An interview study of persons who attribute health problems to dental filling materials--part two in a triangulation study on 65 and 75 years old Swedes.

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Author: Katri Ståhlnacke
Björn Söderfeldt

Author Affiliation: Orebro County Council, Orebro, Sweden. katri.stahlnacke@orebroll.se


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Humans
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Retreatment
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Sweden

Abstract: Dental materials are perceived as a health problem by some people, although scientists do not agree about possible causes of such problems. The aim of this paper was to gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of experiences from living with health problems attributed to dental materials. Addressed topics were the type of problem, both as to general and oral health, perceived causes of the problems, their experienced effect on life, and reception by health professionals. Persons, who in a previous large questionnaire study had answered that they had experienced troubles from dental materials and also agreed to answer follow-up questions, were contacted with a request to take part in an interview study. Eleven individual interviews were held. The interviews were transcribed verbatim and the material was analysed according to the Qualitative Content Analysis method. Meaning units were extracted and condensed into a number of codes, which were combined into subcategories, categories, and themes. Four themes were identified: 1) Long-term oral, mental, and somatic difficulties of varying character, caused by dental amalgam. 2) Problems treated mainly by replacement of dental material in fillings. 3) Powerful effects on life, mostly negative. 4) The reception by health professionals was generally good, but with elements of encounters where they felt treated with nonchalance and lack of respect. In conclusion, people who attributed their health difficulties to dental materials had a complex range of problems and the perception was that amalgam/mercury was the cause of the troubles. The reception from health professionals was perceived as generally good, although with occasional negative experiences.

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Associations between social and general health factors and symptoms related to temporomandibular disorders and bruxism in a population of 50-year-old subjects.

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Author: Anders Johansson
  Lennart Unell
  Gunnar Carlsson
  Björn Söderfeldt
  Arne Halling
  Fredrik Widar

Author Affiliation: Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Postgraduate Dental Education Center, Box 1126, SE-701 11 Orebro, Sweden. a.johansson@orebroll.se


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  Bruxism - complications - epidemiology
  Dental Care - psychology - utilization
  Female
  Health status
  Humans
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  Male
  Middle Aged
  Odds Ratio
  Questionnaires
  Risk factors
  Sampling Studies
  Sex Factors
  Smoking
  Socioeconomic Factors
  Sweden - epidemiology
  Temporomandibular Joint Disorders - epidemiology - etiology
The aim of this epidemiological study was to examine associations between temporomandibular (TMD)-related problems and variables from three domains: (1) socio-economic attributes, (2) general health and health-related lifestyle, and (3) dental attitudes and behaviors. The overall response rate to a questionnaire mailed to the total population of 50-year-old subjects in two Swedish counties (8,888 individuals) was 71%. Among the 53 questions in the questionnaire, those related to social, general health, and health-related factors were used as independent variables in logistic regression models. Three TMD-related symptoms and reported bruxism were used as dependent variables. Impaired general health was the strongest risk factor for reported TMD symptoms. Along with female gender and dissatisfaction with dental care, impaired general health was significantly associated with all three TMD symptoms. A few more factors were associated with pain from the TMJ only. In comparison, reported bruxism showed more significant associations with the independent variables. In addition to the variables associated with TMD symptoms, being single, college/university education, and daily tobacco use were also significantly correlated with bruxism. Besides female gender, impaired general health, dissatisfaction with dental care, and a few social and health-related factors demonstrated significant associations with TMD symptoms and reported bruxism.
Changes in employers' image of ideal dentists and managers in the Swedish public dental sector.

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Author: Cecilia Franzén
Björn Söderfeldt

Author Affiliation: Department of Oral Public Health, Faculty of Odontology, Malmö University, Sweden. cecilia.franzen@od.mah.se

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Chi-Square Distribution
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Financial Management - organization & administration
Humans
Job Description
Odds Ratio
Organizational Culture
Organizational Objectives
Personality
Personnel Management
Public Health Dentistry - organization & administration
Public Sector - organization & administration
Sweden

Abstract: Earlier studies have shown that employers are keen to have employees whose attitudinal and behavioral traits are consistent with the employers' ideology. One way of ascertaining the image of ideal individuals is to analyze the required qualifications in job advertisements. The aim of this study was to explore possible changes in the employers' view of the ideal manager and dentist in the Swedish Public Dental Health Service (PDHS). The study investigated the kinds and frequencies of manifestly required qualifications concerning vacancies in the PDHS from January 1990 to December 1998. All job advertisements intended for dentists and managers on different hierarchical levels in general dentistry were included (n = 1152); 5705 qualification demands were analyzed by content analysis permitting quantitative descriptions of the textual material as well as an analysis of the underlying characteristics over time. The study indicates that, for dentists, dental professional qualifications or qualifications in accordance with the official objective of dental care were insufficient. While requests for qualifications relating to the economic organizational goals of the PDHS increased during the latter part of the period under study, requests relating to the dental profession decreased. For managers, too, the demands for dental professional qualifications had decreased at the end of the studied period compared to the demands for managerial qualifications and non-professional qualifications, which had increased. In conclusion, the job advertisement portrays the ideal dentist and manager primarily as an economic organizational asset.

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Changes over 5 years in utilization of dental care by a Swedish age cohort.
OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this study was to investigate the temporal development of the utilization of dental care, in relation to socio-economic factors and also considering perceived oral health, attitudes to dental care, dental anxiety, care organisation and changes in the way that dental care is paid for. A conflict model was used as a theoretical framework. METHODS: In 1992, a mail questionnaire was sent to all 50-year-old persons in two counties in Sweden, Orebro and Ostergotland, as part of a cross-sectional study. This study group numbered 8888 persons. In 1997, the same population was sent a new questionnaire. There were 5363 persons who completed the questionnaire in both 1992 and 1997. Changes in utilization of dental care were analysed. RESULTS: An increase in personal expenditure for care was obvious, 42% paid more in 1997 compared with 1992. In the study, 7% had prolonged their time since most recent visit and 12% had less frequent visits. In regression models, education, occupation, place of residence, country of birth, marital status, gender, dental anxiety, having poor perceived oral health and poor general health were associated with utilization. Care organisation factors showed there was a greater probability of having higher utilization and higher cost of care when private practitioners provided the care. CONCLUSION: Small changes in the utilization of dental care occurred during this study time. Inequality in utilization existed and socio-economic factors affected utilization as well as health perception and dental anxiety. Changes in the cost of care did not affect utilization appreciably, probably because of a selected population with high price elasticity. Having a private care provider compared with one in the public system affected the probability of having higher utilization and higher cost for care.
Collegial Support and Community with Trust in Swedish and Danish dentistry.

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Author: Hanne Berthelsen
Björn Söderfeldt
Rebecca Harris
Jan Hyld Pejtersen
Kamilla Bergström
Karin Hjalmers
Sven Ordell

Author Affiliation: Department of Oral Public Health, Faculty of Odontology, Malmö University, Sweden. hanne.berthelsen@mah.se

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Education, Dental
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Female
General Practice, Dental - organization & administration
Humans
Interpersonal Relations
Interprofessional Relations
Leadership
Leisure Activities
Male
Marital status
Organizational Affiliation
Organizational Culture
Organizational Objectives
Practice Management, Dental - organization & administration
Private Practice
Public Sector
Sex Factors
Social Environment
Social Values
Sweden
Time Factors
Trust
Workplace
Abstract: The aim of the study was to better understand the associations between work factors and professional support among dentists (Collegial Support) as well as the sense of being part of a work community characterized by trust (Community with Trust).

A questionnaire was sent to 1835 general dental practitioners, randomly selected from the members of dental associations in Sweden and Denmark in 2008. The response rate was 68%. Two models with the outcome variables Collegial Support and being part of a Community with Trust were built using multiple hierarchical linear regression. Demographic background factors, work factors, managerial factors and factors relating to objectives and to values characterizing climate of the practice were all introduced as blocks into the models.

A different pattern emerged for Collegial Support than for Community with Trust, indicating different underlying mechanisms. The main results were: (I) Female, married/cohabitant, collegial network outside the practice, common breaks, formalized managerial education of leader and a climate characterized by professional values, which were positively associated with Collegial Support, while number of years as a dentist and being managerially responsible were negatively associated. (II) Common breaks, decision authority and a climate characterized by professional values were positively associated with Community with Trust.

A professionally-oriented practice climate and having common breaks at work were strongly associated with both outcome variables. The study underlined the importance of managing dentistry in a way which respects the professional ethos of dentists.

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Decision making among Swedish general dental practitioners concerning prosthodontic treatment planning in a shortened dental arch.

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Author: Eva-Karin Korduner
Björn Söderfeldt
Mats Kronström
Krister Nilner

Author Affiliation: Prosthodontic Clinic, Public Dental Health Service, Malmö, Sweden. eva-karin.korduner@skane.se


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Abstract: The purposes of this study were to describe how dentists evaluated the importance of various patient-related items when planning for a treatment in a shortened dental arch, to analyse common dimensions of the decision-making in comparison to other decision situations, and to identify explanatory factors behind these dimensions. A questionnaire containing different statements regarding the shortened dental arch concept was sent to a random sample of Swedish general dentists (n=189), with a response rate of 54%. The dentists were asked to evaluate items to be considered when planning for a prosthetic treatment in a shortened dental arch. Differences between individuals were great as well as between groups of dentists. Especially delivery system but also place of dental education and attitudinal factors were related to the shortened dental arch decision making process.
Dental care utilization: a study of 50- to 75-year-olds in southern Sweden.

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Author: Ingrid Collin Bagewitz
Björn Söderfeldt
Sigvard Palmqvist
Krister Nilner

Author Affiliation: Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Centre for Oral Health Sciences, Malmö University, Sweden. Ingrid.Collin-Bagewitz@skane.se

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Dentures - economics - psychology
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Logistic Models
Male
Middle Aged
Odds Ratio
Questionnaires
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov’t
Sex Factors
Social Class
Sweden
Tooth Loss - economics - psychology

Abstract: This study investigates dental care utilization in an adult population in Southern Sweden in relation to dental and social conditions, attitudes to costs, and perceived need to obtain dental services. The study was based on responses to a questionnaire sent in 1998 to a random sample, 1974 persons, aged 56-75 years. The response rate was 66%. A significantly higher probability of dental care utilization less than once a year was found for men, for those with few remaining teeth, and for those with removable dentures. A higher probability of dental care utilization less than once a year was found for those who stated perceived need to obtain dental care with no possibility because of the cost and for those who stated that the cost had influenced their attendance for dental care. The results showed that there were differences for sex and dental conditions in dental care utilization and that dental care utilization was related to attitudes towards costs of dental care.

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Arctic Health

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Author: Katarina Sondell
Björn Söderfeldt
Anders Hugoson

Author Affiliation: Dept. of Prosthetic Dentistry, Institute for Postgraduate Dental Education, Jönköping, Sweden. katarina.sondell@lj.se


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Female
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Male
Middle Aged
Oral Health
Public Health Dentistry
Questionnaires
Risk factors
Socioeconomic Factors
Sweden - epidemiology
Urban Population

Abstract: The aim of the present study is to analyse factors influencing the patterns of utilization of dental care in an adult urban Swedish population aged between 30 and 80 in the years 1993 and 2003. This study is part of two large epidemiological dental studies of randomly selected individuals, performed in 1993 and 2003. It comprises clinical and questionnaire data from 555 and 505 individuals in the two studyyears. In 1993, more patients visited the private dental care system more often than the public system. This difference still existed in 2003, but to a 50% lower extent. All age groups had less utilization of dental care in 2003 than in 1993. The largest change was seen in the 30-year age group in utilization patterns of dental care between the two study years. A hierarchical block regression method was performed in four steps, analysing utilization for the two study years separately. The dental service system influenced the utilization patterns significantly for both years. The health factors strengthened this main result. Irrespective of dental health, patients were predicted to visit the private dental care service system more often in both 1993 and 2003. The socio-economic differences between people in Sweden were of no consequence for dental care utilization. As to age and attitude towards treatment costs, a substantial change was observed and might reflect a change in social patterns with greater inequalities, but the overall picture of equal access in dental care in Sweden remains.

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Dimensions of oral health-related quality of life in an adult Swedish population.

Author: Ingrid Collin Bagewitz
Björn Söderfeldt
Krister Nilner
Sigvard Palmqvist

Author Affiliation: Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Centre for Oral Health Sciences, Malmö University, Malmö, Sweden.
Ingrid.Collin-Bagewitz@skane.se

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Oral Health
Quality of Life
Questionnaires
Sweden - epidemiology

Abstract: The concept of oral health-related quality of life (OHRQOL) is investigated in this study. The aim was to explore the dimensionality of variables measuring OHRQOL in an adult Swedish population and to discuss the findings in relation to existing indices. The study was based on responses to a 1998 questionnaire sent to a random sample of 1974 persons aged between 50 and 75 years. There were 22 variables based on questions concerning oral situation and the impact on 7 theoretically different dimensions of QOL. The majority were satisfied with their oral health situation. During the previous 12 months, 16% of the population had experienced problems with their mouth or teeth on at least one occasion per month. Principal components analysis was used to analyze the dimensionality of the variables. Three factors accounted for 59% of the variance: (1) Physical and social disability, (2) psychological discomfort and disability, and (3) functional limitation and physical pain. The perception of OHRQOL is multidimensional, but the dimensions are not equally important. The dimensions of OHRQOL found in the present study are similar to those of existing instruments.

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The effect of an oral health education program after three years.

Author: Gun Paulsson
Björn Söderfeldt
Tommy Nederfors
Bengt Fridlund

The effect of an oral health education program after three years.
Three years after providing an oral health education program (OHEP) to nursing personnel, the authors analyzed the effect of the program on knowledge of the importance of oral health and on perception among the nurses of the possibility to implement oral care in patient care. The study was based on a cross-sectional survey of all nursing personnel (N = 2,901) in five municipalities in the Southwestern Sweden, of whom 950 had attended four one-hour lessons during an OHEP in 1996. The response rate to the survey questionnaire was 67% (1,930 subjects). Statistical analysis was performed by means of descriptive and analytical statistics. The program was shown to have an independent effect on the dependent variables “knowledge of oral health” and “assessment of implementation possibilities,” This study has given further evidence of the feasibility of an educational program to improve both knowledge and implementation of oral health care.