

Impatto globale della parodontite

The Global Impact of Periodontology

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Periodontal diseases are the most common diseases of mankind. Population growth trends, changes in risk factors and improved tooth retention will increase the enormous socio-economic burden of periodontitis. As a chronic non-communicable disease (NCD) periodontitis shares social determinants and risk factors with the major NCDs, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory disease. Periodontitis can be prevented through effective management of gingivitis and promotion of healthy lifestyles by instruction and motivation in self-performed oral hygiene and health education. Early diagnosis of periodontitis followed by appropriate treatment and secondary prevention has the potential to preserve teeth and masticatory function during lifetime and to improve quality of life. Screening for conditions such as diabetes in dental practice may contribute to detection of undiagnosed medical conditions. This expanded role of oral health professionals would improve patient's oral and general health, while enhancing their roles in the health workforce team. Periodontology is supported by a strong body of scientific evidence, that allows identification of appropriate preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic strategies to reduce the enormous global burden of periodontitis, promote periodontal health and enhance general wellbeing. Periodontal health during lifetime is a key component of oral health and an important component of general health.