

Effect of oral health education and preventive treatment on well-being in forensic psychiatric patients.

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Aim of this study

- Evaluation of the effect of oral health education and treatment in forensic psychiatric patients on their perceived quality of life

Material and methods

- 40 forensic psychiatric male patients participated
- All received during one visit information and instruction concerning oral health and professional dental cleaning by a dental hygienist
- The modified Dutch version of the Oral Health Impact Profile-14 questionnaire (Slade, 1997) was completed prior (time 1) and 3 months after (time 2) the intervention

Results

- Trend for an improved perception of general oral health-related quality of life (Fig. 1)
- Significant improvements for the dimensions 'physical pain' and 'handicap' (Fig. 1)
- Patients with personality disorders reported more improvement than psychotic vulnerable patients (Fig. 2)
- Improved oral health and self-care benefited psychotic vulnerable patients more than personality disordered patients

Conclusions

From a fairly low oral health, self-care and related quality of life:

- Less pain in the mouth
- More comfort when eating any foods

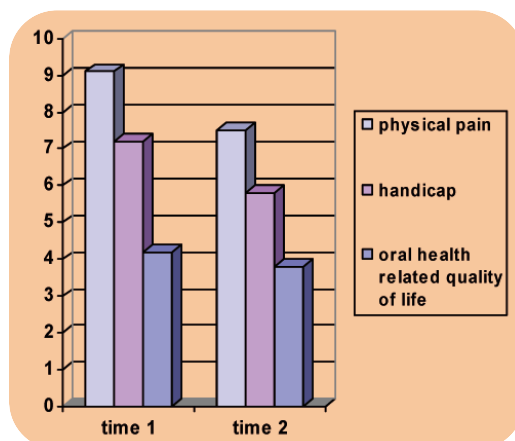


Figure 1.
Overall changes after treatment

- Life in general is more satisfying
- Results suggest that professional oral support to improve oral health and self-care status not only may improve oral condition, but also the perceived quality of life of persons with severe psychiatric disorders

In Progress

- This study indicates that the Dutch version of the OHIP-14 could be a useful instrument to assess oral health-related quality of life. Therefore there is a demand for validation of this questionnaire in the Netherlands

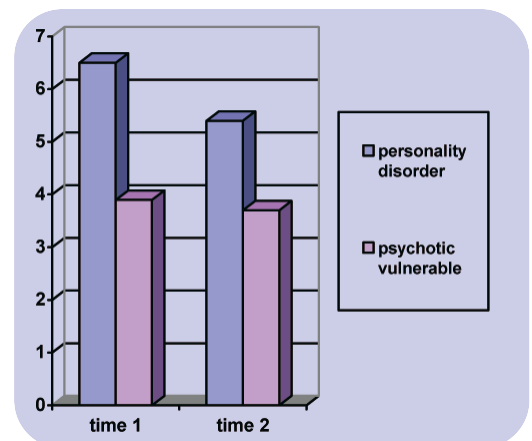


Figure 2.
Different changes for personality disordered and psychotic vulnerable patients

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