

Oral health in a convenience sample of Chinese older adults living in Melbourne, Australia

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Reference:

Key Words:

Chinese, dental health

Research aim:

To present data on the dental and periodontal status of a convenience sample of 101 ambulant China-born older adults who now live in Melbourne. These older adults participated in a study to assess the prevalence of specific oral diseases.

Results/Conclusion:

This sample was largely a dentate one (94.1%); with a mean Decayed, Filled and Missing tooth surfaces (DMFS) score of 57.5 (SD 37.9). Approximately, 80% of the dentate sample had all their restorative needs met; 25% had a sound periodontium; 41% needed oral hygiene instruction plus scaling, while 6.3% required complex periodontal therapy. Compared with existing data on the oral health of older adults in Australia, Chinese immigrant older adults appear to have lower DMFS scores, a lower number of untreated decayed surfaces, a lower prevalence of gingivitis, and less need for complex periodontal treatment.

Implications:

Cultural Group(s):

Chinese

Location of study:

Victoria (Melbourne)

Age group:

55+

Number included in study:

101

Type of participants:

Chinese born older adults

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: