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Oral Health-Related Quality of Life (OHRQoL) before and after endodontic treatment: an update

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According to the World Health Organization, Oral health-related quality of life is defined as "a person's perceptions of their position in life according to their culture, goals, expectations, standards, and priorities". This review was undertaken to determine the oral health-related quality of life (OHRQoL) before and after endodontic treatment. Based on the PRISMA guidelines, electronic databases (n = 7) were searched and from 1045 citations, 20 papers were included in this review. Information on study design, sample size, intervention/treatment modality, methods of assessing OHRQoL, and the key findings were extracted and analyzed. Among the 20 studies, 4 were cross-sectional surveys, 10 were longitudinal studies, and 6 were randomized clinical trials. The cross-sectional studies reported improvements in OHRQoL following root canal treatment. Comparative longitudinal studies did not identify a significant association between improvements in OHRQoL and the method of root canal instrumentation or number of instruments used. Clinical trials found that improvements in OHRQoL were significantly associated with instrumentation technique, surgical-incision approach, and the application of platelet-concentrate during surgery. Several methods of assessing OHRQoL were employed with the most common being the Oral Health Impact Profile (OHIP), albeit using different versions. The results of this systematic review indicate that the QoL of patients improved after endodontic treatment. Nevertheless, these results are limited to patients who seek endodontic treatment and cannot be generalized. The lack of well-designed observational studies with standardized assessment approaches, coupled with heterogeneity of study design and interventions, precluded quantitative synthesis. Pragmatic clinical trials are more meaningful to understand patient-centered outcomes of treatment. This review shows that endodontic treatment does improve the QoL.

Biography

Mobina Bagherianlemraski studies dentistry at Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences. She then has joined the Student Research Committee since 2019. Now she works as research assistance in department of pediatric dentistry. (Supervisor: Dr. Parastoo Namdar).