

Association between Bottle-Feeding Habit and Occlusal Disorders in Children 4-6 Years Old

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Abstract : The aim of the present study was to evaluate the presence of occlusal disorders associated with bottle feeding habits in children aged 4-6 years old. A cross-sectional study was performed in a sample of 466 preschool children aged 4-6 years, attending state preschools in the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Parents and caregivers answered a questionnaire about children's oral habits, including bottle-feeding habit, and signed the Informed Consent form. The students underwent an oral examination to evaluate occlusal disorders. Data were analyzed by the SPSS 2.2 program (IBM, USA) and treated with non-parametric chi-square tests and multiple logistic regression with a significance level of $p < 0.05$. There was association between bottle-feeding and occlusal disorders (OR = 3.058, 95% CI = 1.561-5.991, $PI < 0.001$), with a higher significance for anterior open bite (OR = 2.855, 95% CI = 1.769-4.606, $PI < 0.001$) and canine class II (OR = 0.667, 95% CI = 0.449-0.990, $PI < 0.045$). There was no relationship between bottle-feeding habit and other occlusal disorders examined. It was possible to conclude that children who were bottle fed during childhood are more likely to develop occlusal disorders, especially anterior open bite and canine class II.

Keywords : anterior open-bite, bottle-feeding, habits, malocclusion

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