

SIDE EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH CHLORHEXIDINE MOUTHWASHES USE

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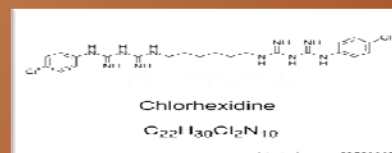
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Introduction

Chlorhexidine a broad-spectrum antimicrobial cationic bisbiguanide, is used as topical antiseptic for the treatment of inflammatory dental conditions, especially gingivitis. It is one of the most effective antimicrobial agents for reducing the amount of dental plaque and periopathogenic microorganisms over a long period of time. Numerous side effects can be caused by chlorhexidine. The most common side effects include: tooth color modification, reversible desquamation of the oral epithelium, alteration of the sense of taste and increased deposits, especially in the subgingival region.

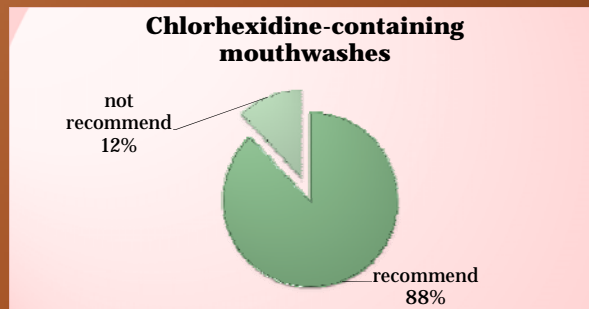
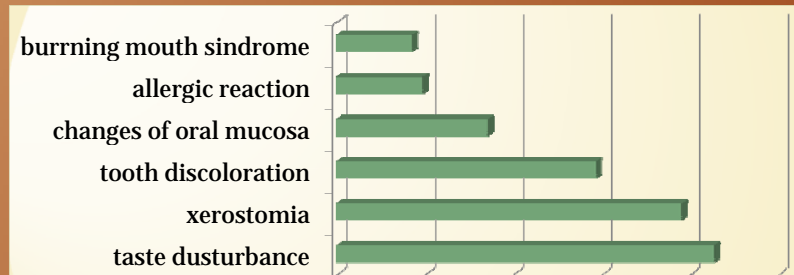
The main goal of this research was to assess the most common complications when using chlorhexidine mouthwashes in everyday dental clinical practice in Republic of Macedonia.



Materials and methods

An online survey among dentists was conducted to assess the prevalence of various complications that occur with chlorhexidine use. A total number of 41 dentists, employed in public and private dental health organizations or offices, participated in this study. The survey consisted of three questions: (1) whether dentists recommend the use of chlorhexidine as an adjunct to the basic activity for oral hygiene maintain among their patients; (2) what are the most common complications encountered in patients using chlorhexidine-containing mouthwashes, and (3) whether these complications are related to the duration of use of chlorhexidine-containing mouthwashes.

Results



Conclusion

According to the results obtained in our study, although the application of chlorhexidine mouthwashes has a number of positive effects, it can also be related with numerous side effects, depending on duration of usage.