

28<sup>th</sup> Annual

# American Dentistry Congress

March 20-22, 2017 Orlando, USA

## The relationship between systemic statins and calcification of the pulp chamber of molar teeth

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**Introduction:** Statins are widely used as cholesterol-lowering agent. Little is known about unwanted or unexpected oral effects of statins in middle-aged and older adults. A recent retrospective radiographic study indicated that the statins diminished the pulp chamber volume. The aim of this prospective study was to evaluate the horizontal and vertical changes of the pulp chamber in patients taking statins.

**Materials & Methods:** 30 patients taking statin and 30 healthy volunteers were recruited. At baseline, a digital bitewing image was taken, with a clear view of lower molars. All radiographs were taken using PSP films Size #2, and a XCP bite block. After 12 months, new radiographs were taken. Blinded evaluators measured the pulp chamber's horizontal and vertical dimensions of the lower first or second molars and changes in the size for each chamber were calculated. Data were analyzed by SPSS software.

**Results:** Chi-square didn't show a significant difference between the groups for gender and age ( $P>0.10$ ). No significant difference was found in horizontal dimensional changes after 12 months ( $P>0.10$ ). However, there was a significant difference in vertical dimensional changes after 12 months between groups ( $P<0.001$ ).

**Conclusion:** The results of this study indicated that there is a correlation between using statins and vertical dimensional changes of pulp chamber (average 0.19 mm).

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## Musculoskeletal disorders among dentists: Causes and prevention

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Musculoskeletal disorders are injuries that affect the human support system of muscles, ligaments, tendons, nerves, etc. The dental every day's procedures demand maintenance of occupational posture and high attention on the field which makes the dentist susceptible to a various number of musculoskeletal injuries and long term disorders. MSD doesn't only affect dentists physically but it also affect them psychologically and the quality of their dental treatment. Knowing the causes of MSD will help the dentist to stay healthy and prevent any career ending injuries. By the end of the lecture dentists will come to the knowledge of the harming practical habits, most common disorders and their treatments and most importantly the preventive measures they must follow.

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