

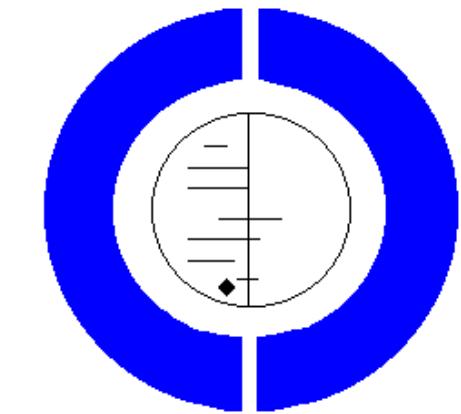
# Evidence-based medicine

-

## Utfordringer i kardiologi

Asbjørn Jokstad

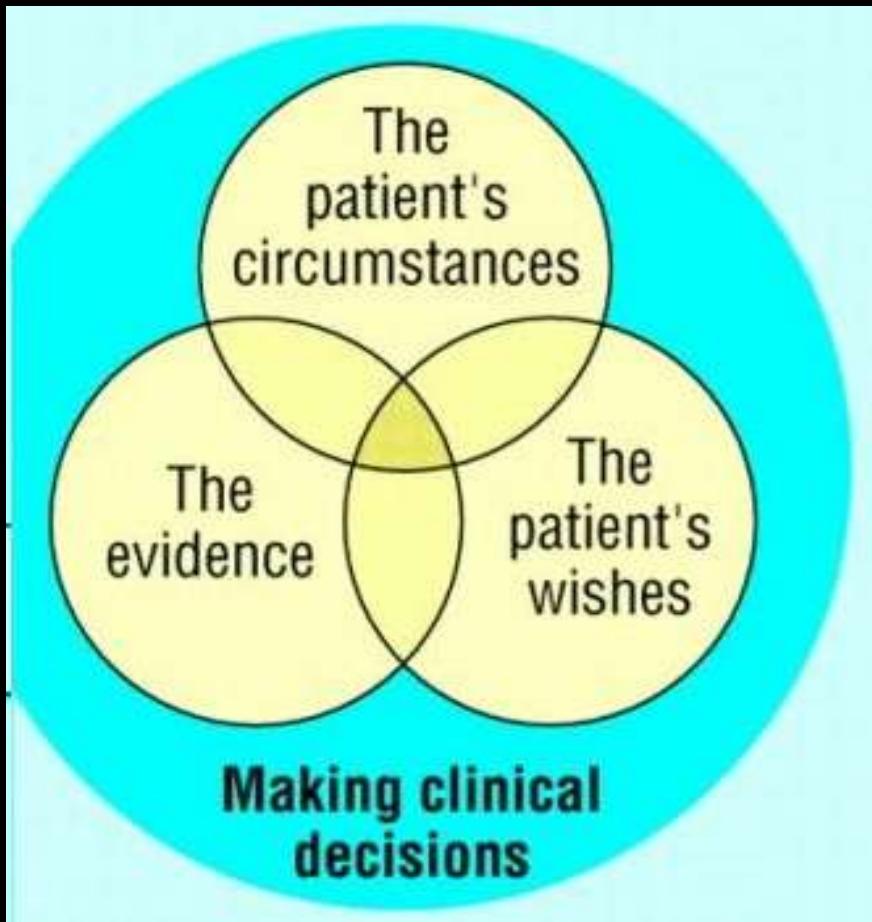
# Evidence Based Medicine



The aim of evidence-based medicine is to eliminate the use of ineffective, expensive, or even dangerous medical decision-making

(Rosenberg & Donald, BMJ, 1995)

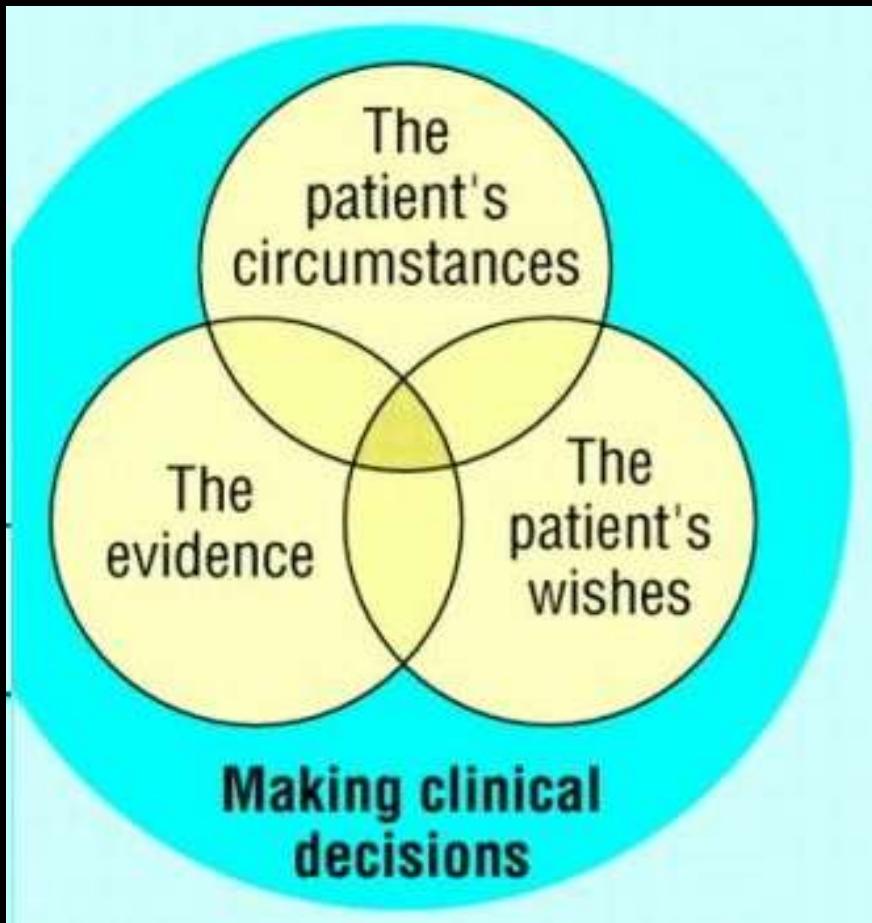
# Hvor praktiseres EBM?



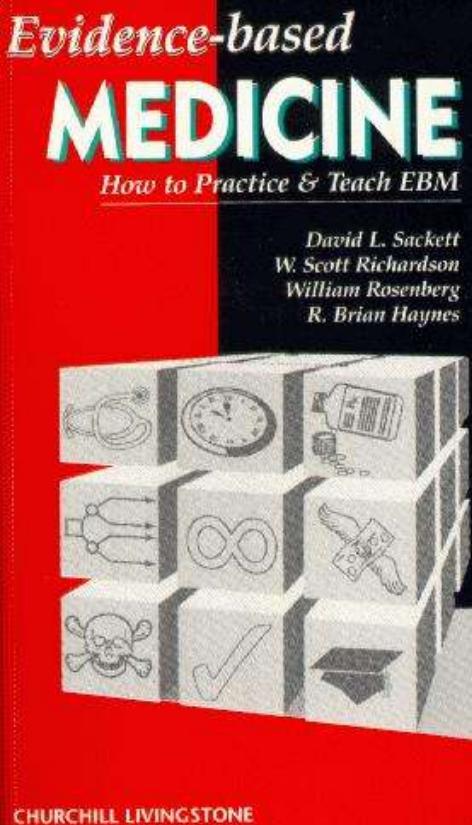
Svar: I behandlings-situasjoner

1. Hvordan skal jeg løse mine daglige kliniske problemstillinger?
  - et praktisk spørsmål
2. Hvordan kan jeg være rimelig sikker på at det jeg anbefaler og utfører er den beste behandlingen min pasient kan motta?
  - et etisk spørsmål

# Hvor praktiseres EBM?



1. Hvordan skal jeg løse mine daglige kliniske problemstillinger?
  - et praktisk spørsmål
2. Hvordan kan jeg være rimelig sikker på at det jeg underviser som lærer ved en undervisningsinstitusjon er det mest korrekte?
  - et etisk spørsmål



# Evidence Based Medicine

Evidence-based medicine is the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients.

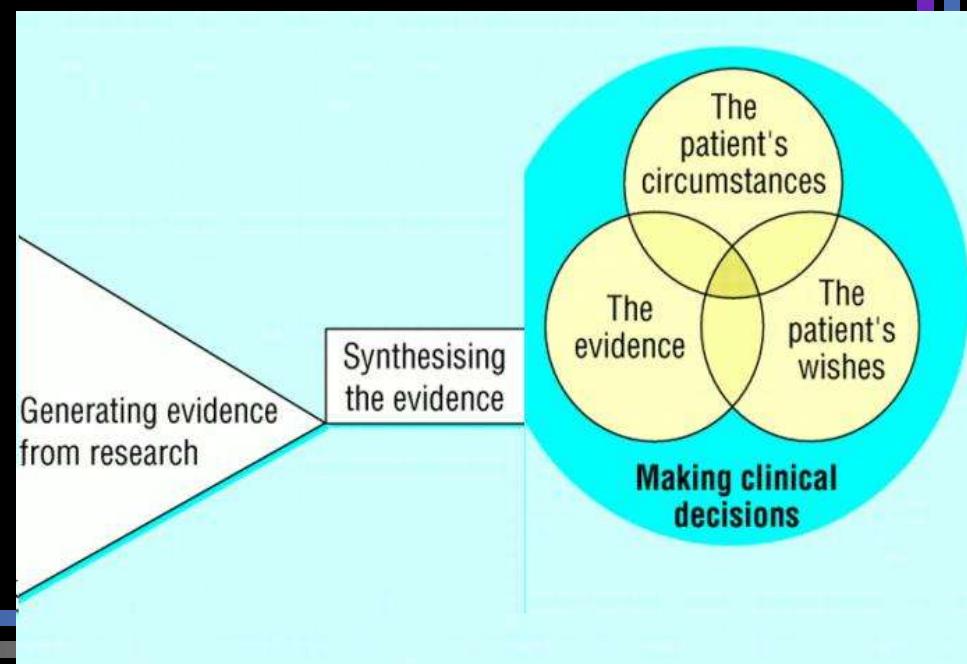
Its practice requires the integration of  
best available external clinical evidence  
with  
individual clinical expertise

# Evidence Based Medicine

*“The conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients.”*

Its practice requires the integration of  
**best available external clinical evidence**  
(from systematic research)

with  
**individual**  
**clinical expertise**



# Hvor befinner du deg vitenskapsfilosofisk?

Diskusjonsnivå	Filosofisk standpunkt
Ontologisk (hva vet vi?- hva er?)	Realist
Epistemologisk (hva kan vi vite?- hvordan kan vi vite?)	Rasjonalist

# Hvordan praktiseres EBM?

## 1. Generere konkrete kliniske problemstillinger

Spørsmål om terapi, prognose og bivirkninger

## 2. Mest mulig effektivt finne evidens

- Søkning i databaser: teknikker og muligheter
- Identifisere kliniske studier som er relevante

## 3. Bedømme validitet, resultat og anvendelighet

## 4. Anvende best evidens i daglig praksis

# Hvordan praktisere EBM?

## 1. Generere konkrete kliniske problemstillinger

Spørsmål om terapi, prognose og bivirkninger

Hva vil jeg anbefale? ..eller..  
Er det konsensus om det  
optimale valg av:

### Karies - Forebygging

1. Alternative fluortilførsler?
2. Vannfluoridering?
3. Hvilket munnskyllevann?
4. Hvor lenge skal vi pusse  
tennene? ... og med hva?
5. Verdien av fissurforsegling?
6. Verdi/innehold i fob veiledning  
om diett/munnhygienetiltak?

Forebygging, Diagnostikk, Prognose & Terapi av  
Dentinsensitivitet?  
Tannerosjoner?

### Kariesetiologi

Relevans av kaosteorier?  
Drikkevaner?

### Kariesdiagnostikk

Klinisk kriterier?  
Diagnodent?

### Kariesprognose

Kariesprediksjonsverdi?  
E.g. GC/Ivoclar

### Kariesterapi

Holdbarhet?  
Nye teknologier

Ozon?  
Carisolv?

9.(?) generasjon bond?

# Hvordan praktisere EBM?

## 1. Generere konkrete kliniske problemstillinger

Spørsmål om terapi, prognose og bivirkninger

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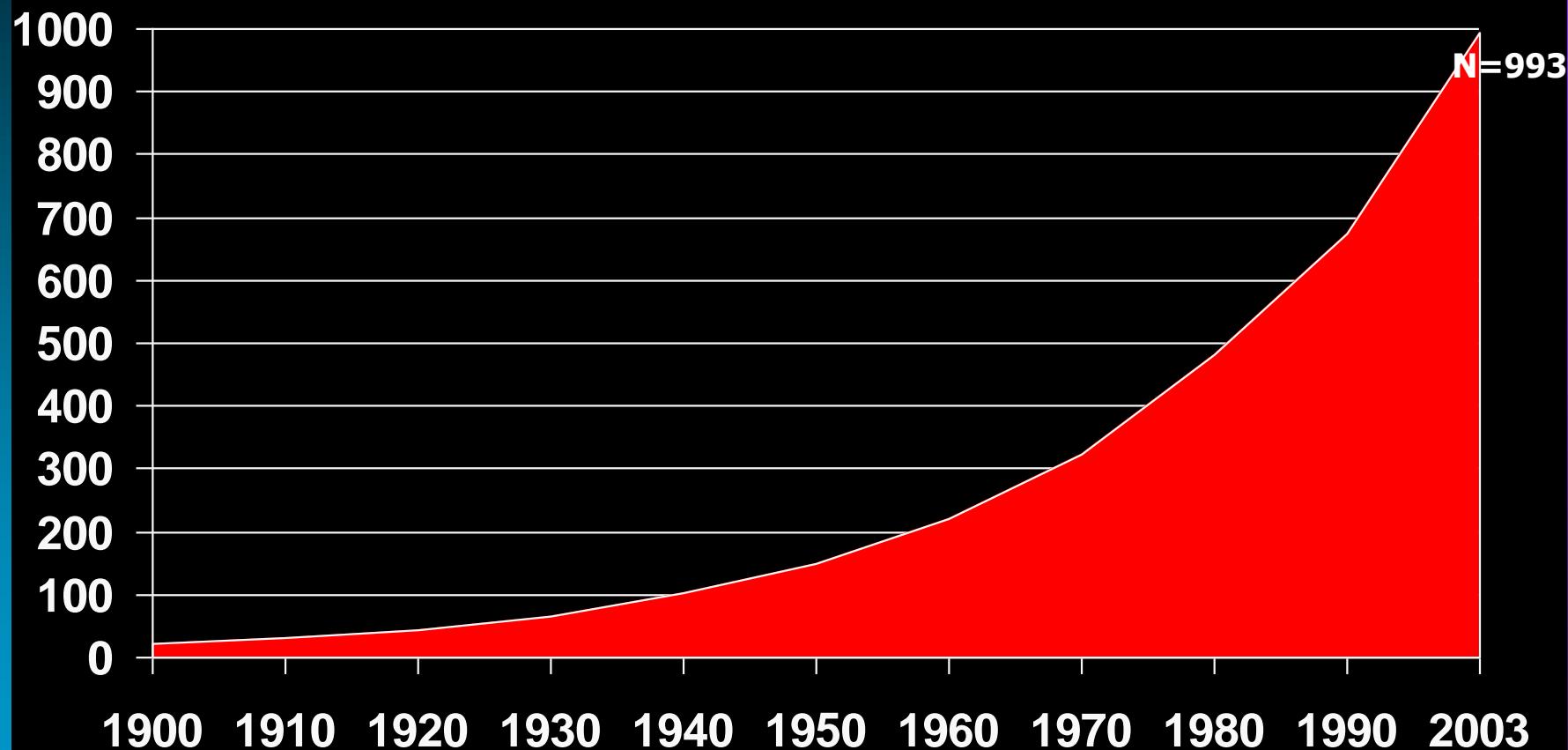
Selv om man kan betegne seg som en faglig dyktig tannlege er det til enhver tid en stor mengde ny informasjon innenfor odontologi som vi er ukjente med.

# Informasjonseksplosjon

Enorm vekst av vitenskapelige publikasjoner  
i biomedisin - inkludert i odontologi

1. Antallet helsepersonnel og forskere stiger  
og  
Antall publikasjoner er nøkkel til penger og ære
2. Antall publikasjoner fordoblet hvert 10. år
3. Antall tidsskrift øker kontinuerlig

# Odontologiske fagtidsskrift



Kilde: Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory

Hvem står bak denne  
flommen av ny  
informasjon innen  
odontologi?



# The clinical practitioners



- Single handed GPs/ specialists in teams; secondary/tertiary care
- Great diversity of experience, interest and capacity
- Draw on a panoply of experience
- Pragmatism: what works - what creates problems

# The researchers



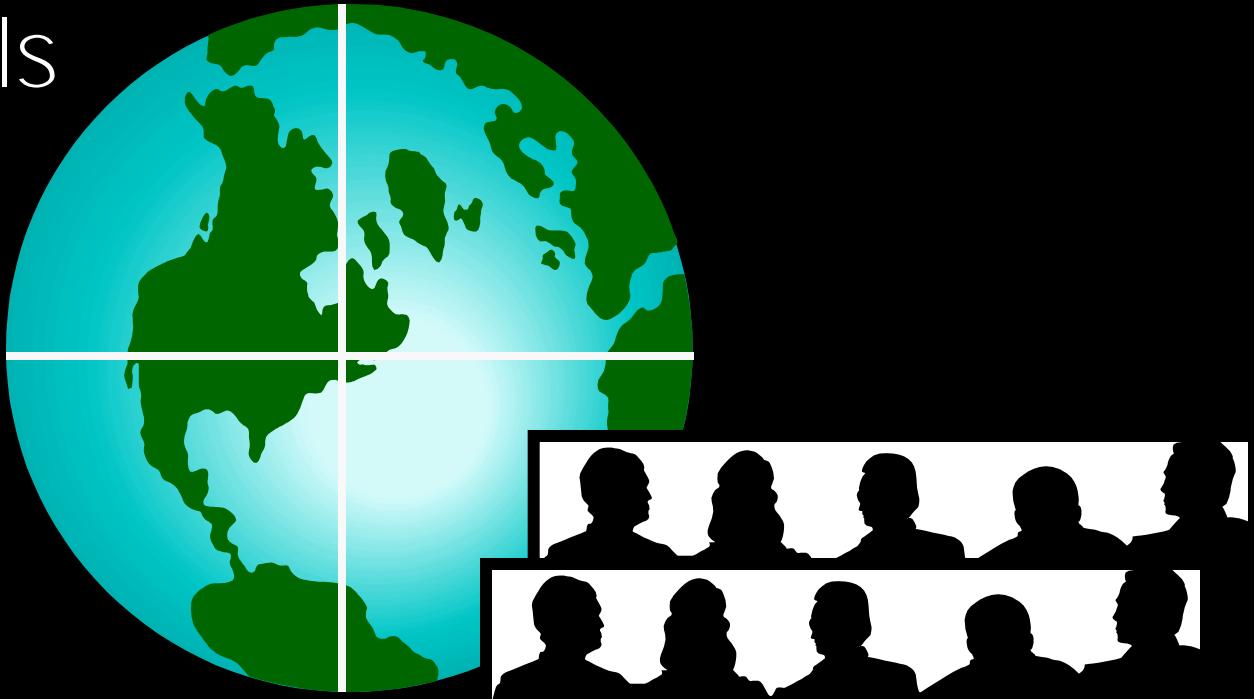
- Creates “scientific evidence”
- Formulation of ideas, hypotheses, study design, data collection
- Peer review, internal/external validity, debates within paradigms
- Report findings in probabilities, not absolutes

# The appraisers of evidence for clinical practice



- Epidemiologists, health economists, statisticians, social scientists, and clinicians
- Collect, abstract and appraise practice related knowledge
- Debates about value and balance between consensus and evidence, rigour of data and application of statistics

# Developers of local guidelines and protocols

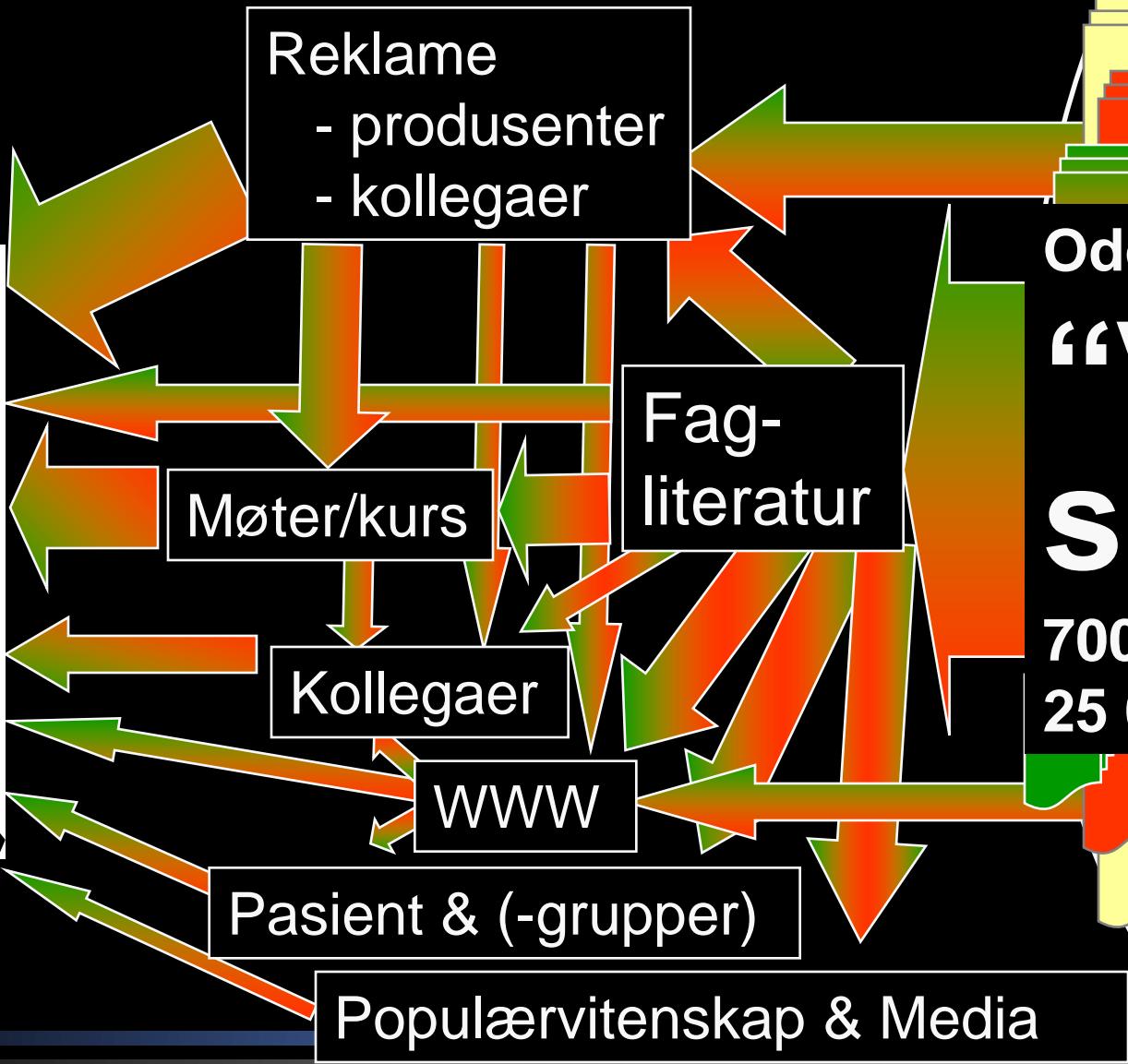


- Local consensus, sometimes on national guidelines
- Clinical specialists seeking ways to influence peers

# A rapidly changing society

- The production of new knowledge is at maximum in historical context
- Incessant replacements of established ideas and concepts

# Informasjonsflom



Odontologisk  
“Viten  
skap”  
700 tidsskrift:  
25 000 art./år

Evidens basert medisin - strategi

Hvordan vi skal forholde  
oss til kontinuerlige  
forandringer . . .

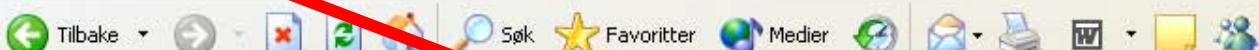
...uten at vi noengang får  
vite det riktige svaret

Vi må ikke bare ta stilling til  
**mengden av informasjon  
vi mottar**

men også  
**kvaliteten på denne  
informasjonen.**

# Where search for scientific information on cariology research?

1. FDI Guidelines Database
2. Cochrane Library
3. ISI Web of Knowledge
4. Medline
  1. Pubmed
  2. Ovid
5. Other databases



SITE SEARCH:

# www.fdiworldental.org

The FDI World Dental Federation is the authoritative worldwide organisation of dentistry representing more than 700.000 dentists in over 150 countries around the globe.

## Nasjonale og internasjonale retningslinjer, prinsippvedtak, uttalelser, møterapporter og -referat. Meta-analyser.

 Buscar/Cherchez/Busca/Suchen/Search/Søk

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- [Samfunnsmedisinske problemstillinger](#)
- [Helse, Miljø og Sikkerhet](#)
- [Materialer, teknikker & arbeidsprosedyrer](#)
- [Spesialiserte arbeidsoppgaver](#)
- [Utdanning og forskningsrelaterte tema](#)
- [Tannlegens hverdag](#)

### Pasientspesifikke problemer

Akutt- & nødbehandling	<a href="#">[Globalt]</a>	<a href="#">[FDI]</a>		
Endokarditt	<a href="#">[Globalt]</a>	<a href="#">[FDI]</a>		
Erosjon & tannslitasje	<a href="#">[Globalt]</a>	<a href="#">[FDI]</a>	<a href="#">[FDI vedtak]</a>	
Handicappede pasienter	<a href="#">[Globalt]</a>	<a href="#">[FDI]</a>		

Editor: FDI Head Office  
Last modification: 15.08.2003

### DISCLAIMER

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F-01210 Ferney-Voltaire,  
FRANCE  
Tel: +33 4 50 40 50 50

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Address http://212.49.218.200/newgenMB/ASP/login.asp?product=CLIB&username=\_USERNAME\_&group=48&server=UpdateUK&authcode=95591768910543477&country=NO&gue | Go



Search phrase:

**Go**

Refine your search

(fluorides or caries) - 2481 hits

[View selected](#) • [Unselect all](#) • [Save selected](#)

- The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (43 out of 3329)
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (25 out of 4427)
- The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (2358 out of 400976)
- The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews (0 out of 16)
- The Cochrane Methodology Register (CMR) (2 out of 4906)
- About the Cochrane Collaboration (4 out of 85)
- Health technology assessment database (HTA) (13 out of 3677)
- NHS Economic evaluation database (NHS EED) (36 out of 13452)

2004 Issue 1

ISSN 1465-1858



the cochrane library

the best single source of reliable evidence about the effects of health care

The Cochrane Library presents the work of the Cochrane Collaboration and others interested in assembling reliable information to guide health-care decisions.

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**UPDATE**  
SOFTWARE

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PubMed Clinical Queries - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query/static/clinical.html

# NCBI PubMed Clinical Queries

About Entrez Text Version Entrez PubMed Overview Help | FAQ Tutorial New/Noteworthy E-Utilities PubMed Services Journal Database MeSH Database Similarity Matcher Batch Citation Matcher Clinical Queries LinkOut Cubby Related Sources Order Details NLM Gateway TOXNET Consumer Health Clinical Alerts ClinicalTrials.gov PubMed Central Privacy Policy

Select from two filters to limit your retrieval. Choose either Clinical Queries or Systematic Reviews. Enter your search topic in the box below and click Go.

**Note:** If you want to retrieve everything on a subject area, go to the [PubMed homepage](#). These filters are intended to limit retrieval to citations to articles conducted with specific methodologies including those that report applied clinical research.

## C Clinical Queries using Research Methodology Filters

These search filters, based on the work of [Haynes RB et al.](#), are intended for clinicians. Four categories are provided, and the emphasis may be more sensitive (i.e., most relevant articles but probably some less relevant ones) or more specific (i.e., mostly relevant articles but probably omitting a few). See the [filter table](#) for details.

Indicate the category and emphasis below:

Category:  therapy  diagnosis  etiology  prognosis  
Emphasis:  sensitive search (broad)  specific search (narrow)

Systematic Reviews

This feature retrieves systematic reviews and meta-analysis studies for your search topic(s). For more information, see [Help](#). [Related sources](#) are also provided.

Enter subject search: caries

Go Clear

**N=296**

n= 9690 3282 6768 2201  
538 258 457 310

Write to the Help Desk  
NCBI | NLM | NIH  
Department of Health & Human Services  
Freedom of Information Act | Disclaimer

Internet

# Hvordan praktisere EBM?

## 1. Generere konkrete kliniske problemstillinger

Spørsmål om terapi, prognose og bivirkninger

## 2. Mest mulig effektivt finne evidens

- Søkning i databaser: teknikker og muligheter
- Identifisere kliniske studier som er relevante

## 3. Bedømme validitet, resultat og anvendelighet

# Tre hovedspørsmål

1. Er studien gyldig (valid)?
2. Hva er resultatene ?
3. Er resultatene relevante for mitt problem?

# 1 Er studien gyldig (valid)?

- Er problemstillingen klar?
- Benyttes det en hensiktsmessig studiedesign for å besvare problemstillingen?
- Ble studien utført reliably?
- Kan du følge hva forfatterne gjorde?

# Studiedesign på kliniske studier og terminologi = Babelsk forvirring?

analytical study	ecological study	prospective cohort study
case control study (89)	etiological study	prospective follow-up study,
case serie	experimental study	observational or experimental
case study, case report	explorative study	prospective study (67)
cause-effect study	feasability study (79)	quasi-experimental study
clinical trial (79)	follow-up study (67)	randomized clinical trial, RTC
cohort study (89)	historical cohort study	randomized controlled trial,
cohort study with historical controls	incidence study	RCT (89)
controlled clinical trial (95)	intervention study	retrospective cohort study
cross-sectional study (89)	longitudinal study (79)	retrospective follow-up study
descriptive study	N=1 trial	retrospective study (67)
diagnostic meta-analysis	non-randomized trial with contemporaneous controles	surveillance study
diagnostic study	non-randomized trial with historical controles	survey, descriptive survey
double blind randomized therapeutical trial with cross-over design	observational study	therapeutic meta-analysis
	prevalence study	trohoc study

# Kliniske studier og design (Medline termer):

- (Kasuspresentasjon/kasusserie)
- Tverrsnittsstudie
- Kasus-kontrollstudie
- Kohortstudie
- Randomisert kontrollert studie

# Kritisk analyse av studier - kriterier

- Finnes for:
  - behandlingsvalg
  - terapi
  - diagnose
  - screening
  - prognose
  - kausalstudier
  - kvalitetsevaluering
  - økonomiske analyser

Eksempel: Terapeutisk effektivitet - sammenheng mellom studieddesign og bevisstyrke?

# Bevisstyrke på terapeutisk effektivitet

## **US Agency of Health Care Policy & Research, 1992**

- Ia. Meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials
- Ib. At least one randomized controlled trial
- IIa. At least one well-designed controlled study without randomization
- IIb. At least one other quasi-experimental study
- III. Well-designed non-experimental descriptive studies, such as comparative studies, correlation studies and case-control studies.
- IV. Expert committee reports or opinions and/or clinical experience of respected authorities

## **EBM Working Group, McMaster University 1993**

- Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
- RCT with definite results (ie. result with CI that do not overlap the threshold clinically significant effect)
- RCT with non-definite results (ie. a point estimate that suggests a clinically significant effect, but with CI overlapping the threshold for this effect)
- Cohort studies
- Case-control studies
- Cross sectional studies
- Case reports

# Bevisstyrke på terapeutisk effektivitet

**Richards & Lawrence, Br Dent J  
1995;175:270**

- at least one published systematic review of multiple well designed randomised controlled trials
- at least one published properly designed randomised controlled trial of appropriate size and in an appropriate clinical setting
- published well-designed trials without randomisation, single group pre-post, cohort, time series or matched case controlled studies
- well-designed experimental studies from more than one centre or research group
- opinions of respected authorities based on clinical evidence, descriptive studies or reports of expert consensus committees

**Sackett et al., Editorial. EBM  
1995;1:4**

- (I-1) Based on 2 or more well designed randomised controlled trials (RCT), meta-analyses, or systematic reviews.
- (I-2) Based on a RCT.
- (II-1) Based on a cohort study.
- (II-2) Based on a case controlled study.
- (II-3) Based on a dramatic uncontrolled experiment.
- (III) respected authorities, expert committees (consensus)etc.
- (IV) ...someone once told me

# Bevisstyrke på terapeutisk effektivitet

**CEBM, 1999. (<http://cebm.jr2.ox.ac.uk/docs/levels.html>)**

- 1a. Systematic review (with homogeneity of RCTs)
- 1b. Individual RCT (with narrow confidence interval)
- 1c. All or none
- 2a. Systematic review (with homogeneity) of cohort studies
- 2b. Individual cohort study (and low quality RCT; e.g., <80% follow-up)
- 2c. “Outcomes” research**
  - 3a. Systematic review (with homogeneity) of case-control studies
  - 3b. Individual case-control study
  - 4. Case-series (and poor quality cohort and case-control studies)
  - 5. Expert opinion without explicit critical appraisal, or based on **physiology, bench research or “first principles”**

## 2. Hva er resultatene ?

- Er resultatene presentert på en klar og enkel måte?
- Er det en klar konklusjon?
- Er konklusjonen viktig klinisk?

### 3. Er resultatene relevante for mitt problem?

- Er deltakerne tilnærmet like mine egne?
- Er det realistisk at jeg kan utføre behandlingen på mine pasienter?

# Hvordan praktisere EBM?

## 1. Generere konkrete kliniske problemstillinger

Spørsmål om terapi, prognose og bivirkninger

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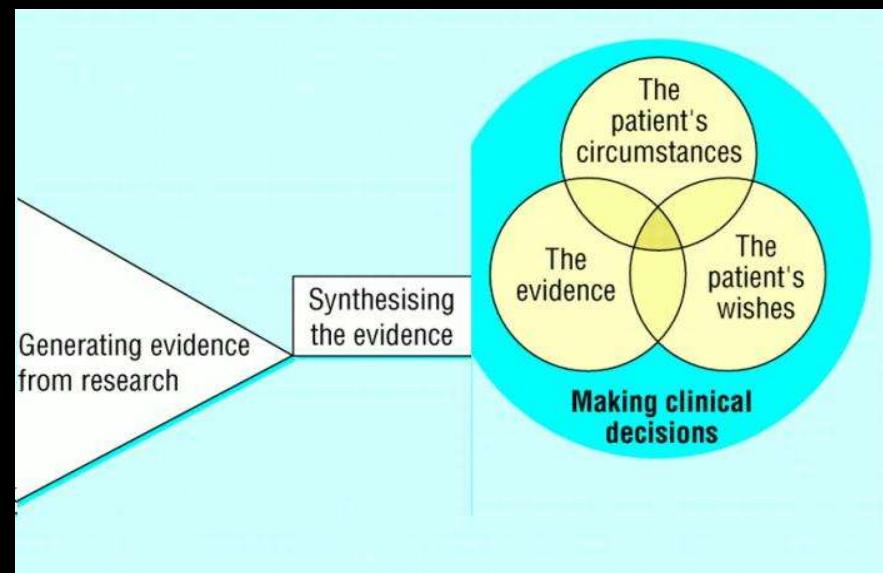
## 3. Bedømme validitet, resultat og anvendelighet

## 4. Anvende best evidens i daglig praksis

# Hvordan utøve evidens-basert praksis?

## 1. Lære selv hvordan evidens-basert odontologi utføres

- Bøker
- Seminarer
- Internett
  - Online link-lister
  - Online kurs
  - Online ressurser



Cochrane Oral Group Manchester - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.cochrane-oral.manch.ac.uk/

## Cochrane Oral Health Group

Welcome to our web site

**The Cochrane Collaboration**

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international organization that aims to help people make well-informed decisions about health care by preparing, maintaining and promoting the accessibility of systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions. The main work of the Collaboration is done by approximately fifty Collaborating Review Groups, within which Cochrane Systematic Reviews are prepared and maintained. The Cochrane Oral Health Group aims to produce

Centre for Evidence-Based Dentistry & Informatics, India - Netscape

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Location: http://www.cod.net/cedb/index.htm

What's New

Centre FOR Evidence-Based Dentistry And Informatics

WELCOME TO CEBD WEB SITE

Centre for Evidence-Based Dentistry & Informatics at College of Dental Sciences, Pavilion Road, Davangere-574004, Karnataka, India

Tel.: 91-8192-30432; Fax: 91-8192-51070  
e-mail: cods@sancharnet.in

Workshop exclusively for Orthodontists  
"Value of Evidence in Orthodontic Decisions"

International Centre for Evidence-Based Periodontal Health (ICEPH) - Home page - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address: http://www.eastman.ucl.ac.uk/~odarke/iceph/

ICEPH

International Centre for Evidence-Based Periodontal Health  
Unit of Periodontology, Eastman Dental Institute, University College London

Activities

Contact

Links

Affiliate Societies

People

Periodontics

Illuminating Oral Health Care

But hurry, space is limited!

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Centre for Evidence-Based Dentistry

Developing Evidence-based Dentistry

Centre for Evidence-Based Dentistry

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Location: http://Abdohome.hipos.com/cebd/Untitled.html.htm

CEBD Centre for Evidence-Based Dentistry

Inicio Introducción Los Pasos La Evidencia Links Contacto

Grupo de Odontología Basada en la Evidencia

Facultad de Odontología Universidad del Valparaíso

Bienvenido a la primera página en Español de **Odontología Basada en la Evidencia**. Esta página está en permanente construcción y te invitamos a colaborar en ella y unirte al Grupo de Odontología Basada en la Evidencia.

La barra de navegación superior te guiará por las temáticas principales, y la barra de navegación lateral te guiará dentro de cada sección y además, al finalizar páginas tienes un acceso al extenso repositorio de la página.

Este sitio de web es hogar a una redacción de 600+ 600+ en versiones de monogénero A-G o trilingües y un hermoso sistema multimedia.

Así que no dudes en marcarla en tus favoritos.

Address: http://www.isebd.com/index.html

What's New

home

about us

services

extras

resources

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Welcome to the official website for the International Society of Evidence-Based Dentistry!

ICEPH

International Society of Evidence-Based Dentistry

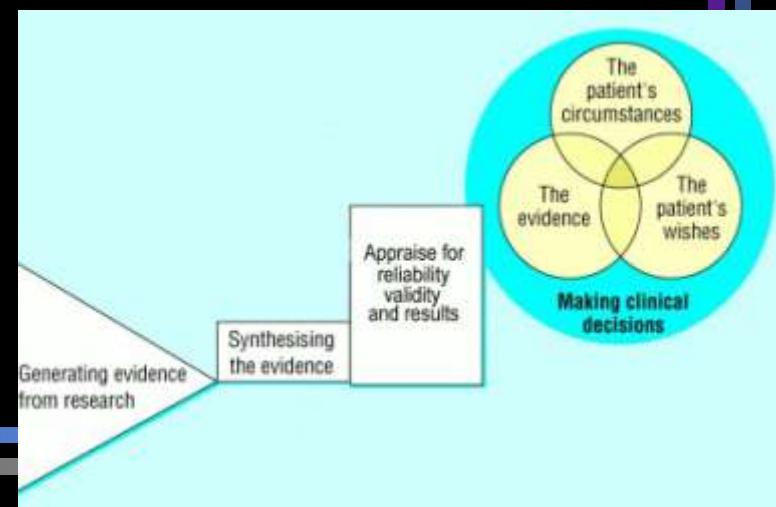
Welcome

WHAT'S NEW-ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The First Annual Membership Meeting of the ISEBD will take place on November 6 and 7,

# Hvordan utøve evidens-basert praksis?

1. Lære selv evidens-basert odontologi
  2. Søke og anvende evidens-baserte sammendrag utarbeidet av andre.
- 
1. Fagtidsskrift som kritisk evaluerer primærstudier
  2. Systematiske oversikter
    - Cochrane Collaboration
    - Nat. Health Serv. R&D
    - Litteratur



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Chemistry NEW!

**ISSN 1462-0049**  
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**Publishes 4 issues a year**

## View tables of contents

A central resource for the most cutting-edge and relevant issues concerning the evidence-based approach in dentistry today. A *British Dental Journal* and Nature Publishing Group publication.

## Audience

*Evidence-Based Dentist* general dental practitioners keep abreast of the best on the latest developments in aspects of clinical dentistry. An invaluable tool for the practitioners needing to stay aware of new approaches in the branch of dentistry.

\*Please click [here](#) for the following paper - these tables are printed version of EBD

Vol 3:1

**Benchmarking the dental controlled literature on**  
*Niederman R., Chen L., Mu*

Journal of Evidence-Based Dental Practice TOC, July 2001 - Netscape

The screenshot shows a web browser window for "Journal of Evidence-Based Dental Practice TOC, July 2001 - Netscape". The page title is "Mosby Periodicals Home". Below the title, there are links for "JEBDP Home", "Table of Contents", "All Issues", "Order", "About this Journal", "Issue", and "Issue". The main content area displays the title "THE JOURNAL OF EVIDENCE-BASED DENTAL PRACTICE". Below it, a "Table of Contents for July 2001 • Volume 1 • Number 1" is listed. There are two tabs: "Free Items" and "Paid Items". Under "Free Items", there are sections for "Statement of purpose and methods", "Editorials", and "A letter from the Editor-in-Chief and the Publisher". Under "Paid Items", there is a section for "A new perspective...Two steps back: Integration of the evidence-based method in a general practice residency program". At the bottom, there is a section for "Evidence-based information is not a conspiracy to limit insurance benefits".

## Statement of purpose and methods

[FULL TEXT](#) [PDF](#)

## Editorials

**A letter from the Editor-in-Chief and the Publisher**  
Michael G. Newman, DDS, Cynthia L. Baudendistel

[FULL TEXT](#) [PDF](#)

**A new perspective...Two steps back: Integration of the evidence-based method in a general practice residency program**  
Elliot Abt, DDS, MS

[FULL TEXT](#) [PDF](#)

## Evidence-based information is not a conspiracy to limit insurance benefits

Maxwell Anderson, DDS

Document Done



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dent\* - 9779 hits

- ▶ **The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews  
(187 out of 2655)**
- ▶ **Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (79 out of 3740)**
- ▶ **The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (9311 out of 345378)**
- ▶ **The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews (2 out of 15)**
- ▶ **The Cochrane Methodology Register (CMR) (46 out of 4002)**
- ▶ **About the Cochrane Collaboration (15 out of 86)**
- ▶ **Health technology assessment database (HTA) (33 out of 2838)**
- ▶ **NHS Economic evaluation database (NHS EED) (106 out of 10255)**

2002 Issue 4

ISSN 1464-780X



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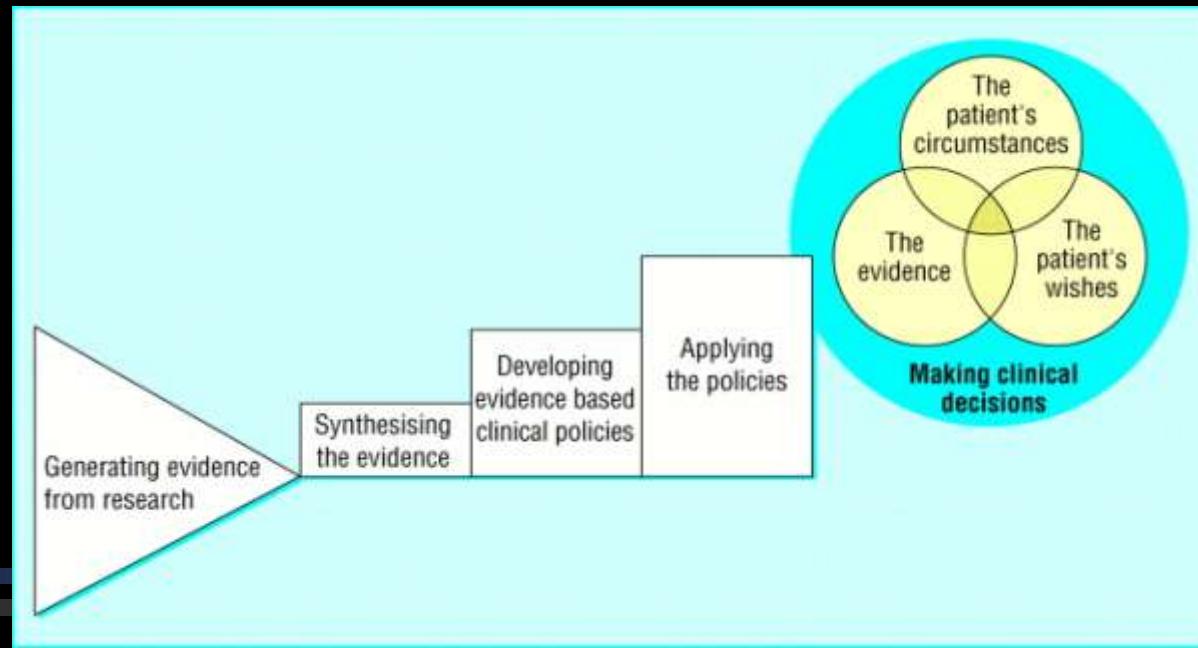
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# Hvordan utøve evidens-basert praksis?

## 3. Akseptere og anvende kliniske retningslinjer som er baserte på evidens-baserte prinsipper



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# KARIES – Forebygging

1. Diett?
2. Alternative fluorbehandlinger?
3. Vannfluoridering?
4. Hvilket munnskyllevann?
5. Hvor lenge skal vi pusse tennene? ... og med hva?
6. Verdien av fissurforsegling?
7. Betydningen av oligomerer?
8. Betydningen av tannforebyggende tiltak generelt?

Sverige

Skottland

USA

Populasjonsnivå?

Individnivå?



## Caries Research

Caries Res 2004;38(suppl 1):16-23  
DOI: 10.1159/000074358

# Experts' Opinions on the Role of Diet in Caries Prevention

C. van Loveren<sup>a</sup> M.S. Duggal<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Cariology Endodontology Pedodontics, Academic Center for Dentistry Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, and <sup>b</sup>Division of Child Dental Health, Leeds Dental Institute, Leeds, UK

### Key Words

Opinions · Diet · Dental caries · Prevention

There was no agreement amongst experts on preventive dentistry in Europe on the contemporary validity of the paradigm: 'Sucrose is the arch criminal of dental caries.' Taking the variation in opinions into account and the fact



# Consensus Statements

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## Diagnosis and Management of Dental Caries Throughout Life

March 26-28, 2001  
Vol. 18, No. 1

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Author: Stephen C. Howell, DMD, Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Biomaterials Science and Technology, University of Texas, San Antonio, TX 78229-0966  
Abstract: 114 (40)  
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Cystoblast Research Open Session Thursday, September 24, 2009  
Author: Linda Talarico, DDS, PhD, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892  
Topic Planning Team: 30 (14)  
Abstract: 114 (40)  
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FACING THE NEW MILLENNIUM Meeting October 14, 1999  
Author: National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, Bethesda, MD 20892  
Abstract: 114 (40)  
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Department of Medical and Public Health University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 6TP  
Anne J Stansfield Senior Researcher  
Correspondence to M McDonald mcd07@le.ac.uk

#### Outcome measures

Studies that estimated the effect of fluoridation on caries investigated two main outcomes at baseline and at the final examination. These were decayed, missing, and filled primary/permanent teeth and the proportion of children without caries. The measure of effect used for the analysis was the difference of the change in prevalence of caries from baseline to the final examination in the fluoridated area compared with the control area in children of the same age.

To allow investigation of the effect of baseline levels of caries, we took the outcome measure from the first survey data for the meta-regressions of caries studies. The outcomes used were the data on effect size (mean

difference) for decayed, missing, and filled primary/permanent teeth and the data on difference in risk for the proportion of children without caries. This was done because correlation between the mean difference of the change in incidence of caries and baseline caries may lead to spurious association. The median risk difference was used to calculate the number needed to treat for the proportion of children without caries.

Several indices are used to classify enamel opacities, including fluorosis. Dental fluorosis was defined here as any score other than normal on each index used. As the importance of a fluorosis score at the lowest level of each index is debatable, a second method was selected. This method describes the number of people who have dental fluorosis that may cause "aesthetic concern to the patient." The level at which fluorosis was judged to cause aesthetic concern was taken from a survey of 12 year old children in the United Kingdom<sup>11</sup> and corresponded to a tooth surface index of fluorosis score of two or more, or Thygesen and Fejerskov index score of three or more, or Dean's classification of "mild" or worse. Studies that used other indices could not be included in this analysis. Full details of indices can be found elsewhere.<sup>7</sup>

#### Analysis

Where the data were in a suitable format we plotted measures of effect and 95% confidence intervals. Heterogeneity was investigated by visual examination of plots and statistically with the Q statistic.<sup>12</sup> If we found significant heterogeneity we conducted meta-regression. Random effects models were adopted throughout to combine study results.<sup>13</sup> Meta-regression was used to explore the influence of study characteristics on outcome in an attempt to try to explain any heterogeneity between studies. Stata version 6.0 (Stata Corporation, US) was used for this analysis.

We used multi-level regression analysis to combine studies and investigate the association of water fluoride concentration with the prevalence of dental fluorosis (the analysis was conducted separately for all fluorosis and fluorosis of aesthetic concern) and used a multilevel model to combine studies. Each area with a different fluoride concentration under observation within a study was included separately in the model. The log (odds) of having fluorosis was modelled as a function of fluoride concentration. The analysis was carried out with the MIXED procedure within SAS (SAS Institute, US). Full details of methods used in the analyses, including all factors investigated in meta-regressions can be found elsewhere.<sup>7</sup>

#### Results

We included 214 studies; none was of evidence level A (high quality, low risk of bias). The study designs used included 45 controlled before-after studies, 102 cross sectional studies, 47 ecological studies, 15 cohort (prospective or retrospective) studies, and seven case-control studies. Summaries of individual study designs and full details on findings are available elsewhere.<sup>7</sup>

#### Positive effects

Twenty six studies of the effect of water fluoridation on dental caries met the inclusion criteria. All but three of the studies included were controlled before-after studies. Of the three remaining, two used prospective

cohort designs and the other a retrospective cohort design. The controlled before-after studies assessed different groups of children of the same age (12 years at the baseline (before fluoridation) and final (after fluoridation) surveys). All studies were of evidence level B (moderate), and the mean validity score was 5 (range 3.5 to 6.8) out of 8.

Figures 1 and 2 show estimates of the effect of fluoridation on the change in decayed, missing, and filled teeth and on the change in children without caries compared with control children for studies in which fluoridation was initiated after the baseline survey.<sup>14</sup> Individual studies contributed more than one age group to the results. There was significant heterogeneity among the included studies ( $P < 0.001$ ).

The range (median) of the mean difference in the proportion (%) of children without caries was -5.0% to 6.0% (14.6%; interquartile range 3.0% to 22.1%). In the fluoridated areas there was a significant increase in the proportion of children without caries in 19 of 20 analyses. Only one analysis found a significant decrease in the proportion of children without caries in the fluoridated area. We estimate that that a median of six people would need to receive fluoridated water for one extra person to be free from caries (interquartile range of the distribution of number needed to treat was 4 to 9 people).

Fifteen of 16 analyses found a significantly greater mean change in decayed, missing and filled primary/permanent teeth in the fluoridated areas than the non-fluoridated areas (fig 2). The range (median) of mean change in decayed, missing and filled primary/permanent teeth was 0.5-44 (2.25) teeth (interquartile range 1.28-3.63 teeth).

Meta-regression showed that the proportion of children without caries at baseline, the setting, and the validity score show a significant association with the difference in risk in the proportion of children without caries. A table of the results of the meta-regression can be found on the BMJ's website. Baseline decayed, missing, and filled primary/permanent teeth, age, setting, and duration of study show a significant association with the mean difference in decayed, missing, and filled primary/permanent teeth.

#### Negative effects

A total of 175 included studies examined possible negative effects of water fluoridation.

#### Dental fluorosis

We included 88 studies of dental fluorosis. These were largely cross sectional designs, with only four controlled before-after designs. The mean (range) validity score for fluorosis was only 2.8 (1.3-5.8) out of 8. All of the studies were of evidence level C (lowest quality), except one level B study. A full list of citations is available elsewhere.<sup>7</sup>

Regression analysis showed a significant dose-response relation for both methods of measuring the prevalence of fluorosis (figs 3 and 4). From these models, the pooled estimate of the prevalence of fluorosis at a water fluoride concentration of 1.0 ppm was 48% (95% confidence interval 40% to 57%) and for fluorosis of aesthetic concern 12.5% (7.0% to 21.5%). There was, however, considerable heterogeneity between results of individual studies.

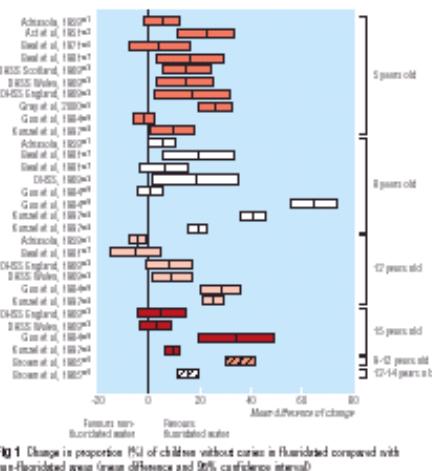


Fig 1 Change in proportion (%) of children without caries in fluoridated compared with non-fluoridated areas (mean difference and 95% confidence interval)

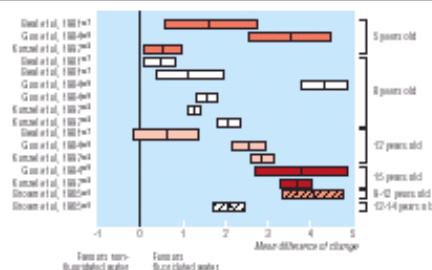


Fig 2 Change in decayed, missing, and filled teeth for primary/permanent teeth (mean difference and 95% confidence interval)

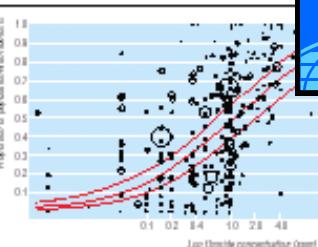


Fig 3 Proportion of population with dental fluorosis by water fluoride concentration with 95% confidence interval for proportion. Fluoride concentration is plotted on log scale because of linear association between this and log (odds) of fluorosis. Each circle represents a study area in which the proportion of people with fluorosis is estimated—the larger the circle, the higher the precision of the estimate

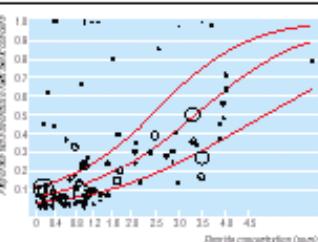
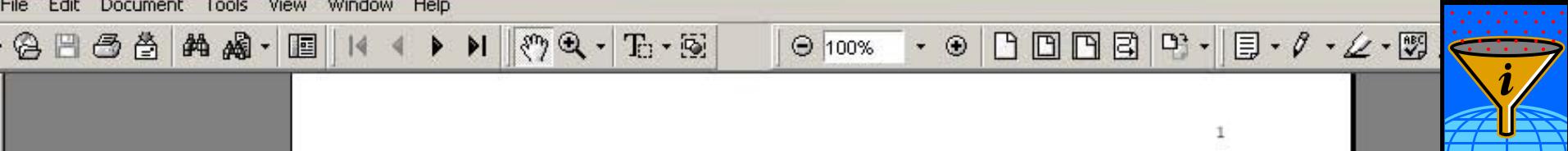


Fig 4 Proportion of population with fluorosis of aesthetic concern by water fluoride concentration (plotted on a transformed scale because of linear association between this and log (odds) of 'aesthetic fluorosis'). Each circle represents a study area in which the proportion of people with fluorosis is estimated—the larger the circle, the higher the precision of the estimate

These results show a strong association between water fluoride concentration and the proportion of the population with dental fluorosis. We estimate that six people (95% confidence interval 4 to 21) would have to be exposed to water fluoride concentrations of 1.0 ppm for one additional person to develop fluorosis of any degree, compared with theoretical low fluoride concentration of 0.4 ppm. Of these, about one quarter will have fluorosis of aesthetic concern (number needed to treat 22, 95% confidence interval 13.8 to  $\infty$ ). These estimates apply only to the comparison of 1.0 ppm with 0.4 ppm. The model may not fit data at the extreme ends (low or high concentrations) well because of the small numbers of data points at these concentrations. Though many areas in Britain may have water fluoride concentrations lower than 0.4 ppm, this concentration was chosen as the comparator (low fluoride) to ensure that the results were as reliable as possible.

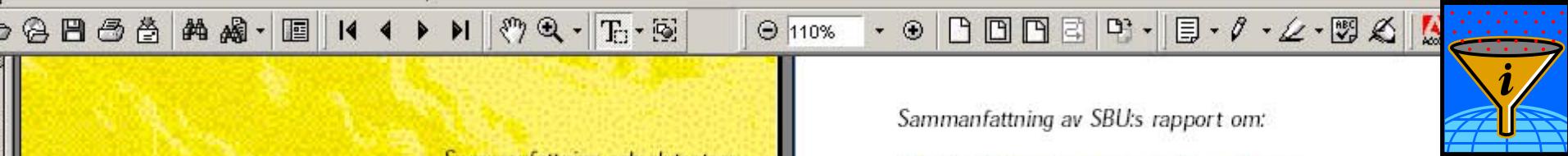




## The effect of non-cariogenic sweeteners on the prevention of dental caries: A review of the evidence

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The complete version of this paper can be viewed at:  
<http://www.nidcr.nih.gov/news/consensus.asp>



# Att förebygga karies

En systematisk litteraturoversikt

SBU – Statens beredning för medicinskt utvärdering

The Swedish Council on Technology Assessment in Health Care



Sammanfattning av SBUs rapport om:

## Att förebygga karies

En systematisk litteraturoversikt

Oktober 2002

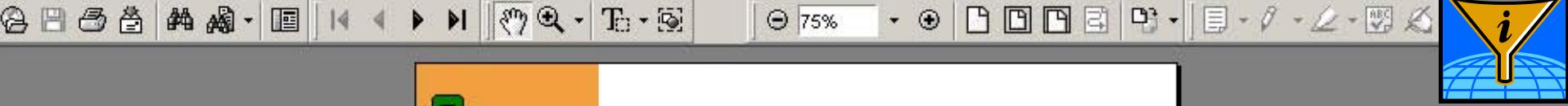
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## Preventing Dental Caries in Children at High Caries Risk

Targeted prevention of dental caries in the permanent  
teeth of 6-16 year olds presenting for dental care

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This guideline was issued in 2000 and will be reviewed in 2002 or sooner if new evidence becomes available. Any updates to the guideline in the interim period will be noted on the SIGN website. Comments are invited to assist the review process. All correspondence and requests for background information regarding the guideline should be sent to: SIGN Executive, Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JQ. Tel: 0131 225 7324, Fax: 0131 225 1769, e-mail: sign@rcpe.ac.uk, www.sign.ac.uk

December 2000



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# A Comparison of Selected Evidence Reviews and Recommendations on Interventions to Prevent Dental Caries, Oral and Pharyngeal Cancers, and Sports-Related Craniofacial Injuries

Barbara F. Gooch, DMD, MPH, Benedict I. Truman, MD, MPH, Susan O. Griffin, PhD, William G. Kohn, DDS, Iddrisu Sulemana, MPH, MA, Helen C. Gift, PhD, Alice M. Horowitz, PhD, Caswell A. Evans, Jr, DDS, MPH

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**Medical Subject Headings (MeSH):** cariostatic agents, community dentistry, community health planning, community health services, decision making, dental caries, evidence-based medicine, facial injuries, fluoridation, intervention studies, meta-analysis, mouth protectors, oral health, pharyngeal neoplasms, pit and fissure sealants, practice guidelines, preventive dentistry, preventive health services, public health dentistry, public health practice, review literature, tooth injuries

---

## Introduction

The reports in this supplement<sup>1,2</sup> represent the work of the Task Force on Community Preventive Services (the Task Force), an independent, nonfederal group of national, regional, and local public health and prevention services experts supported by public and private partners. This report is one in a series of topics published as part of the *Guide to Community Preventive Services* (the *Community Guide*). Previously published topics include vaccine-preventable diseases, tobacco use and control, reducing injuries to motor vehicle occupants, diabetes, and physical activity. A full listing of published articles can be found at the website ([www.thecommunityguide.org](http://www.thecommunityguide.org)).

In addition to expanding the *Community Guide*, the reviews and evidence-based recommendations in this

tion and guidance to personnel in state and local health departments, purchasers of health care, people responsible for funding public health programs, policy-makers, third-party payers, and others who have an interest in or responsibility for improving oral and related general health in all segments of the population. This article presents a summary of selected guidelines and evidence reviews available as of August 2001, and provides an accessible review of the current evidence of effectiveness of interventions related to those evaluated by the Task Force. These interventions address the prevention of dental caries (through community water fluoridation, school-based or school-linked pit and fissure sealant delivery programs, and statewide and community-wide sealant promotion programs), oral and pharyngeal cancers, and sports-related craniofacial injuries.

## KARIES -

### Etiologi

- Kaosteorier?
- Drikke?

### Screening/Diagnostikk

- Recall - betydning?
- Kariesdiagnostikk  
Rotkaries?  
Diagnodent?

### Prognose

- Kariesprediksjonsverdi

GC

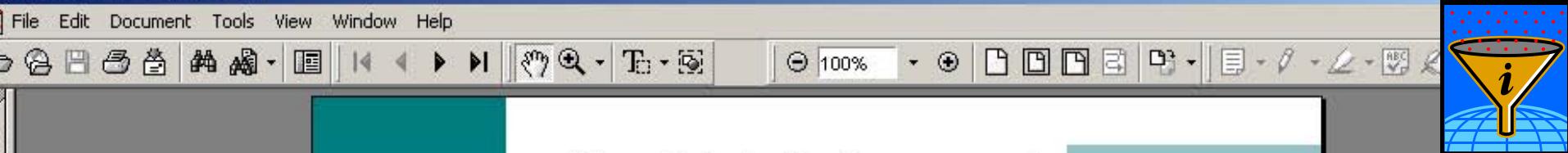
### Terapi

- Rotkaries
- Fyllingers holdbarhet
- Nye teknologier  
Ozon  
Carisolv

### Forebygging, Diagnose, Prognose & Terapi av:

Dentinsensitivitet  
Tannvev & erosjon

Populasjonsnivå?  
Individnivå?



# The clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of routine dental checks: a systematic review and economic evaluation

C Davenport<sup>1</sup>\*

K Elley<sup>2</sup>

C Salas<sup>3</sup>

CL Taylor-Weetman<sup>4</sup>

A Fry-Smith<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Education Service, Birmingham City Council, UK

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# The Diagnosis of Root Caries

D.W. Banting  
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The University of Western Ontario  
London, Ontario, Canada N6A 5C1

A presentation to the NIH Consensus Development Conference on  
Diagnosis and Management of Dental Caries Throughout Life

Washington, D.C.

March 26-28, 2001

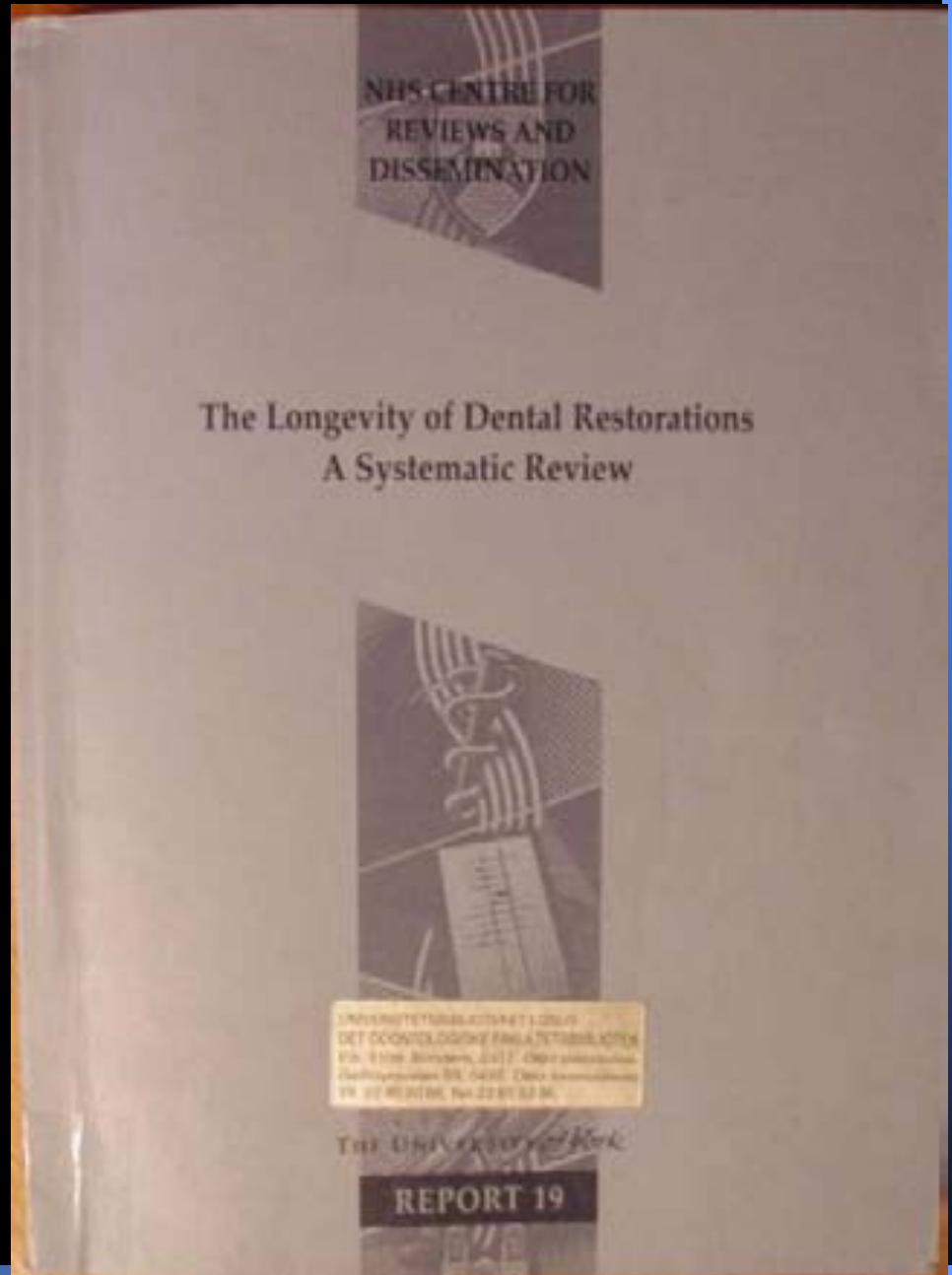
AIM:

Determine longevity  
of different dental  
restoration materials  
&

address cost-  
effectiveness

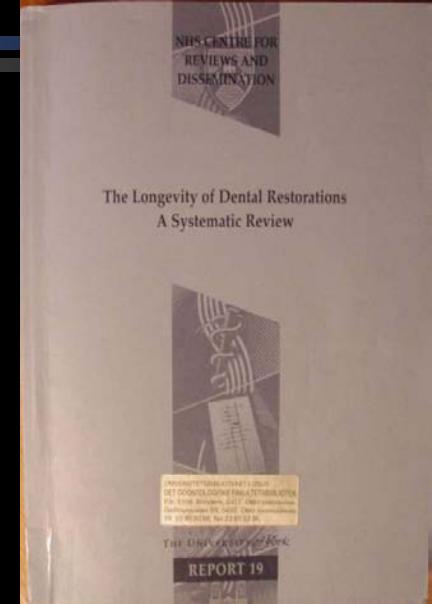
337 page report

1999.



# 14000 papers -> 5675 studies

The Longevity of Dental Restorations  
A Systematic Review



Weaker study design	Weaker outcome measures →			Stronger outcome measures		
	Outcome measure / Study design code number	Restoration replacement (subjective opinion)	Restoration replacement (use of criteria but no training)	Restoration replacement (use of any criteria, training and / or calibration, include USPHS where not two examiners etc)	Restoration replacement (valid outcome, criteria, training and calibration, include USPHS where properly used)	Restoration Failure (without previous intervention)
Outcome measure code nos.		1	2	3	4	5
Descriptive studies / Reports of expert studies / Reports of expert committees	1	X	X	X	X	X
Case studies	1	X	X	X	X	X
Retrospective case series	2	X	X	X	X	X
Prospective case series	3	X	I	I	I	I
Retrospective study with concurrent controls	4	X	I	I	I	I
Prospective study with historical controls	5	X	I	I	I	I
Prospective study with concurrent controls	6	X	I	I	I	I
Other controlled trial	7	X	I	I	I	I
Well designed randomised controlled trial	8	X	I	I	I	I

X indicates that studies so classified were excluded from the review

I indicates that studies so classified were included in the review if it was possible to extract the necessary data

652 studies



253 studies



195 studies

## Challenges with studies investigating longevity of dental restorations— a critique of a systematic review

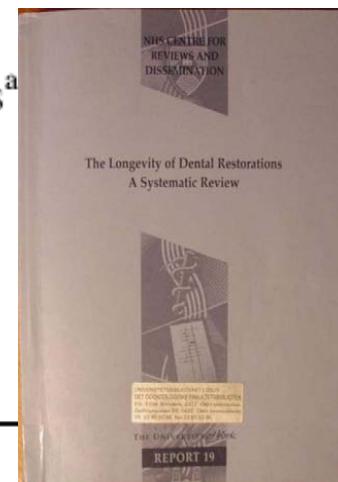
B. Chadwick<sup>a,\*</sup>, E. Treasure<sup>a</sup>, P. Dummer<sup>a</sup>, F. Dunstan<sup>a</sup>, A. Gilmour<sup>a</sup>, R. Jones<sup>a</sup>  
J. Stevens<sup>a</sup>, J. Rees<sup>c</sup>, S. Richmond<sup>a</sup>

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Received 12 June 2000; accepted 10 January 2001



### Abstract

**Objectives:** A systematic review is a method of evaluating the published and unpublished literature relating to a specific area or topic. The objectives of this paper are to identify and discuss problems encountered in synthesising the available literature; and to make recommendations for the future conduct and reporting of clinical trials that aim to determine the longevity of dental restorations.

**Data sources:** Studies were identified by a wide search of published and unpublished material in any language using a large number of general and specialist data bases, hand searching of key dental journals and searching of abstracts from conference proceedings.

**Study selection:** Pre-defined inclusion criteria based on objective outcome measures of restoration longevity and study designs were applied to determine study selection.

**Conclusions:** A review of the longevity of dental restorations completed recently encountered substantial problems in designing an appropriate protocol to address this issue. The review found that many of the factors reported previously as affecting restoration longevity could not be confirmed using the agreed systematic review protocol that incorporated an objective study design. Further, the multiplicity of study designs, and reporting methods found in the literature made meta-analyses impossible. A proforma is proposed in order to aid the design of future research into the longevity of restorations. © 2001 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Citation and reference	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Hamilton <i>et al.</i> (1983) <sup>17</sup>	1	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓ (10)
Hendriks <i>et al.</i> (1985) <sup>19</sup>	1	✓				✓	✓		
Wilson <i>et al.</i> (1996) <sup>57</sup>	1	✓		✓		✓			
Welbury <i>et al.</i> (1990) <sup>55</sup>	2		✓	✓	✓				✓ (8)
Wilson & Norman (1991) <sup>56</sup>	2		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓ (10)
Akerboom <i>et al.</i> (1993) <sup>1</sup>	3		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Davies (1984) <sup>7</sup>	4	✓				✓			
Elderton (1983) <sup>12</sup>	4	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓ (8)
Jokstad & Mjor (1991) <sup>21</sup>	4	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (8)
Mjor & Jokstad (1993) <sup>31</sup>	4		✓	✓			✓		
Nordbo <i>et al.</i> (1998) <sup>38</sup>	4			✓		✓			
Osborne & Norman (1990) <sup>40</sup>	4	✓			✓	✓			
Osborne <i>et al.</i> (1991) <sup>41</sup>	4	✓		✓	✓	✓			
Smales (1991) <sup>50</sup>	4		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓ (9)
Van Dijken (1991) <sup>53</sup>	4		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓ (10)
Allan (1977) <sup>2</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓ (8)
Bentley & Drake (1986) <sup>3</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (8)
Bjertness & Sonju (1990) <sup>4</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓ (8)
Crabb (1981) <sup>6</sup>	5		✓	✓					✓ (10)
Dawson & Smales (1992) <sup>8</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓ (8)
Dawson & Smales (1992) <sup>9</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓ (8)
Drake (1988) <sup>10</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓ (8)
Drake (1988) <sup>11</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓ (8)
Gray (1976) <sup>16</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓ (8)
Hawthorne & Smales (1997) <sup>18</sup>	5	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓ (8)
Hunter (1985) <sup>20</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓ (8)
Lavelle (1976) <sup>24</sup>	5			✓					✓ (8)
Letzel <i>et al.</i> (1997) <sup>26</sup>	5	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ (10)
Letzel <i>et al.</i> (1989) <sup>25</sup>	5		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓ (10)
Mahmood & Smales (1994) <sup>27</sup>	5		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓ (8)
Mayhew (1995) <sup>28</sup>	5	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓ (8)
Paterson (1984) <sup>42</sup>	5		✓		✓		✓		✓ (8)
Robbins & Summit (1988) <sup>47</sup>	5	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓ (8)
Robinson (1971) <sup>48</sup>	5		✓	✓				✓	✓ (8)
Smales <i>et al.</i> (1991) <sup>51</sup>	5		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (8)
Smales (1991) <sup>52</sup>	5		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (9)
Walls <i>et al.</i> (1985) <sup>54</sup>	5		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (8)
Meeuwissen (1985) <sup>130</sup>	5		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓ (10)
Burke <i>et al.</i> (1998) <sup>5</sup>	6		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ (8)
Friedl <i>et al.</i> (1994) <sup>14</sup>	6		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ (8)
Friedl <i>et al.</i> (1995) <sup>15</sup>	6		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓ (8)

**Table 1 Criteria of assessment of validity and quality of studies for inclusion in the review**

A Design type — hierarchical classification

*Satisfactory investigations*

- 1 Randomised controlled trials
- 2 Non-randomised controlled trials
- 3 Longitudinal experimental clinical studies
- 4 Longitudinal prospective studies

*Less satisfactory investigations*

- 5 Longitudinal retrospective studies

*Least satisfactory investigations*

- 6 Cross-sectional studies
- 7 Reports consisting only of an abstract

B Was the study described as randomised? Yes/no

C Were the examiners calibrated? (studies with one or more assessors) Yes/no

D Were the terms 'failure' and 'survival' of restorations clearly defined? Yes/no

E Were the criteria for replacement clearly defined? Yes/no

F Were effect modifiers considered? Yes/no

G Was the assessment based on clinical examinations? Yes/no

H Was the effect of censoring data considered? Yes/no

I Appropriate outcome measure used? Yes/no

8 Median survival time (MST) or median longevity

9 Cumulative survival rate

10 Survival/failure rate

# How long do routine dental restorations last? A systematic review

M. C. Downer,<sup>1</sup> N. A. Azli,<sup>2</sup> R. Bedi,<sup>3</sup> D. R. Moles,<sup>4</sup> and D. J. Setchell,<sup>5</sup>

**Objective** To conduct a systematic review of the literature on the longevity of routine dental restorations in permanent posterior teeth, and to identify and examine factors influencing its variability.

**Method** Accepted guidelines were followed. An advisory group oversaw the project. Simple Class I and Class II amalgam, composite resin, glass ionomer and cast gold restorations were covered. Comprehensive searching of electronic databases, hand searching, and location of 'grey' literature, generated 124 research reports. Those considered relevant were assessed for validity and quality according to agreed criteria. The analysis was descriptive. **Results** Eight of 58 relevant research reports were categorised, according to agreed criteria as being of satisfactory validity and quality. They suggested that 50% of all restorations last 10 to 20 years, although both higher and lower median survival times were reported. The findings were supported by the totality of studies reviewed. However, variability was substantial. Restoration type, materials, the patient, the operator, the practice environment and type of care system appeared to influence longevity.

**Conclusions** Many studies were imperfect in design. Those considered to be the most appropriate for analysis were too limited to undertake a formal statistical exploration. Therefore there remains a need for definitive randomised controlled trials of restoration longevity, of sound design and adequate power, employing standardised assessments and appropriate methods of analysis.

The durability, or longevity, of a dental restoration is clearly a salient factor in determining its effectiveness as a presumed long-term treatment for caries. Yet despite the very large number of fillings placed annually by the profession, how long a routine restoration can, or should, be expected to stay functionally intact remains a matter of uncertainty. In order to collate, assess and draw conclusions from the available evidence, it was evident that a systematic review of the literature on longevity should be undertaken, no previous exercise of this kind having been identified. A comprehensive search was therefore initiated which revealed a body of work that might be suitable for inclusion.<sup>1-124</sup> This paper aims to provide a condensed, easily assimilable version of the full review,<sup>125</sup> the objectives of which were to establish from research reports of satisfactory quality the longevity of different types of routine dental restoration.

In permanent posterior teeth, and its variability; and to identify and examine factors (referred to as effect modifiers) influencing the durability of restorations.

## Method

### Conduct of the review

The review was conducted in general accordance with guidelines promulgated by the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD),<sup>126</sup> and the Cochrane Collaboration.<sup>127</sup> An advisory group was formed at the outset to assist the principal researcher (NAA) and act as consultants to the project. The group consisted of the remaining authors of the current report whose collective knowledge was considered to cover the areas of relevant expertise. Its task was to decide the scope of the review and the specific questions to be addressed; to approve and finalise the protocol; to monitor progress in identifying studies and deciding on their suitability for inclusion; assessment of validity; to discuss the proposals for analysis of the material and completion of the review; and to agree the final report. A meeting of the group and principal researcher took place at each stage. In addition, advice and guidance was obtained from the Systematic Review Unit at the Institute of Child Health, University College London.

### Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Remunbers were limited and it was necessary to place some constraints on the scope of the review. Evaluations of the clinical performance of Class I (occlusal) and Class II (mesial-occlusal, distal-occlusal, mesial-occlusal-distal) restorations in permanent teeth, the commonest type of conservative treatment, predominate in the literature. It was therefore determined that the review should be confined to an assessment of the longevity of simple amalgam, composite resin, glass ionomer and cast gold restorations of those two types. A simple restoration was defined as one not requiring any form of additional retention measures.

### Search strategy

Through a comprehensive search, an attempt was made to identify all relevant studies irrespective of language. Available electronic databases, MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS and ERIC were searched from their date of inception together with ISTP. Conference proceedings were searched using the citation index SCISEARCH. The subject headings or key components used included dental restorations, longevity, failure, durability, survival analysis, and life table analysis. In addition, the Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CCTR) in the Cochrane Library (Issue 2) was scrutinised for any relevant trials and cross checked with those already retrieved.

Bibliographies of research reports identified through the search

**Objective** To conduct a systematic review of the literature on the longevity of routine dental restorations in permanent posterior teeth, and to identify and examine factors influencing its variability.

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**Results** Eight of 58 relevant research reports were categorised, according to agreed criteria, as being of satisfactory validity and quality. They suggested that 50% of all restorations last 10 to 20 years, although both higher and lower median survival times were reported. The findings were supported by the totality of studies reviewed. However, variability was substantial. Restoration type, materials, the patient, the operator, the practice environment and type of care system appeared to influence longevity.

**Conclusions** Many studies were imperfect in design. Those considered to be the most appropriate for analysis were too limited to undertake a formal statistical exploration. Therefore there remains a need for definitive randomised controlled trials of restoration longevity, of sound design and adequate power, employing standardised assessments and appropriate methods of analysis.

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1: Am J Dent 2002 Feb;15(1):26-30

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## Evaluation of published clinical studies for reproducibility, comparability and adherence to evidence-based methods.

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PURPOSE: To evaluate the "Materials and Methods" of long-term clinical studies in relation to documentation, reproducibility and comparability with and without employing the systematic methods of evidence-based medicine. MATERIALS AND METHODS: The "Materials and Methods" sections in 45 clinical long-term published studies of direct posterior resin-based composite restorations were evaluated for their use of systematic methods of evidence-based medicine. The search was limited to the years 1988-1997, using the key words "clinical study/evaluation/results/report, long-term, in vivo, posterior, Class I/II, composite, restoration". Special attention was directed to comparisons of the underlying documentation, descriptions of the operative techniques used, and their reproducibility. In addition, an evidence-based search was carried out using the Internet PubMed interface for MEDLINE, using identical synonyms, to identify studies with high levels of quality of evidence. Documentation,

reproducibility, and comparability of "Materials and Methods" were also evaluated. RESULTS: Results revealed how difficult it is to interpret results based on tenuous premises, subjective standards, and inadequate study designs. Only one article could be identified when the search was limited to "humans" and "randomized clinical trials". None of the articles, even when fulfilling the highest quality of evidence, showed sufficient or satisfactory quality of reproducibility in their descriptions in Materials and Methods.

PMID: 12074225 [PubMed - in process]



**Clinical Decision Making for Caries  
Management in Root Surfaces**

A Report for the  
**NIH Consensus Development Conference on  
Diagnosis and Management of Dental Caries  
Throughout Life**

**March 26-28, 2001  
Natcher Conference Centre,  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda Md USA**

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## New and Emerging Technology Briefing

National  
Horizon  
Scanning  
Centre

### HealOzone for tooth decay (primary carious lesions)

January 2003

Horizon Scanning Review

Early assessments of new or emerging technologies contain time-limited information and should be used with due caution.

Not to be used for commercial purposes



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BIRMINGHAM

#### HealOzone for tooth decay (primary carious lesions)

##### Summary

HealOzone uses ozone to treat tooth decay (primary carious lesions). The only published study using HealOzone found a significant reduction in primary root carious lesions (PRCL) in ozone treated extracted teeth (ex-vivo) compared with the control group. Unpublished randomised trials of HealOzone in patients with dental decay report significant reductions in the progression of decay. An unpublished economic evaluation found that the time commitment and costs of conventional drilling and filling outweighed those of HealOzone.

Developer – Curozone, distributed by KaVo Dental Limited

Regulatory status – Launch in the UK expected Nov 2003. Available in a limited number of NHS and private dental practices.

Unit cost – Currently between £5 and £70 per treatment including cost of hygiene kit which lasts approximately one month. The cost of the unit is £11,000 (excluding VAT) with annual maintenance and safety costs expected to be between £160 and £630 per annum (excluding VAT).

- Impact on government policy and priorities – There are no relevant policies.
- Impact on patient care – HealOzone tackles primary carious lesions in a different way to conventional treatments and has the potential to reduce related morbidity and potentially can heal caries without the need for permanent fillings. HealOzone also preserves the substance of the tooth. Many patients will find this less invasive treatment appealing and demand could be high if available.
- Impact on service provision – Limited training is required for dentists. Using HealOzone could release staff time although some hygiene instruction is required post-treatment.
- Impact on NHS resources – The initial outlay and maintenance costs of HealOzone are significant. The cost per treatment is still uncertain but many trial practices are charging a similar price to a conventional filling.

##### Background

Tooth decay (primary carious lesions) is one of the most common diseases accounting for almost half of all tooth extractions<sup>1</sup>. Collections of acid-liking and acid producing bacteria accumulate on teeth, particularly in inaccessible areas, dissolving the calcium of the enamel. As the number of bacteria increases tooth decay takes place and a cavity develops. This decay can progress into the softer layer of the tooth (dentine) and finally into the third layer (pulp) if not treated. Tooth decay can cause considerable pain if left untreated.

Kanskje kan  
dette nye  
**“EBM”** hjelpe  
meg?

