

Sporting injuries to the temporomandibular joint

Précis:

This short article reviews the diagnosis and management of potential sporting injuries to the temporomandibular joints.

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Mouthguard use and dental injury in sport: a questionnaire study of national school children in the west of Ireland

Précis

A survey of parents of 505 national school children (aged nine to 13) found that 22% wore mouthguards during sport. A mouthguard policy may increase mouthguard use.

Abstract

Statement of the problem: The risk of children getting dental injuries during sport can be minimised by using a mouthguard. Within Ireland, information on mouthguard use and policy is limited. The extent of dental trauma experienced by children during sport is also unclear.

Purpose of the study: To determine the extent of mouthguard use, dental trauma and barriers to use among children. The survey also investigated school and sports club policy on mouthguard use in sport.

Materials and methods: A questionnaire was sent to parents of 1,111 children aged nine to 13 years attending 25 randomly selected schools in the Health Service Executive West region of Ireland. It sought information about children's sporting activities, mouthguard policy and use, barriers to use, and dental accidents.

Results: A total of 505 questionnaires were returned (46%). More than nine out of ten children were involved in sport. Mouthguards were worn by 22% of children during sport. Less than one-third of schools and sports clubs that children attended had a mouthguard policy. Significantly more children used mouthguards where there was a mouthguard policy. Reasons for not wearing mouthguards included cost, lack of knowledge and information, and lack of a mouthguard policy. One in ten children had suffered a sports accident in the previous year, of which 51% injured teeth. Of these, 72% visited a dentist within two hours.

Conclusions: The dental profession and individual practitioners should promote mouthguard use for children during sport and be advocates for the development of policies in schools and sporting organisations.

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Unilateral coronoid hyperplasia associated with early childhood facial trauma: a case presentation

Précis

A case presentation of coronoid hyperplasia presenting in adolescence. An association with early childhood trauma to the chin and subsequent development of the condition is proposed.

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