
Article critique

Name:

Course:

Number name:

Course name:

Instructor:

Date:

Introduction

Association of Pediatric Dental Caries With Passive Smoking

The article begins with an overview of the problems associable with tooth decay. It follows that tooth decay has a great influence upon the economy of the country and is identified as the most common chronic disease in childhood. Its annual treatment costs have up to \$4.5 billion dollars. With this information being provided in the introductory paragraph, the article provides any reader with an overview of what is expected throughout the written piece. Other important information provided in the introductory paragraph entails information regarding the effects tooth decay has on the sufferer. Poor appearance, dysfunction and problems with speech development are outlined as the problems associated with tooth decay. This information is relevant in coming up with the conclusion that the article is informative, providing relevant information regarding the disease, for the betterment of healthcare. With this provision, there is minimal necessity for an argumentative thesis statement, which is not provided in the introductory paragraph.

This essay adds evidence to the information it gives. The strategy used in this case entails providing a case study to examine *“the relationship between dental caries and serine cotinine levels”*. This study is carried

out based on the fact that dental decay has been associated with poverty, but the reasons for this are unknown. Passive smoking is given as a possible factor fueling dental decay. The research used for reference in this article is based on results provided by the Third National Health and Nutritional Examination Survey. This is evidence that the article does not only formulate a good topic of study, but also uses valid information obtained from a credible source. The study utilized in this case is based on the analysis carried out over a large number of participants, over a long duration of time. In this case, 3531 children are involved, analyzed over a six year period. The authors provide all the necessary information relevant for the case study, including main outcome measures, the results and the conclusion arrived at.

The study comes up with the conclusion that there is an association between dental caries and tobacco smoke derived from the environment. The educational element obtainable from this study does not only provide the importance of abstaining from passive smoking for health benefits, but also for the sake of protecting children from suffering tooth decays. The relationship between poverty and dental caries in children is also identified; lack of efficient measures to curb the problem of dental caries. In analyzing the precision of this article, it is worth noting that the article does not only outline the information provided by the Third National Health and Nutritional Examination Survey, but also exemplifies it to make it understandable. This gives this article a broad readership, giving it academic and professional

relevance.

The authors extended their research to seek information regarding NHANES III, whose findings are used for the case study. It is identified that NHANES III is a cross-sectional survey that performs household interviews. In this interview, information sought from the interviewees included socioeconomic, dietary and the health history of the participants. The age group over which the study was carried out was 4 to 12 years. The authors go further to inform that this was the best age group to engage in the survey, as younger children are not properly exposed to environmental influences, while older children could be engaged in active smoking. This information is relevant for creating general awareness about the people involved in the study. Therefore, the article can be used in gathering information regarding the factors contributing to the region of study's mortality rate.

Mathematical formulas are used to add to the accuracy of the information. For instance, risk factors attributable to population are estimated using the Levin formula. Relative risk is estimated using observed odds ratio, rather than the use of mere assumption based on information provided by the participants. Making this article relevant for physicians is its basis on a survey that considers environmental smoke (ETS) as a risk factor. It is worth considering that previous studies did not consider ETS as a possible factor contributing to tooth decay. This gives way for other health studies to consider the influence of ETS on the health of non-smokers.

This article utilizes factual information, which is based on an extensive research. However, the analysis criterion used does not sufficiently explore different possibilities ,which bear relevance, for this study. For instance, the relationship between passive smoking and poverty is not analyzed. Today, developed nations are placing measures to curb smoking in public. Incorporating this information would add to the understanding on why children from a low socioeconomic class are more vulnerable to dental caries.

The effectiveness of this article is average. The article fully fails to capture the interest of the reader for failure to provide information to counter the facts given. Instead, the article is entirely comprised of information from the survey findings, giving minimal precaution measures to curb the dangers identified. The article is also deficient of ideas of the authors, and the reader is left to come up with own ideas based on the information provided.

Conclusion

This article is a good source of information. What makes it unique is the fact that it analyzes information regarding a topic that is not frequently studied leaving the associated dangers uncovered. Despite the fact that the article does not provide ideas of the authors, it also fails to examine factors that affect the society today; usefulness of the

article is maintained by the precision of the content. This article is therefore, relevant for the purpose it is intended to serve.