

An Overview of Oral Surgery Journal's Role in Evidence-Based Oral Care

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Abstract

The objective of this short communication was to provide an evidence-informed overview of the role of oral surgery journals in evidence-based oral care through a preliminary search of PubMed database. There were four studies analyzing oral surgery journals; one on publication bias of controlled trials, one on ethical issues in instructions to authors, one on study designs, and one on reporting of photographs in controlled trials. The journals analyzed for their role in evidence-based oral care were International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Keywords: Research Analysis; Scientific Trend; Publication Trend; Evidence-Based Oral Care.

Introduction

The objective of this short communication was to provide an evidence-informed overview of the role of oral surgery journals in evidence-based oral care through a preliminary search of Pubmed database.

Pitak-Arnnop et al [1] analyzed published controlled trials with regard to publication bias (PB) in the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and found 53 controlled trials out of total 952 published articles. "The OMS journals had more published controlled trials with a positive outcome and from high-income countries which were single-centered trials and with low sample size. The majority of the first authors were male, and funding source disclosure was missing in most studies.

Pitak-Arnnop et al [2] compared the ethical issues in the instructions to authors in oral craniomaxillofacial/facial plastic surgery (OCM-FPS) journals with those in plastic surgery and otorhinolaryngology/head and neck surgery (ORL-HNS) journals, and also evaluated its relationship with journal's impact factor (IF). "The authors included 48 journals: seven OCM-FPS (14.6%), 14 plastic surgery (29.2%) and 27 ORL-HNS (56.2%) journals. Only four journals (8.3%) mentioned all ethical issues in their guidelines for authors. Neither journal's specialty nor IF was linked to completeness of the ethical requirements."

Sandhu [3] classified 1715 and 1579 articles published respectively in the British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (BJOMS) and the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (IJOMS) by study design to evaluate the evidence base in oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS). Forty percent of the papers in both journals were non-clinical, scientific, or animal studies, and most of the studies were observational or descriptive with lesser review articles and few randomised controlled trials (RCT) and only one meta-analysis.

Shintani and Williams [4] analyzed two internationally and one domestically distributed journals for articles containing clinical photographs of a patient's facial area were extracted and assessed based on 3 criteria: (1) extent of facial area visible, (2) necessity of showing eye area, and (3) presence or absence and form of eye masking. Nearly 46% of photographs did not use eye-masking in

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international journals, but only 4.7% in domestic journal whereas it was judged necessary in about 70% and 34.4% respectively. The domestic journal had inappropriate masking in 57.8% pictures.

There were four studies analyzing oral surgery journals; one on publication bias of controlled trials, one on ethical issues in instructions to authors, one on study designs, and one on reporting of photographs in controlled trials. The journals analyzed for their role in evidence-based oral care were International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery, Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

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