Assessment of Erosive Wear Lesions Among Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) Patients in University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC)

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Session: Caries Prevention & Oral-Systemic Link
Poster Session

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Objectives: The objectives of this study was to assess the prevalence of erosive wear lesions in Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) patients in University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), their understanding on erosive wear and perception of their dental treatment needs and dietary habits.

Methods: 11 test subjects, with confirmed GERD, (50.6 years ±16.6) and 20 control subjects (33.7 years, ±7.6) participated in this study. Basic Erosive Wear Examination index was used to assess the prevalence of erosive wear lesions using 4 ordinal scales (0-3). All participants also completed a validated questionnaire assessing knowledge of erosive wear, perception regarding treatment needs and dietary behaviour.

Results: Erosive wear lesions were more prevalent in GERD patients and 68% of these lesions were found on palatal surfaces of 551 tooth surfaces assessed in test group. 6% of the palatal lesions had a BEWE score of 2. There were no BEWE score 3 reported on any of the surfaces in both groups. 63.7% and 75% of subjects in test and control groups respectively, did not have much knowledge on symptoms of erosive wear lesions and 45.5% of GERD subjects thought that erosive wear was equivalent to dental caries. All of the subjects in test group and 78.9% of those in the control group opted to consult a dentist when they had experienced symptoms of erosive wear. Snacking was not popular amongst GERD patients (45.5%) compared to 65.0% of subjects in the control group who favoured snacking. In both groups, subjects frequently snacked on fruits at least once or several times a day (Test: 63.6%; Control: 45.0%). All subjects in test group (100%) and more than half (55.0%) in the control group did not consume soft drinks.

Conclusions: In conclusion, erosive wear lesions in this sample population, was associated with intrinsic regurgitated acid rather than extrinsic acids from diet.

Keywords: GERD, erosive wear, BEWE score, dietary behaviour, prevalence

Disclosure Statement:
The submitter must disclose the names of the organizations with which any author have a relationship, the nature of the relationship, and the clinical or research area involved. The following is submitted: None

I have read the IADR policy on licensing.
Signed by Prema Sukumaran