parameter between photographs shot with and without flash.

Results: 300 photographs were analyzed, 21 photographs were excluded because of poor quality. None statistically significant differences were found between photographs shot with and without flash for each parameter.

Conclusions: the protocol established in this work seemed to be useful for taking intra-oral photographs at home. It could be useful in helping diagnosis of caries and in telediagnosis. It should be advisable to provide patients with images for illustrative purpose combined with a training for using the protocol at chair-side.

CRANIO-ORO-FACIAL TRAUMA CARE CHANGES IN COVID-19 PANDEMY. AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

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Aim: the patient's behavior, the organization of hospitals and of health care centers have been deeply modified by the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim of this epidemiological analysis is to evaluate if and how the COVID-19 pandemic has determined an alteration in cranio-oro-facial traumatology service.

Methods: the information set incorporated hospital emergency room access of the six-monthly pre-pandemic period and a six-monthly period into pandemic outbreak. The variables collected were: patient age, gender, type of emergency access with relative color code, Glasgow Coma Scale Score, type of discharge.

Results: 537 vs. 237 (pre-pandemic vs. pandemic) patients accessed the hospital emergency room. The mean age decre-

ased from 60.79 ± 25.34 to 56.75 ± 24.50 . Pre-pandemic vs. pandemic Yellow codes access went from 28.9% to 37.5% and green codes access went from 66.1% to 57.7%. Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) shows an increase of 16.6% vs. 27.8% of 15 grade score, a 28.7% vs. 28.5% of the 14 grades score and reduction of 13 and 12 grade 40.2% and 14.5% vs. 37.1 and 9.7% (pre-pandemic vs. pandemic).

Conclusions: since the COVID-19 outbreak goes on, epidemiological information are still needful to execute public health intervention strategies and to appropriately predict the population needs, in order to properly administrate the COVID-19 connected to oral pathologies as well as the most common health issues.

COMPLETE DENTAL CARE SESSIONS IN NON-COOPERATING/NON-AUTONOMOUS SPECIAL NEEDS INDIVIDUALS

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Aim: Special Care Dentistry provides oral care for people with fragility/disability (Special Needs Individuals, SNI). When these patients are not cooperating for care or even inspection, lack of fundamental dental therapies (fillings, scaling and root planning, avulsions) may have disastrous consequences, such as abscesses or necessity of hospitalization for emergency care.

Methods: at U.O.C. Odontostomatologia, A.O.R.N. A. Cardarelli, Naples, Italy, all consecutive SNIs from 2003 to 2020 have undergone every 6/8 months a Complete Dental Care Session (CDCS) in conscious sedation (CS), reserving general anesthesia (GA) only to patients unsuitable for CS. During each CDCS, inspection, rx exams, tooth decay, scaling and root planing, teeth extraction were performed. Treatment plan took into consideration patients'/caregivers' degree of home cooperation of dental hygiene. Dental/anaesthesiological feasibility and complication rate were analyzed; dental

emergencies during the in-between periods were recorded.

Results: 1276 patients received CDCSs 8-12 months. 3 patients (0.2%) had general condition for which GA was necessary. Preliminary data analysis showed no patients undergoing CS experienced major complication. One patient (0.07%) who underwent conscious sedation experienced oxygen desaturation and was thus intubated. Drop of dental avulsions was noted in patients undergoing multiple sessions and no patient experienced dental emergency amongst CDCSs.

Conclusions: with proper anaesthesiological evaluation, preliminary data analysis shows that CDCSs are a safe and effective way to prevent dental emergencies in non-cooperating/non-autonomous SNI. Furthermore, patients undergoing regular CDCS are less likely to need tooth avulsion. Drop of dental acute events and teeth's life lengthening may have a tremendous impact on such individuals' QoL, their families' and community.

USE OF AN AIR PURIFIER DEVICE WITH HEPA 14 FILTER

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Aim: the purpose of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of an air purifier device (professional XXI inn-56 innolving) with HEPA filter 14, applied on a Portable Aspiration Device (PAC). This device can be used to reduce the number of suspended particles, as a vector for Covid-19 transmission, generated because of dental procedures.

Methods: the study was conducted in a dental treatment room at the Dental clinic of San Raffaele Hospital. Two dental procedures were analyzed: oral hygiene and oral surgery. A test group (with application of filtering device) and a control group (without filtering device) were examined. For each group, hygiene procedure and oral surgery procedure were

performed, for a total of 80 dental procedures. All procedures were monitored during clinical controls using professional instruments such as molecular particle counters (Lasair III 350L 9 50 litres/min), bacteriological plates (Tryptic Soy Agar), sound meters for LAFp sound pressure level (SPL) and LCpL instantaneous peak level.

Results: PAC showed an important reduction in particle contamination. Its effectiveness has also been demonstrated from a microbiological point of view. Furthermore, it does not produce any additional noise during dental procedures.

Conclusions: the addition of the PAC equipment proved effective in further reducing microbiological risk.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON UNIVERSITY TEACHING. STUDENTS' POINT OF VIEW PRELIMINARY RESULT

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The usual education in Italy provides “face to face” teaching. But also in other countries, digitization in schools has been characterized as a slow process.

However, this pandemic not only creates the need, but can also provide the opportunity to accelerate the digital transformation in education.

This could have a positive effect on students' future education beyond COVID-19.

It is accepted that the attitude and predisposition of students are important factors that benefit from the value of online learning; the evaluation of their attitudes are important factors in evaluating their success, paying particular attention to the issues of equal opportunities in the use of digital devices and to the evaluation of the subjective perception of the experience.

Therefore, the aim of this study is to evaluate the students' perspective towards Sapienza's new online learning courses

through the administration of an online questionnaire in the difficult period of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

Experimental Approach: this is a cross-sectional study conducted through an online survey (Google Form). The items of the questions were initially drafted and discussed informally with a group of medical and dental students before undergoing a careful review and modification process (Focus Group).

The final questions explored the following three themes:

1. General demographics. (8 items);
2. the use and experience of online teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic. (13 items);
3. perceived benefits and barriers of online teaching (12 Items).

Main result and conclusions: 400 university students from the Sapienza University of Rome responded.

There is an overall positive opinion on the online teaching but the one in presence remains essential.

FOCUS ON THE MANDIBULAR CHONDROSARCOMA

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Chondrosarcomas are malignant tumors characterized by formation of cartilage by neoplastic cells. They can affect any bone, but only 10% of all CS comprises head/neck area, most of them arising from nasal structures and from larynx, rarely developing in the jaw bones. CS show a mottled radiolucent area without delimited borders.

Materials: healthy 34-year-old woman a 1-month duration painless soft tissue mass and paresthesia in right retromolar area. Intraoral examination revealed a 1.5 cm in diameter firm tumoral mass. CT images showed an irregular hard tissue mass with expansion mainly into lingual cortical. Surgical resection via partial hemimandibulectomy from the second molar to the middle of ramus involving part of the coronoid process and reconstruction using autologous rib was performed. Histological analysis confirmed diagnosis of chondrosarcoma.

Discussion: chondrosarcomas constitute a heterogeneous group of malignant neoplasms that have the production of cartilage matrix by the tumor cells in common. CS are third most common bone cancer after myeloma and osteosarcoma, head and neck region is uncommon. Retrospective studies found a slight male predilection, while others reported no

sex prevalence, and age of diagnosis was at the middle thirties. CS have a variety of signs and symptoms, usually presenting as a local painless swelling and paresthesia. CS don't have a classical or pathognomonic radiographic pattern, which makes radiographic analysis inconclusive. CS show a radiolucent image with scalloped borders with calcification areas, suggestive of a malignant lesion. CT is important to determine lesion extension for surgical planning and CT revealed the tumor showing a "sun ray" pattern, which is common in osteosarcomas. They are aggressive and locally invasive, but prognosis is generally favorable, and it is strongly correlated with its size, histological grade, early treatment and adequacy of surgery. Recommended treatment is wide surgical resection. The use of chemo and radiotherapy is controversial, some authors support it as therapy in large or non-operated cases, but most studies suggest CS aren't sensitive to these treatments.

Conclusions: did them and the prevention made by our hospitals and dental surgeries. Thanks also to modern technologies in both diagnostic and interventional but also thanks to scientific research we can cure our population in the best way.

DISEASE BE INCLUDED AMONG THE RISK FACTORS FOR COVID-19?

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Aim: periodontal disease can affect the systemic health status of patients with previous inflammatory or autoimmune diseases through the release of IL-1, IL-6 and inflammatory mediators and formation of autoantibodies by bacteria involved in pathogenesis such as RA. Covid-19 leaves sequelae in healed patients. The present study's aims to identify a possible correlation between Periodontal disease and COVID-19 in hospitalized patients now discharged and negative for SARS-CoV-2.

Methods: retrospective and prospective cohort study and follows the Strobe list, included in a large single-center observational study, the COVID-BioB study, conducted at San Raffaele University Hospital in Milan. All patients aged ≥ 18 years, admitted to the Emergency Department of San Raffaele University Hospital from February 25, 2020, for CO-

VID-19 were consecutively enrolled in the COVID-BioB study. The inflammatory status and periodontal disease were assessed by a specialist using the periodontal probe by recording the patient's PSR.

Results: 2000 enrolled patients hospitalized for COVID-19 from May 2020 to December 2021. All data collected were analyzed using statistical methodology to confirm this on 298 patients a multivariate binary statistical analysis was also performed.

Conclusions: contrary to what has been reported in the literature, no pathological probing was reported in previously hospitalized COVID-19 patients. It can be stated that patients who had pathology and had periodontal disease had it previously or hospitalization worsened their oral hygiene conditions.