

" ASSESSING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND TREATMENT DATA. A STUDY USING BASCD AND W.H.O. SYSTEMS"

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Agosto de 1991

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the relationship between dental status as recorded by BASCD survey and the treatment plans designed by dentists within the Community Dental Service.

The problem was divided into three. The first aspect relates to the information requirements system that needs to be present in the Community Dental Service for adequate data collection to assess the relationship between survey and treatment data. The second section is a pilot study carried out on five year olds in the Bloomsbury District of London. The third aspect relates to data gathered in a W.H.O. type of epidemiological survey of 12 year olds in the Basque Country, Spain.

The ideal model of information suggested did not work in the Community Dental Clinics. The results of the pilot study showed a poor correlation between dmf and treatment requirements.

The correlation between DMF, D, M, and F respectively and a tooth requiring a certain type of restorative or exodontic treatment showed, in general, was poor.

It was concluded that there is either a lack or a weak correlation between dental status assessed using DMF and the restorative and exodontic treatment required. Further research should be carried out in order to assess the validity of using DMF Index as the only source of information for planning dental care in terms of restorative and exodontic provision.