3218, A Pilot Study of Dental Anxiety among Elderly Romanians

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Aims: To assess the level of dental anxiety and any correlation to demographic variables among elderly residents in Constanta, Bucharest and Arges Regions of Romania. Methods: A convenience sample of 109 elderly residents from 6 old people homes in the Constanta, Bucharest and Arges regions of Romania, aged from 65 to 96 years, were recruited into this study during 2011-2012. Their voluntary consent to take part and ethical approval from the Ethics and Research Committee, of the Ovidius University, Constanta were obtained. Each participant answered questions from a questionnaire which was read to them. Their dental anxiety was assessed using the Modified Corah Dental Anxiety Scale (MDAS). Resulting data were entered into SPSS v22. Frequencies and where appropriate means and standard deviations were calculated. All independent variables showing significant associations with dependant variable - dental anxiety - at a significance level of <0.05 in the bivariate analysis were included in a logistic regression analysis. A one-way ANOVA test was used to compare multiple groups; the unpaired t-test was used to compare dual groups. Relationships between variables were assessed using the Spearman correlation test. Results: All 109 (100%) residents answered the questionnaire. Their mean age was 79.35 ±9.12 years, with 44 (40%) female and 65 (60%) male. There was a negative correlation between age and dental anxiety, with the level of anxiety varying significantly with age ($p < 0.05$) and less anxiety observed among patients over 76 years of age. For females, the mean MDAS score was 12.22 ± 4.9, significantly higher than for males who scored 10.74 ± 4.12 with MDAS ($p < 0.01$). MDAS had a high overall internal consistency and high reliability. Injections (mean score of 2.89 ± 1.29) were reported to be most likely to induce dental anxiety and a scale and polish (mean score = 1.70 ± 0.96) the least. No statistically significant correlation was found between level of education and dental anxiety. Conclusions: In the group studied, the prevalence of dental anxiety was found to be higher for women. High dental anxiety was associated with younger age, education and the poor oral health.

3221, Senior dental students' training on geriatrics- evaluation of a short course

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According to worldwide demographic changes to more elderly people, meeting the geriatric population's oral health needs raise important issues in dental education. Maintaining and improving oral health of older adults are great challenges for all societies. Future dentists should have enough competencies to provide more complex oral care services for this group. Aim: The aim of the present study was to evaluate the effect of a short course about geriatrics, on knowledge, attitudes and self-reported practice of senior dental students in Tehran. Methods: The interventional study was conducted in Tehran's two main dental schools, in 2013-2014. In total, 112 senior dental students consecutively attended the study and