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Database: Ovid MEDLINE(R) In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations and Ovid MEDLINE(R) <1946 to Present>
Search Strategy:
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
1 exp *Telemedicine/ and exp *Dentistry/ (80)
2 limit 1 to english language (75)
3 limit 2 to (letter or comment or editorial or news) (9)
4 2 not 3 (66)
5 teledent$.ti. (50)
6 limit 5 to (letter or comment or editorial or news) (4)
7 5 not 6 (46)
8 4 or 7 (83)
9 exp *Telemedicine/ (13486)
10 8 and 9 (73)
11 from 10 keep 1-20 (20)

<1> Unique Identifier 25219192
Status MEDLINE
Authors Glassman P; Harrington M; Namakian M; Harrison-Noonan J.
Authors Full Name Glassman, Paul; Harrington, Maureen; Namakian, Maysa; Harrison-Noonan, Jesse.
Title The potential for telehealth technologies to facilitate charity care. Creating virtual dental homes.
Local Messages THIS JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE BDA LIBRARY
Abstract The dramatic increase in broadband connectivity is opening up the possibility for using telehealth-connected teams in an improved system for charity care. The Virtual Dental Home demonstration taking place in California provides a model for the development and deployment of such teams. Teams using telehealth connections to provide oral health care can transform episodic or one-time visits into an ongoing system of care with a much greater emphasis on prevention and early intervention techniques and a greater likelihood of improved oral health for the population.
Publication Type Journal Article.
Date Created 20140915
Year of Publication 2014

<2> Unique Identifier 24266316
Status MEDLINE
Authors Mladenovic D; Tosic G; Zivkovic D; Djindjic N; Mladenovic L; Mladenovic S; Markovic I.
Authors Full Name Tosic, Goran; Zivkovic, Dusan; Djindjic, Natasa; Mladenovic, Lidija; Mladenovic, Sanja; Markovic, Ivana.
Institution Mladenovic,Dragan. Dentistry Clinic, Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Nis, Serbia. dragan.mladenovic@medfak.ni.ac.rs
Title Telemedicine consulting in the patient preparation and planning of prosthetic tooth replacement.
Abstract INTRODUCTION: In the management of edentulous spaces, there is a permanent need of a dentist-prosthetician in charge to consult other specialists. Modern telemedicine, based on powerful computer and telecommunication systems, offers an adequate answer to these challenges, being able to transfer and obtain clinical data and consultation information over large distances. Using smartphone or a computer, the teleconsultant access the system, downloads and review the data and photographs and gave suggestions. The system then enables direct, real time contact with the consultant, chat, or directs them to contact each other by phone.
To request copies of any of these articles please use one of our request forms. Articles can be emailed or posted for a charge of £2.50 each.

CASE REPORT: We presented telemedicine consulting in the patient preparation and planning of prosthetic tooth replacement in 3 cases with different teleconsultation requirements: the first case for prosthetic rehabilitation of his upper teeth, the second one for prosthetic management of his partial edentulousness and a growth on his gums in the vestibular region of the frontal teeth and the third one for prosthetic management of total edentulousness of her upper jaw. We used the system of telemedicine in dentistry, established at the Faculty of Medicine in Kosovska Mitrovica. The operation was based on the computer application system XPA3 Online, computer networking and mobile smartphone network. All consultations were successful with no need for further procedures in regional center.

CONCLUSION: The use of a mobile smartphone has brought about the mobility and availability of teleconsultant specialists in an extent never seen before. Prostheticians are thus able to offer better service to their patients and improve the quality of management of partially or totally edentulous patients, especially in rural areas.

Publication Type
Case Reports. Journal Article.
Date Created
20131125
Year of Publication
2013

<3>
Unique Identifier
23512651
Status
MEDLINE
Authors
Cheng CC; Li CY; Hu YJ; Shen HC; Huang SM.
Authors Full Name
Li, Chung Yi; Hu, Yi-Hsin; Shen, Hsi-Che; Huang, Shay-Min.
Institution
Cheng, Chi-Chia J. Department of Public Health, College of Medicine, Fu-Jen Catholic University, New Taipei City, Taiwan.
Title
Effects of tooth scaling reminders for dental outpatients.
Source
Abstract
We investigated the effect of sending reminders for patients to attend appointments for tooth scaling. A total of 389 outpatients were assigned to three intervention groups (reminders sent by postcard, mobile-phone text message or telephone call) and one control group. Reminders accompanied by short health education messages were sent to patients in each of the intervention groups. The outpatient revisiting behaviour of the patients was monitored. Patients who were reminded to come in for tooth scaling were 2.6 (95% CI 1.3-5.4) to 2.9 (CI 1.1-7.8) times more likely to revisit compared to those who were not reminded. For every one point increase in the patient satisfaction score, patients were 3.8 (CI 1.2-11.6) times more likely to revisit. Patients with a high level of patient satisfaction and who had also received a reminder had the highest return rates (26%). Most patients (89-96%) had good feelings regarding the reminders; 65% of the patients agreed that reminders had enhanced their intention to revisit; 91% of patients hoped to continue to receive reminders concerning broader dental health information. A reminder combined with health education is an effective way of improving preventative dental visiting behaviour.

Publication Type
Journal Article. Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't.
Date Created
20131028
Year of Publication
2013

<4>
Unique Identifier
23512650
Status
MEDLINE
Authors
Marino R; Ghanim A.
Authors Full Name
Ghanim, Aghareed.
Institution
Marino, Rodrigo. Melbourne Dental School, University of Melbourne, Australia.
Title
Teledentistry: a systematic review of the literature. [Review]
Source
Abstract
We conducted a systematic review of teledentistry applications. We searched the MEDLINE/PubMed, Embase and Cochrane Library databases for relevant articles published
To request copies of any of these articles please use one of our request forms. Articles can be emailed or posted for a charge of £2.50 each.

from 1992 to 2012. The reference lists of all retrieved articles were hand-searched. Studies were included after assessing the eligibility of the full-text article. A total of 878 studies were identified, of which 59 fulfilled the inclusion criteria of the review. The articles covered several dental specialties, mostly oral surgery, oral medicine and oral pathology. The most common type of teledentistry application was education (n = 21), followed by diagnosis (n = 16), consultation (n = 3) and treatment (n = 2). Teledentistry studies were reported in a total of 15 countries. The largest number of studies were conducted in the US (n = 22) and there were no studies from developing countries. Most of the reports referred to pilot projects and short-term outcomes, and most of the studies were descriptive. The review indicates that although teledentistry is an area of expansion, there are still some barriers to its increased use.

METHODS: This experimental randomized study included 414 patients with suspected dentogenous infection. The patients were enrolled at 7 sites, with systematic photograph-taking, collection, and digitalization of the available anamnestic and laboratory data, tests, and x-rays. Together with clinical findings, the data were uploaded on the XPA3 Online central telemedicine system; after that, 10 teleconsultants reviewed the material, set the diagnosis, and gave their opinion about the treatment. The agreement was determined using the Cohen's kappa (κ) coefficient, as well as diagnostic sensitivity (SE), specificity (SP), and efficacy (EFF). Statistical significance and comparisons were done using the z-test, and testing nonparametric properties using the McNemar's X2-test for the significance threshold of p = 0.05.

RESULTS: The results describing agreement of telemedicine diagnosis of the areas primarily involved with infection compared to clinical inspection, indicate an almost complete diagnostic agreement (κ = 0.971). Diagnostic agreement as to the type of infection was also almost complete (κ = 0.951), and a similar value was obtained also for the treatment agreement (κ = 0.892).

CONCLUSION: The method of telemedicine provides us with a tool to make a correct clinical diagnosis of dentogenous infections equally well as in real time, as well as to get a deeper and wider insight into their nature and to suggest adequate treatments.
To request copies of any of these articles please use one of our request forms. Articles can be emailed or posted for a charge of £2.50 each.

Khan SA; Omar H.

Authors Full Name
Omar, Hanan.

Institution
Khan, Saad Ahmed. Conservative Department, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. saadkhan@um.edu.my

Title
Teledentistry in practice: literature review. [Review]

Source

Abstract
Teledentistry can be defined as the remote provision of dental care, advice, or treatment through the medium of information technology, rather than through direct personal contact with any patient(s) involved. Within dental practice, teledentistry is used extensively in disciplines like preventive dentistry, orthodontics, endodontics, oral surgery, periodontal conditions, detection of early dental caries, patient education, oral medicine, and diagnosis.

Some of the key modes and methods used in teledentistry are electronic health records, electronic referral systems, digitizing images, teleconsultations, and telediagnosis. All the applications used in teledentistry aim to bring about efficiency, provide access to underserved population, improve quality of care, and reduce oral disease burden.

Publication Type
Journal Article. Review.

Date Created
20130710

Year of Publication
2013

Unique Identifier
23318557

Status
MEDLINE

Authors
Yuen HK.

Institution
Yuen, H K. Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Health Professions, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL 35294, USA.

Title
Effect of a home telecare program on oral health among adults with tetraplegia: a pilot study.

Source

Other ID
Source: NLM. NIHMS428476
Source: NLM. PMC3628960

Abstract
STUDY DESIGN: one group pre- and post-test design.

OBJECTIVES: The primary aim was to examine both the short- and long-term effects of an oral home telecare program on improving gingival health among adults with tetraplegia.

METHODS: Eight adults with tetraplegia participated. The oral home telecare program consisted of individualized oral hygiene training in the use of assistive devices (powered toothbrush and adapted flosser and/or oral irrigator) using personal computer-based videoconferencing between each participant and an occupational therapist. Training was conducted on an average of five 15-30min sessions across 3 months. During these training sessions, supervised practice of oral hygiene, and provision of immediate corrective feedback and positive reinforcement in the use of adaptive oral hygiene devices was emphasized. Gingival health assessment using the Loe-Silness gingival index (LSGI) was conducted at baseline, 6 and 12 months.

RESULTS: From baseline to 6 months, participants showed statistically significant differences (that is, improvement with less gingival inflammation) in their LSGI scores (z=2.18, P=.03). From baseline to 12 months, participants also showed a statistically significant difference (that is, improvement, z=2.03; P=0.04) in their LSGI scores.

CONCLUSION: This study indicates that preventive oral home telecare with repeated oral hygiene training in the use of adaptive devices improved gingival health at 6 and 12 months among adults with tetraplegia.
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Unique Identifier 23537067
Status MEDLINE
Authors Van Hilsen Z; Jones RS.
Authors Full Name Jones, Robert S.
Institution Van Hilsen, Zachary. School of Dentistry, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA.
Title Comparing potential early caries assessment methods for teledentistry.
Other ID Source: NLM. PMC3621098
Abstract BACKGROUND: Optical caries detection has the potential to be incorporated in telehealth medicine for preventive dental screening. The objective of this study was to evaluate and compare visible and near infrared detection methods for identifying early non-cavitated ex vivo occlusal demineralization.

METHODS: Six blinded examiners were used to compare the accuracy of the following three examinations in detecting occlusal demineralization: Midwest Caries ID (MID), visual photographic examination (CAM) and Cross Polarization Optical Coherence Tomography (CP-OCT). For each diagnostic method, two examiners assessed the extracted tooth samples 1-2 weeks apart. Teeth were then sectioned and lesion depth was confirmed (n = 42) by a blinded histological examination using a glycol based caries indicator dye. The sensitivity (Sen), specificity (Sp), Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC), and Area under the Receiver Operator Curve (AUC) were calculated.

RESULTS: For detecting any demineralization versus sound pit and fissure enamel, the mean Sen/Sp found was 46.9/85.0 for MID, 80.5/52.5 for CAM, and 83.4/45.0 for CP-OCT. For detecting non-cavitated demineralization that progressed into the dentin, the mean Sen/Sp found was 17.3/88.0 for MID, 48.0/57.8 for CAM, and 44.2/72.7 for CP-OCT. AUC values were statistically significant (P < 0.05) in three out of four examiner assessments when MID and CP-OCT were used to detect any demineralization. AUC values were significant for a single CAM examination. When assessing deeper non-cavitated lesions, none of the assessment methods were able to yield AUC values that were significantly different than a random ‘coin flip’ test. When examining reliability, MID demonstrated the highest ICC score (0.83) and CP-OCT had the lowest (0.49).

CONCLUSION: Although MID and CP-OCT were useful in detecting the presence of demineralization, examiners were not able to utilize these devices to adequately assess the depth of the demineralization. This study found that MID and CP-OCT did not have markedly superior diagnostic values from simple CAM assessment for use in teledentistry.

Date Created 20130409
Year of Publication 2013

Unique Identifier 23356381
Status MEDLINE
Authors Torres-Pereira CC; Morosini Ide A; Possebon RS; Giovanini AF; Bortoluzzi MC; Leao JC; Piazzetta CM.
Authors Full Name Morosini, Imara de Almeida Castro; Possebon, Renata Seleme; Giovanini, Allan Fernando; Bortoluzzi, Marcelo Carlos; Leao, Jair Carneiro; Piazzetta, Cleto Mariosvaldo.
Institution Torres-Pereira,Cassius C. Stromatology Department and Post-Graduate Program in Dentistry, Federal University of Parana, Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. cassius@ufpr.br
Title Teledentistry: distant diagnosis of oral disease using e-mails.
Other ID Source: NLM. PMC3576903
Abstract OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this study was to evaluate the applicability of telediagnosis in oral medicine, through the transmission of clinical digital images by e-mail.
SUBJECTS AND METHODS: The sample included 60 consecutive patients who sought oral medicine services at the Federal University of Parana, in the state of Parana, located in southern Brazil. The clinical history and oral lesion images were recorded using clinical electronic charts and a digital camera, respectively, and sent by e-mail to two oral medicine consultants. The consultants provided a maximum of two clinical hypotheses for each case, which were compared with biopsy results that served as the gold standard.

RESULTS: In 31 of the 60 cases (51.7%), both consultants made the correct diagnosis; in 17 cases (28.3%), only one consultant made the correct diagnosis; and in 12 cases (20%), neither consultant made the correct diagnosis. Therefore, in 80% of cases, at least one consultant provided the correct diagnosis. The agreement between the first consultant and the gold standard was substantial (kappa=0.669), and the agreement between the second consultant and the gold standard was fair (kappa=0.574).

CONCLUSIONS: The use of information technology can increase the accuracy of consultations in oral medicine. As expected, the participation of two remote experts increased the possibility of correct diagnosis.

Source

Abstract
INTRODUCTION: Introducing telemedicine into clinical practice has not been without difficulties. Within the framework of the European Union project "Health Optimum," telemedicine consultations with specialists at the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at Uppsala University Hospital (Uppsala, Sweden) have been offered to dentists in the public dental health service. The aim is to streamline the consultation process, improve/develop the skills of the participating dentists and dental hygienists, and save time and money for patients, healthcare authorities, and society.

SUBJECTS AND METHODS: Patient records are collected in a database for demonstration and discussion, and the system is also available for referrals. Both medical and dental photographs and x-rays are digitized in the same system. These can be viewed during telemedicine rounds and by the consultants at the hospital prior to a consultation. Secure, interactive conferencing software is used, which provides a quick, easy, and effective way to share video and data over the Internet. Both parties can demonstrate different parts of an image using a pointer or a drawing system. Conference phones are presently used for verbal communication.

RESULTS: Ten patients were discussed during telemedicine rounds (3 males and 7 females), all of whom would normally have been referred to a specialist. As a result of the telemedicine round, 2 were referred to a specialist, whereas diagnoses were made for the other 8, and treatment was suggested. The dental health clinic could thus provide treatment without the need for referral to a consultant.

CONCLUSIONS: The telemedicine system described here allows patient care to be provided rapidly and more economically. Future plans include "live" rounds using a videocamera, providing the possibility to relay real-time information about the intraoral situation. A camera is being developed and should preferably be permanently installed chair side.

Source

Abstract
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Unique Identifier 22916380
Status MEDLINE
Authors Namakian M; Subar P; Glassman P; Quade R; Harrington M.
Authors Full Name Subar, Paul; Glassman, Paul; Quade, Robert; Harrington, Maureen.
Institution Namakian,Maysa. Pacific Center for Special Care, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco, CA 94115, USA.
Title In-person versus "virtual" dental examination: congruence between decision-making modalities.
Local Messages THIS JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE BDA LIBRARY
Abstract This study evaluated the agreement of a dentist's conclusions reached through an in-person versus a virtual examination. The dentist determined whether a patient was healthy enough to be treated only by allied dental personnel in a community setting or whether the patient needed to be seen by a dentist. The study concludes that a virtual examination is a strong substitute for an in-person examination and validates the application of telehealth-enabled examinations.
Publication Type Journal Article.
Date Created 20120824
Year of Publication 2012

Unique Identifier 22916379
Status MEDLINE
Authors Glassman P; Harrington M; Namakian M; Subar P.
Authors Full Name Helgeson, Michael; Kattlove, Jenny.
Institution Glassman,Paul. Arthur A.Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco, CA 94115, USA.
Title Using telehealth technologies to improve oral health for vulnerable and underserved populations.
Local Messages THIS JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE BDA LIBRARY
Abstract Telehealth refers to the use of technology to provide health care at a distance. The important and increasing role of telehealth in the delivery of health care has been recognized for several decades. Although there are fewer reports on the use of telehealth to deliver oral health services, evidence is emerging that these technologies can enhance the ability of the oral health delivery system to reach vulnerable and underserved populations.
Publication Type Journal Article.
Date Created 20120824
Year of Publication 2012

Unique Identifier 22916378
Status MEDLINE
Authors Glassman P; Harrington M; Namakian M; Subar P.
Authors Full Name Harrington, Maureen; Namakian, Maysa; Subar, Paul.
Institution Glassman,Paul. Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco, an Francisco, CA 94115, USA.
Title The virtual dental home: bringing oral health to vulnerable and underserved populations.
Comments
Comment in: J Calif Dent Assoc. 2013 May;41(5):307-8; PMID: 23795514
Source
Local Messages
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Abstract
Large and increasing oral health disparities in the U.S. population led the Institute of Medicine to call for expanded research and demonstration of delivery systems that test new methods and technologies. These new methods include delivering oral health services in nontraditional settings, using non-dental professionals, expanded roles for existing dental professionals and new types of dental professionals, and incorporating telehealth technologies. The virtual dental home is a system that demonstrates the characteristics called for by the IOM.
Publication Type
Journal Article.
Date Created
20120824
Year of Publication
2012
14
Unique Identifier
21642518
Status
MEDLINE
Authors
Summerfelt FF.
Institution
Summerfelt, Fred F. Department of Dental Hygiene, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ 86011, USA. fred.summerfelt@nau.edu
Title
Teledentistry-assisted, affiliated practice for dental hygienists: an innovative oral health workforce model.
Source
Local Messages
THIS JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE BDA LIBRARY
Abstract
The 2010 U.S. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) calls for training programs to develop mid-level dental health care providers to work in areas with underserved populations. In 2004, legislation was passed in Arizona allowing qualified dental hygienists to enter into an affiliated practice relationship with a dentist to provide oral health care services for underserved populations without general or direct supervision in public health settings. In response, the Northern Arizona University (NAU) Dental Hygiene Department developed a teledentistry-assisted, affiliated practice dental hygiene model that places a dental hygienist in the role of the mid-level practitioner as part of a digitally linked oral health care team. Utilizing current technologies, affiliated practice dental hygienists can digitally acquire and transmit diagnostic data to a distant dentist for triage, diagnosis, and patient referral in addition to providing preventive services permitted within the dental hygiene scope of practice. This article provides information about the PPACA and the Arizona affiliated practice dental hygiene model, defines teledentistry, identifies the digital equipment used in NAU's teledentistry model, give an overview of NAU's teledentistry training, describes NAU's first teledentistry clinical experience, presents statistical analyses and evaluation of NAU students' ability to acquire diagnostically efficacious digital data from remote locations, and summarizes details of remote applications of teledentistry-assisted, affiliated practice dental hygiene workforce model successes.
Publication Type
Journal Article.
Date Created
20110606
Year of Publication
2011
15
Unique Identifier
21339303
Status
MEDLINE
Authors
Brullmann D; Schmidtmann I; Warzecha K; d'Hoedt B.
Authors Full Name
Schmidtmann, Irene; Warzecha, Katharina; d'Hoedt, Bernd.
Institution
Brullmann, Dan. Department of Oral Surgery, University Medical Center of the Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Augustusplatz 2, 55131 Mainz, Germany. bruellmd@mail.uni-mainz.de
Title
To request copies of any of these articles please use one of our request forms. Articles can be emailed or posted for a charge of £2.50 each.

Recognition of root canal orifices at a distance - a preliminary study of teledentistry.

Source

Abstract
The remote recognition of root canal orifices was tested on 50 images of endodontically accessed teeth acquired with an intra-oral camera. The images were stored on a laptop computer and were presented to 20 observers who marked the visible canal orifices using software which stored the canal locations in standard files. The marked positions were verified on histological slices. In 87% of the cases, the canal locations were marked correctly. Inter-observer reliability depended on the location of the reviewed root canal (kappa = 0.44-0.77). The detection rate was related to the professional experience of the observers. The maximum proportion of accurate detections was found for the observers with more than 10 years of professional experience. The minimum proportion of accurate detections, 79%, was by the observer with one year of experience. The results of the study suggest that remote recognition of root canals by experienced dentists can help younger colleagues in the detection of root canal orifices.

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Perspectives of teleconsultation in craniomaxillofacial surgery.

Source

Abstract
PURPOSE: The incorporation of new technologies into clinical daily practice is nowadays a fact in the field of medicine. Within these new technologies, telemedicine is turning out to be a working tool that is used with increasing frequency in medical centers. The systems of telemedicine have still not reached the same development in oral and maxillofacial surgery that they have reached in other medical specialties. This study describes the preliminary results of a store-and-forward telemedicine system (SFTMS) aimed at the presurgical management of impacted third molar pathology.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: A multicenter, longitudinal, descriptive, evaluative pilot study of an SFTMS aimed at the presurgical management of patients with impacted third molar pathology was conducted at the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Unit of Virgen Macarena Hospital, Seville, Spain. javiherce@yahoo.es

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University Hospital (Seville, Spain) and 4 primary care areas located between 15 and 95 km from the hospital. The study was carried out between January and December 2009.

RESULTS: Over a period of 12 months, 97 patients were enrolled in the study, from 102 teleconsultations received and evaluated within the same period. Patients managed through telemedicine were included on the surgical wait list on within a mean interval of 3.33 days (95% confidence interval [CI], 2.46-4.65 days) since the visit to the primary care dentist, with only 1 visit to the hospital that was on the day of surgery. The mean waiting interval of patients managed through the conventional referral system was 28 days (95% CI, 24.51-29.6 days), with at least 2 visits to the hospital before the final intervention. The on-the-day surgery cancellation rate of the series was 7.8% (95% CI, 3.8%-10.5%) because 8 patients did not have surgery on the scheduled day. The cancellation rate in the sample of patients managed through the conventional system was 8.85% (95% CI, 5.62%-11.81%; P < .005).

CONCLUSIONS: The SFTMS was effective and accurate as a preoperative tool for impacted third molar pathology. It avoids unnecessary visits to the hospital and shortens waiting intervals. Further randomized studies are needed, however, to establish real advantages, in clinical and economic terms, against the conventional presurgical management systems. Copyright © 2010 American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Published by Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
Authors
Lienert N; Zitzmann NU; Filippi A; Weiger R; Krastl G.
Authors Full Name
Zitzmann, Nicola Ursula; Filippi, Andreas; Weiger, Roland; Krastl, Gabriel.
Institution
Lienert, Nicolas. Center of Dental Traumatology and Department of Periodontology, Endodontology and Cariology, University of Basle, Basle, Switzerland.
Title
Teledental consultations related to trauma in a Swiss telemedical center: a retrospective survey.
Source
Local Messages
THIS JOURNAL IS AVAILABLE IN THE BDA LIBRARY
Abstract
BACKGROUND/AIM: In addition to medical advice, telemedical centers also provide counseling on the telephone for patients with dental injuries.
MATERIAL AND METHODS: Data from a Swiss telemedical center during the years 2001-2008 were analyzed retrospectively.
RESULTS: A total of 371,988 medical consultations were recorded. Of these, 3,430 concerned dental problems, with 672 reports about dental trauma following accidents with 772 injuries. The patients' average age was 8.6 years (range 0-73 years). About two-thirds of the cases belonged to the age group 0-6 years, and one-third to the group of 7-80 years. The reasons for calling were dislocations (53%), fractures (31.9%), and avulsions (7.9%). In 76.2% of the cases, the center was contacted on the day of the accident. The majority of the patients (60%) contacted the telemedical center during the so-called 'out of office hours' (Monday to Friday 6 pm to 8 am, and Saturday/Sunday all day).
CONCLUSIONS: Telemedical services can be helpful for cases related to dental trauma and may provide valuable support when a dentist is not available.
Publication Type
Journal Article.
Date Created
20100624
Year of Publication
2010