

Trying To Solve The Puzzle (Caries Risk and Prevention in Orthodontic Patients)

Anas H. Al-Mulla
European University College, UAE

The human oral cavity is a complex ecosystem, inhabited by more than 300 bacterial species. The risk of developing a caries lesion around a bracket, placed on the buccal tooth surfaces during orthodontic treatment with fixed appliances, is high. Despite improvements in materials and preventive efforts, demineralization may occur around orthodontic appliances after only one month. Caries affects individuals differently, which makes it essential that those at the highest risk are identified early, so that preventive therapies can be targeted at the patients who are most likely to benefit. There appears to be a correlation between the fluoride concentration of dentifrices, rinsing method after tooth brushing and caries prevention. The puzzling complexity of how to identify patients with high risk to develop caries, what are the new ways to reduce the risk and how to illustrate it to patients in the clinic will be discussed in this lecture.

Lecture Objectives:

At the end of the session, the participant should be able to do the following:

1. Be familiar with the "Cariogram", a free caries risk computer program
2. Have the ability to identify those patients with low, medium and high caries risk
3. Understand the effect of 5000 ppm Fluoride toothpaste on caries
4. Reduce caries risk in their patients significantly by following the Modified Fluoride Toothpaste Technique (MFTT).

Biography

Anas H. Al-Mulla graduated from King Saud University Dental School, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 2003. He obtained his Specialty in Orthodontics and his Masters in Cariology in 2009 from University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden. His Ph.D. degree in Cariology was obtained from the same university in 2010. Dr. Al-Mulla has devoted his time for research and applying modern orthodontics, caries risk and prevention in orthodontic patients has been his major concern. He is a reviewer in few orthodontic journals, such as Angle Orthodontics, American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, Orthodontics - The art and practice of dentofacial enhancement (formerly World Journal of Orthodontics) and Journal of Orthodontics.

a.almulla@mac.com