



BOCAS SANAS = SOUND MOUTHS

Determinants of oral hygiene behavior in the Dominican Republic



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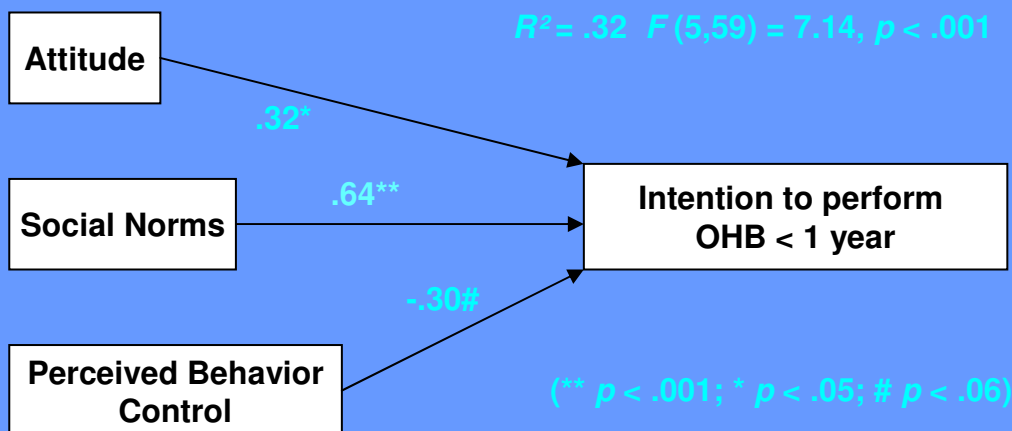
Aim: Identify predictors of oral hygiene behavior (OHB), based on the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB)

Method: Questionnaire demographics, index for OHB, intention, attitude, social norm, perceived behavior control, oral health knowledge, expected social outcomes of having healthy teeth. Clinical individual's oral health status.

Results:

Number of patients/ dental care seekers	92
Female	60%
Average age (years, standard deviation)	31.6 (12)
Mother tongue: Spanish	98%
Married	26%
Having Children	63%
Education:	
- high: college/university training	19%
- medium: advanced vocational training	45%
- low: primary school	28%
Clinical oral health status:	
- healthy teeth; no caries or gum disease	16%
- slightly unhealthy dentition	12%
- mutilated dentition (1-5 missing teeth)	65%
- mutilated dentition (> 5 missing teeth)	7%

Correlations	Attitude	Social Norms	Perceived Behavior Control
Intention	.40**	.44**	.28**



Conclusions:

Oral hygiene related interventions aimed at improving OHB, need to be specifically adjusted to the target population

