

PERIODONTAL DISEASES AND CARIES EXPERIENCE OF DIABETIC PATIENTS IN AN ARABIAN COMMUNITY

T.L. Al-Khateeb, BDS,PhD*; N.H. Al-Amoudi, BDS,MS,DSc**;
H.H. Fatani, MRCS,LRCP,MBBS,MRCP***; S.A. Mira, MRCS,LRCP,MBBS,
MRCP***;
M.S. Ardawi, BMSc,MA,DPhil,FACB****

A group of diabetic patients living in an Arabian community were matched by sex and age with a nondiabetic control group. Examination for periodontal status and dental caries was carried out on the matched pairs. Diabetics exhibited more gingival inflammation and increased probing depths when compared with age'/sex-matched controls. The caries experience of diabetic patients was higher than that of normal groups. The findings of this study highlight the urgent need to develop a preventive dental program for diabetic patients so as to minimize their experience of dental disease.