

Publication 1:

Title	" Arabic Oral Health Impact Profile (OHIP 14) in Saudi population "
Details of Publication	Abstract # 0163 PEF IADR 2008 http://iadr.confex.com/iadr/pefo8/techprogram/abstract_111196.htm
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Abstract:

Introduction: The vast majority of oral conditions present as established disease entities that greatly impact the quality of life (QoL) of the patients. Oral conditions are as yet far from being totally preventable and therefore the clinical evaluation of their impact and their treatments is still widely used as the most important evaluation tool. The OHIP has recently been translated into the Arabic language by Al-Jundi et al. We have extracted the shorter version of the questionnaire, OHIP-14, comprising the seven sub-sets and have randomly sampled it on patients being treated in several governmental hospitals in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Material & Methods: The questionnaire was administered randomly to both male and female patients in government hospitals by general dentists. Patient's age, gender and nationality were noted and patient identity was kept confidential. Only Saudi nationals were included in the study.

Results: Female participants (n=77, mean age:30.6, s.d:9.5) were significantly younger than males (n=88, mean age 35.65, s.d 14.4). Overall, participants experienced the most oral health related quality of life (OHRQL) problems in the functional limitation domain (mean: 2.97 (s.d: 1.7)). The least OHRQL problems were in the physical pain domain (mean: 5.1, s.d: 2.3). Furthermore, using the summary OHIP-A-14 score as the dependent variable, females experiences significantly less oral health related quality of life problems compared to males (means: 30.82 Vs 24.77, respectively, p=0.003). This association was persistent after adjustment for age and level of education.

Discussion & conclusion: Our results indicate a significant difference between females and males in this study. This difference could indicate the fact that women take better care of their oral health or could be an actual perception of better health. Further studies are essential in this part of the world and when paired with clinical examination will help reach more assertive conclusions.