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Reliability of clinical and paraclinical parameters in different study populations during an experimental gingivitis study

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Objectives

In designing a clinical controlled trial for the assessment of the efficacy of oral antiseptics, the selection of parameters and participants is a basic principle. The aim of this experimental gingivitis study was to determine whether correlations exist between different gingivitis parameters in distinctive populations.

Material and Methods

Study design: A 21-day experimental gingivitis study was performed. After a recruiting period the participants were randomly assigned to a mouthrinse group. During these 21 days no other oral hygiene measures than the rinsing were permitted.

Study populations: Three study populations were selected depending on the oral hygiene level of the participants at the recruiting visit.

Population A: 39 dental students with excellent oral hygiene (PII ≤ 0.5) Population B: 38 participants from a local population with average oral hygiene (PII ≥ 1.0) Population C: 77 participants of a mixed population regardless the oral hygiene level

Gingivitis parameters:

Gingival index (GI, Löe et al. 1967) Modified gingival index (MGI, Lobene et al.1986) Bleeding on probing (BOP, Ainamo and Bay 1975) Gingival crevicular fluid (GCF) Colony forming units (CFU)

Mouthrinses:

Placebo Chlorhexidine dicluconate 0.20 %

Statistics:

Pearson correlation coefficient ($p \le 0.05$)

Results

Statistically significant correlations were observed between GI and MGI in all groups and populations. GI and BOP as well as MGI and BOP correlated in population C. GI and GCF correlated only in population A after rinsing with CHX as did MGI and GCF. No correlations were found between GI and CFU.

	Population A			Population B			Population C	
	Placebo CHX 0.20 %			Placebo CHX 0.20 %			Placebo CHX 0.20 %	
GI-MGI	0.961*	0.968*	GI-MGI	0.928*	0.978*	GI-MGI	0.944*	0.964*
GI-BOP	0.362	0.709*	GI-BOP	0.515*	0.424	GI-BOP	0.444*	0.586*
GI-GCF	0.333	0.575*	GI-GCF	0.514*	0.359	GI-GCF	0.388*	0.270
GI-CFU	0.216	0.213	GI-CFU	-0.210	0.293	GI-CFU	0.063	0.199
MGI- BOP	0.236	0.700*	MGI- BOP	0.522*	0.368	MGI- BOP	0.391*	0.561*
MGI- GCF	0.331	0.524*	MGI- GCF	0.418	0.252	MGI- GCF	0.338*	0.259





Fig. 1: Correlation between GI Fig. 3: Correlation between GI Fig. 5: Correlation between GI and MGI; Placebo; r=0.928; and MGI; Placebo; r=0.961; p≤0.000; n=39 p≤0.000; n=38

and MGI; Placebo; r=0.944; p≤0.000; n=77



and MGI; CHX 0.20%; r=0.968; p≤0.000; n=39

and MGI; CHX 0.20%; r=0.978; p≤0.000; n=38 and MGI; CHX 0.20%; r=0.961; p≤0.000; n=77

Conclusions

GI and MGI are the most reliable parameters regardless of the composition of the study population. For the use of BOP during experimental gingivitis, however, a mixed population is preferred.

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Abbreviations

CHX = Chlorhexidine

- GI = Gingival index
- MGI = Modified gingival index
- BOP = Bleeding on probing
- GCF = Gingival crevicular fluid
- CFU = Colony forming units

This Poster was submitted by Dr. Katrin Lorenz.

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