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Perceived connections between oral health and stress among pregnant women: A study in Saudi Arabia

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Background: Although stress during pregnancy has negative effects on children's development and pregnant women's health, no study has assessed stress and its predictors among pregnant Saudi women.

Aim: The aim of this study was to assess the relationship between sociodemographic and self-reported oral health problems and perceived stress in a sample of pregnant Saudi women.

Materials & Methods: A cross-sectional study was carried out at King Abdulaziz Medical City in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 438 pregnant women who attended the obstetrics/gynecology clinic. We collected data on their sociodemographic and oral health status. Stress was assessed using the perceived stress scale.

Results: 33.4% of the sample reported high stress. The study revealed significantly high stress in women with no or low income, chronic disease, sleep deprivation, no teeth brushing, irregular eating patterns, gestational diabetes, and no family support ($P < 0.05$). Self-reported oral health problems were significantly associated with high stress ($P < 0.05$). A multiple linear regression model shows no teeth brushing, chronic disease, sleep deprivation, gestational diabetes, and gingival redness predicted an increase in stress by (3.6, 2.4, 2.1, 1.4, and 1.4, respectively). **Conclusions:** It was estimated that 3 in 10 pregnant women in our hospital reported high stress levels. Our study shed light on the relationship between healthy habits, oral health status, and perceived stress in pregnant women. This research may help healthcare practitioners who provide care to pregnant women to educate them in regard to healthy habits, and to develop a program to reduce stress.

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Effectiveness of Reminiscence and Life Review Therapies for the treatment of Depression in the Elderly: A Systematic Review

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Introduction: Depression is one of the common mental health issues in old age. Pharmacological therapy has been used for a long time to treat depression but due to side-effects of drug therapy in old age, non-pharmacological interventions such as reminiscence and life review therapies are considered useful options to treat old age depression. However, the efficacy of these therapies in treating depression in the elderly is still under discussion. Therefore, the main objective of this systematic review was to determine the effectiveness of reminiscence and life review therapies for the management of depression in the elderly by reviewing already existing scientific literature.

Methods: A literature search was performed using online databases such as Pubmed, EMBASE, MEDLINE and Cochrane Review. Titles and abstracts of the articles were analyzed for relevance. Randomized controlled trials were given preference.

Results: Thirteen studies were reviewed in detail which met the inclusion criteria. The studies not only varied in outcome measurements and types of intervention but also in results. However, overall 8 out of 13 reviewed studies showed significantly reduced depression in the elderly subjects after applying reminiscence/life-review interventions.

Conclusion: Therefore, reminiscence and life review therapies should be considered a useful intervention for the treatment of depression in old age.

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