

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

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SEX + GENDER

Exploring the role of sex and gender on health research



CHRD 2020: Abstract Submission Form

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Title

Assessing the Oral Health Related Quality of Life of First Nations and Metis Children in Manitoba

Background

One major public health issue facing young Indigenous children in Canada is early childhood caries (ECC), which is defined as the presence of tooth decay in primary teeth in children <72 months of age. Unfortunately, approaches that have demonstrated effectiveness in preventing ECC in lower-risk populations have not resulted in significant improvements for Indigenous children.

Objective

To assess the oral health status and oral-health related quality of life (OHRQoL) of young First Nations and Metis children.

Methods

This cross-sectional study assessed the oral health status of First Nations and Metis children <72 months of age while their parents/caregivers completed a questionnaire, including the Early Childhood Oral Health Impact Scale (ECOHIS) to assess OHRQoL. Participants were recruited from three rural Indigenous communities and one urban centre participating in a scale-up of the Healthy Smile Happy Child initiative in Manitoba, Canada. Analysis included descriptive statistics, bivariate analyses, and multiple regression. A p-value ≤ 0.05 was considered significant.

Results

146 children were recruited with a mean age of 40.1 ± 21.2 (SD) months and 49% were male. 60% had ECC while 56% had severe ECC (S-ECC). The mean dmft score was 4.9 ± 5.3 (range 0-20) and the mean dmfs score was 14.5 ± 20.4 (range 0-80). The total mean ECOHIS score was 4.44 ± 5.86 (range 0-25), while the mean Child Impact Section (CIS) and Family Impact section (FIS) scores were 2.65 ± 4.05 (range 0-10) and 1.78 ± 2.80 (range 0-8), respectively. Multiple linear regression showed S-ECC was associated with total mean ECOHIS scores ($p=0.02$). Higher total mean ECOHIS scores (which indicates poorer OHRQoL)

were observed in children with ECC compared to those caries-free (5.8 vs. 2.4, $p=0.0001$).

Conclusion

Oral health disparities such as ECC and reduced OHRQoL exist among many First Nations and Metis children in Manitoba. This is the first Canadian study exploring the OHRQoL of Indigenous children in addition to their oral health status.

Theme:

Community Health / Policy

Do you have a table/figure to upload?

No

Are you willing to participate in Goodbear's Den?

No

Presenter Status:

Masters Student

What was your role in the project?

MSc Thesis

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