

SDPBRN Research Audit Portfolio Project

The Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children

Research audit category	Category D – National, practice-based, dental quality improvement initiatives that include a reflective research component.
Dental care quality dimension(s)	Safe, Effective, Person-Centred
Research Audit Hours Awarded	3 Hours
Project Details	
Background	<p>In 2018 the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme will publish guidance on the Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children. This is an update to the Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children guidance, first published in 2010.</p> <p>The aim of this study is to apply TRiADS methodology by using a repeated measure design study to gather baseline and 6 month post publication data about clinical practice and professional beliefs. It also aims to support dentists identify and reflect on the barriers and facilitators to following the guidance recommendations, and to develop and implement action plans for improvement.</p>
Research question(s) relating to quality dimension	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the level of and variation in compliance with key recommendations from the SDCEP 'Prevention and Management of Dental Caries in Children' guidance among general dental practitioners? 2. What are the barriers and facilitators to implementing these recommendations?
Primary outcome(s) relating to quality dimension(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change in dentists' compliance with the key recommendations pre and post publication of the guidance; 2. Change in dentists' professional beliefs with respect to the guidance recommendations; 3. Improved knowledge about the barriers and facilitators to implementing the guidance recommendations
Secondary outcome(s) relating to quality dimension(s)	Identification of potential behaviour change strategies to improve the uptake of evidence based guidance recommendations.
Design	Repeated measures cohort study
Setting	General dental practices in Scotland
Participants	Dentists

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Number of dentist participants	~500
Research audit activities	Participants will complete two questionnaires, one at baseline and one 6 months later (post-publication of the guidance). They are asked to self-report their current practice in relation to the key recommendations from the guidance document. They will also be asked to rate on a 7 point Likert scale the extent to which they agree with statements about different potential influences including the barriers/facilitators to delivering the recommendations.
Reflective activity	<p>On publication of the guidance dentists will be asked to identify 3 recommendations asked about in the questionnaire where their current practice is not compliant with the guidance. For these 3 recommendations they will identify the main barriers and facilitators to compliance and will develop and implement action plans for improvement. This activity will take place before completion of the 6 month post questionnaire. After completing the 6 month questionnaire, they will complete a reflective report which includes their reflections on each of the 3 recommendations and associated action plans plus their overall learning from participating in this project. Participants will submit completed action plans and reflective report for research audit approval.</p> <p>The reflective report will be structured as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) identify the barriers and facilitators to following the recommendations from their own and from the practice's perspective; (2) outline the next steps to be taken to improve their current practice; (3) appraise how participating in this research project will impact upon their future practice; (4) reflect upon the management of patients at risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw by discussing their overall learning experience by participating in this research project.
Anticipated start date	May 2018
Anticipated end date	January 2019
Project Status	Ongoing
Contacts	
Chief Investigator	Claire Scott
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