Brazilian Oral Research

Abstract

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The aim of this study was to assess oral health status and its relationship with quality of life. A household population, cross-sectional study was carried out; participants were between 15 and 17 years of age (n = 247) and were examined by two calibrated dentists. Socio-economic status was classified according to ANEP-ABIPEME criteria. Clinical examinations to observe DMFT, CPI and Dean indices were performed as per WHO criteria. The Significant Caries Index (SiC) was used to evaluate polarization of the occurrence of caries among participants of the tercile with higher DMF-T. The OHIP instrument was used to measure quality of life. The Spearman and Mann-Whitney tests were used for assessing correlations (5% significance level). Examinations were carried out in 117 (47.37%) females and in 130 (52.63%) males. Of the examined participants, 45.75% were classified as belonging to socio-economic class C. Caries occurrence was observed in 218 subjects (88.26%); the mean DMFT was 5.40. The SiC index was 9.97. Almost half (47.77%) of the participants examined did not present sextants affected by periodontal disease. Of the participants examined, 80.16% presented absence of fluorosis. The mean OHIP was 3.95. The following correlations were observed: a positive and statistically significant correlation between the highest score in the OHIP and decayed teeth; a positive correlation with threshold significance between OHIP and DMFT; an inverse correlation between intact teeth and OHIP; and a positive and non statistically significant correlation between SiC and OHIP (correlation coefficient = 0.13, p = 0.245). Association between the mean OHIP and the terciles was not significant (p = 0.146); there were also no associations between periodontal condition and OHIP nor were there associations between the presence of fluorosis and mean OHIP.

Keywords : Oral health; Teen health; Quality of life.

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