

KNOWLEDGE – International Journal
Vol. 26.4
September, 2018

ISSN 2545 – 4439
ISSN 1857 - 923X

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Institute of Knowledge Management

KNOWLEDGE



Vol. 26. 4.
Scientific Papers

MEDICAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH



KIJ

Vol. 26

No. 4

pp. 999 - 1370

Skopje 2018

KNOWLEDGE – International Journal
Vol. 26.4
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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL
SCIENTIFIC PAPERS
VOL. 26.4.

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Vol. 26.4
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SKOPJE, MACEDONIA



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Print: GRAFOPROM – Bitola

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KNOWLEDGE - International Journal Scientific Papers Vol. 26.4.

ISSN 1857-923X (for e-version)
ISSN 2545 – 4439 (for printed version)

Spasovski Spiro	1335
Radojkova- Nikolovska Vera	1335
Kristina Mitic	1335
Angela Tasevska	1335
ORAL HYGIENE DURING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT	1341
Sandra Atanasova	1341
Ivona Kovachevska	1341
Sanja Nashkova	1341
Verica Toneva	1341
Katerina Zlatanovska	1341
Natasha Longurova	1341
ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT AMONG ELDERLY IN LONG TERM RESIDENCE	1347
Mihajlo Petrovski	1347
Ivona Kovacevska	1347
Olivera Terzieva-Petrovska	1347
Kiro Papakoca	1347
Ana Minovska	1347
Sofija Carevska-Salja	1347
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS FOR THE USE OF DENTAL NANOCOMPOSITES IN MACEDONIA, BULGARIA AND SWEDEN	1355
Ivona Kovacevska	1355
Katerina Zlatanovska	1355
Natasa Longurova	1355
Olivera Terzieva-Petrovska	1355
Zlatko Georgiev	1355
ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR TREATMENT OF PARTIAL EDENTULISM – FLEXIBLE DENTURES	1361
Katerina Zlatanovska	1361
Ivona Kovacevska	1361
Cena Dimova	1361
Natasa Longurova	1361
Sanja Naskova	1361
Julija Zarkova-Atanasova	1361
THE MOST COMMON COMPLICATIONS AFTER ENDODONTIC TREATMENT	1367
Natasa Longurova	1367
Katerina Zlatanovska	1367
Ivona Kovacevska	1367
Sandra Atanasova	1367
Nikola Denkov	1367

ORAL HYGIENE DURING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

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Abstract: Orthodontic treatment plays a very important role in improving facial aesthetics, dental harmony, above all, it also builds up self-esteem in patients. The main goal is to improve the dental occlusion, which will result in good functioning of the dentition, that is, better mastication will be enabled. Maintaining oral health habits is crucial for patients undergoing orthodontic treatment because the failure to maintain good oral hygiene can result in the accumulation of dental plaque over the braces and other orthodontic appliances, which leads to side effects and causes deterioration of the oral health. To avoid unwanted complications that may occur during orthodontic treatment it is important to maintain proper oral hygiene.

In fact, inadequate oral hygiene before the orthodontic treatment and poor oral hygiene during orthodontic treatment is associated with a greater incidence of adverse effects. Oral hygiene plays an important role in oral health care. Immediately after initiating orthodontic treatment, it is essential that the patient is educated for the proper maintenance of oral hygiene, using appropriate toothbrushes, proper teeth brushing techniques, use of interproximal brushes, use of fluoride toothpastes and adjunctive fluoride mouthwashes, chlorhexidine mouthwashes as well as professional care by a dentist. Maintaining oral health during orthodontic treatment is a combination of good oral hygiene and a balanced, proper diet. It is recommended to avoid or minimize the use of sugars, carbonated drinks during meals, energy drinks, and between meal snacks.

However, patient motivation and dexterity are vital to oral health, or to the success of oral hygiene during orthodontic treatment. Although patients regularly visit the orthodontist during the treatment, a regular visit to the dentist is required, which is also significant in this period. The orthodontist is focused on improving dental harmony while the dentist takes care to keep your teeth healthy with thorough dental checkups and preventive care. Optimal maintenance of oral health during orthodontic treatment should be a gold standard in today's practice. In addition to the interventions of the dentist, there is also an appropriate education and motivation of the patients in the maintenance of oral hygiene at home. Orthodontic treatment is a team effort in which the orthodontist, patient, and dentist play an important role in obtaining a perfect smile.

Keywords: oral health, orthodontic treatment, oral hygiene, toothbrushes, dental checkups

интердентална хигиена како што се водички за испиравање, дентален конец и интердентални четки за заби. Познавањата и позитивниот став кон оралното здравјето се важен фактор за добар орален здравствен статус.

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