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Oral health in children of low socioeconomic status who lived in floured and non floured areas in Brasilia- Brazil: A comparative study

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Aim: The purpose of this study was to conduct epidemiological research of the oral health conditions and needs of public school children who study in fluoridated and non-fluoridated areas of Brasilia, the capital of Brazil.

Methods: The sample was selected based on the evaluation of the clinical cards of 562 children, from ages 6 to 17. For this research we classified the children based on their treatment needs according to priorities 01, 02 and 03. The clinical cards were divided into two groups according to the addresses of the schools. Group 1 (G1) corresponds to rural schools with less fluoridated water. Group 2 (G2) corresponds to urban schools with fluoridated water. The analyses utilized the following tests: Fisher's Exact Test, Student T-Test and Pearson's Chi-Squared Test.

Results: In G1, 62.7% (n=103) of the children present Priority 1 treatment need, 27.5% (n=103) present Priority 2 and just 9.8% (n=17) present Priority 3. In G2, 36.2% (n=143) present Priority 1, 25.7% (n=102) present Priority 2 and 38.1% (n=152) present Priority 3. The value of (P) was 0.001, which shows a statistically significant difference between the two groups. In G1, the children from 6 to 9 years showed an average of 3.76 teeth; in G2, the average was about 1.67 teeth per child. The value of (P) was 0.001, which shows a highly significant difference. The values of (P) for the other ages were 0.007 and 0.634, respectively, showing no significant difference.

Conclusions: We show that the children who do not use fluoridated water (G1) have worse oral health conditions. These results show the necessity of improving the fluoridated water supply in Brazil.

Biography

Vanessa graduated at School of Dentistry at Faculty of Dentistry of Central Plateau FOPLAC (1992), Master's at Health Science from Universidade de Brasília (2005) and PhD at Health Science from Universidade de Brasília (2009). Has experience in Dentistry, focusing on Pediatric Dentistry, Epidemiology and Public health. Teaches at University of Brasília- UnB, Faculty of Ceilândia- FCe since 2012.

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