

Group A Reactor Paper Plaque control: Home remedies practiced in developing countries

Thomas E. Van Dyke, DDS, PhD

The Forsyth Institute, Boston, MA, USA

Introduction

The scholarly review by Slot and Van der Weijden (*Journal of the International Academy of Periodontology* 2015; 17/1 Supplement) of mechanical oral hygiene practices is well written and well organized. This is a difficult topic to address because of the lack of systematic reviews that have been performed in developing countries. Nonetheless, there are two major areas of interest that should be addressed at the conclave:

In consideration of the fact that the goal of removal of biofilm is the prevention of disease, it is also recommended that both anti-plaque and anti-gingivitis effects be considered as endpoints in the review of the literature.

Chemical plaque control

There is a single published systematic review of anti-plaque and anti-gingivitis agents that are incorporated into dentifrices and mouthrinses (Gunsolley, 2006). As this was performed in 2006, an update of the current literature should be undertaken at the conclave. In addition, a review of the current literature for papers not included in a systematic review should be undertaken to capture data related to new chemical agents that have been marketed since 2006. The chemical agents that should be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Triclosan
- Gantrez
- Stannous fluoride
- Other fluoride preparations
- Chlorhexidine
- Cetylpyridinium chloride
- Essential oils

Medicinal or herbal anti-plaque preparations

A number of herbal or traditional medicine preparations are marketed as anti-plaque or anti-gingivitis agents throughout the world. There are no systematic reviews of studies relating to any of these compounds. Nonetheless, these products and the compounds that they contain represent an important and growing segment of the products available to patients. A literature search is currently being performed to identify clinical reports pertaining to the safety and efficacy of an herbal or traditional medicine preparation currently available to the public.

While these reports are scarce and there is no systematic review, it is recommended that the reports be reviewed by the group and recommendations for use be made based on the current state of the art.

References

- Gunsolley JC. A meta-analysis of six-month studies of antiplaque and antigingivitis agents. *Journal of the American Dental Association* 2006; 137:1649-1657
- Slot D and Van der Weijden FA. Plaque control. Home remedies, practiced in developing countries -a synopsis of synthesis. *Journal of the International Academy of Periodontology* 2015; 17/1 (Supplement): 4-15

Presented at the First IAP Conclave, Bangkok, Thailand, 11-13 April, 2014

Correspondence to: TE Van Dyke, The Forsyth Institute, 245 First Street, Cambridge, MA, USA 02142. E-Mail: tvandyke@forsyth.org