



0204

**Multimorbidity, Polypharmacy, and Tooth Loss in an Older Hospitalized Population**

N. Anliker<sup>1</sup>, P. Molinero Mourelle<sup>1</sup>, F. Spyra<sup>2</sup>, F. Müller<sup>3,4</sup>, V. Prendki<sup>5,6</sup>, R. Buser<sup>1</sup>, N. Chebib<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Reconstructive Dentistry and Gerodontology, University of Bern, Bern, Bern, Switzerland, <sup>2</sup>Department of Orofacial Rehabilitation, Division of Gerodontology and Removable Prosthodontics, University of Geneva, Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, <sup>3</sup>Division of Gerodontology and Removable Prosthodontics, University Clinics of Dental Medicine, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, <sup>4</sup>Department of Rehabilitation and Geriatrics, University Hospitals of Geneva, Thônex, Geneva, Switzerland, <sup>5</sup>Division of Infectious Disease, University of Geneva, Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, <sup>6</sup>Division of Internal Medicine for the Aged, University of Geneva, Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland

**Objectives** To evaluate the correlation between oral health status regarding the number of teeth, with age, polypharmacy and multimorbidity in an older hospitalized cohort.

**Methods** A cross-sectional study of patients aged 65 or older was conducted in two sites in Switzerland. Data concerning age, medical history, living conditions and dental status was assessed. Number of teeth was correlated with age, polypharmacy, and multimorbidity using Pearson correlation with a level of significance set at 0.05.

**Results** 111 patients with a mean age of 81.6±8.0 years were included. Mean number of morbidities was 2.2±1.5 with a mean of 7.5±4.0 medications taken daily. 89.1% lived at home, 5.7% lived in nursing homes, and 4.3% lived in medicalized homes. 14.4% were fully edentulous with complete dentures in both jaws, while 26.6% wore a complete denture only in the upper and 4.4% only in the lower jaw. The mean count of remaining teeth was 16.6±9.1. 55.5% had no posterior support with an Eichner classification C, and 45.5% had more than 4 functional chewing units. The number of present teeth was not correlated with age, however was negatively correlated with the number of morbidities ( $r=-.271$ ;  $p=0.04$ ) and with number of medications ( $r=-.182$ ;  $p=0.05$ ).

**Conclusions** The number of morbidities and medications has a significant correlation with the number of teeth, while none could be found for age alone. This emphasizes the importance of comprehensive dental care alongside medical management for older patients, benefitting oral and general medical health.