

Publication

Dental and periodontal health in a Swiss population-based sample of older adults: a cross-sectional study

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Author(s) Schmidt, J. C.; Vogt, S.; Imboden, M.; Schaffner, E.; Grize, L.; Zemp, E.; Probst-Hensch, N.; Zitzmann, N. U.

Author(s) at UniBasel Imboden, Medea ; Schaffner, Emmanuel ; Grize, Leticia ; Zemp Stutz, Elisabeth ; Probst-Hensch, Nicole ;

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In this cross-sectional study, the prevalences of tooth loss, prosthetic dental restorations, and probing pocket depths (PPDs) of \geq 4 mm, and their relationship to sociodemographic factors, were investigated in older Swiss adults. There were up to 1,673 participants aged \geq 55 yr in the fourth survey of the Swiss Cohort Study on Air Pollution And Lung And Heart Disease In Adults (SAPALDIA4). Missing teeth, prosthetic dental restorations, and PPDs \geq 4 mm were recorded in clinical examinations conducted by field workers and compared with self-reported information from questionnaires. Examination data showed that participants were missing five teeth on average, 74.8% had a prosthetic dental restoration, and 21.1% had PPDs of \geq 4 mm. The mean number of missing teeth and the prevalences of tooth loss, fixed dental prostheses, and removable dental prostheses were associated with age, education level, smoking status, and time since last visit to a dentist. Comparison of data obtained by field workers and that from self-reports show a high level of agreement for the number of missing teeth and the prevalence of removable dental prostheses, but a lower level of agreement for self-reports of fixed dental prostheses and periodontitis.

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