

## **Dental care for pregnant women: a literature review**

### **Abstract**

Pregnancy involves physiological, hormonal and psychological changes that increase the susceptibility of pregnant women to infections, including oral infections. There is evidence of an association among the occurrence of oral diseases during pregnancy with adverse events such as premature birth, low birth weight and preeclampsia. Dental treatment during pregnancy still faces resistance both by the pregnant woman and, sometimes, by the dentist. The study aimed to provide clarifications and recommendations about the dental care for pregnant women, based on current scientific evidences. A literature review was performed by searching for articles on the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online (MEDLINE) and PubMed platforms. The reviewed articles shown that dental care for pregnant women is indicated and appropriated both to prevent oral diseases and their possible consequences, and also to treat existing diseases. Current scientific evidences indicate that dental treatment during pregnancy is safe, as long as specific precautions and adjustments are carried out in clinical management. The dentist must have knowledge about the changes that occur every quarter, in order to be able to offer an adequate, safe and effective dental care for pregnant patients.

**Descriptors:** Dental Care. Pregnancy. Prenatal Care. Oral Health.

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