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ABSTRACT

Prevalence and Severity of Gingivitis in High School Students in Gaza Strip

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In order to create a healthy society, we have to take care of the cornerstone of the health community which is mainly formed by high school students. One of the most prevalent oral diseases that begins to develop early in childhood are periodontal diseases. As a consequence of these diseases, if not treated on time, the destructive processes progress in both hard and soft tissues eventually leading to loss of teeth, Gingivitis is one of these diseases. It involves the inflammation of only the gingiva and is reversible when appropriate treatment measures are used. The aim of this study is to assess the prevalence and severity of gingivitis in high school students in Gaza Strip in Palestine. The study design used was cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical. The population used as participants in the study was high school students in Gaza Strip governorates. Three hundred and fifty high school students aged between 14 to 18 years were recruited in this study. For periodontal examination, William's graduated periodontal will be used as well as, Plaque Index (PI) to assess dental plaque, and Gingival Index (GI) to assess gingival inflammation. Also, a questionnaire will be used to collect the socio-demographic and health conditions of the students. The data of the study will be entered and analyzed by SPSS program and presented as frequency tables, and charts. The relationship between gingivitis and other independent socio-demographic factors will be examined by significance statistical tests, such as t- tests, ANOVA, and chi-square test.