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ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS HABITS IN ORAL IMPLANT SURGERY AMONG GENERAL DENTISTS IN ITALY: A CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

Fabio Rodríguez Sánchez

University of the Basque Country, Spain

Objectives: To assess the current antibiotic prescribing habits of dentist in Italy in conjunction with routine oral implant surgery to determine whether any consensus has been reached and recommendations were being followed.

Material & Methods: Observational cross-sectional study based on a web-survey reported according to the STROBE guidelines. A validated questionnaire, developed in 2015, was translated and slightly adjusted to circumstances in Italy. This questionnaire contained both close-ended and some open-ended questions concerning the following topics: Demographics, antibiotic type, prescription-duration and dosage. One email was sent in April 2017 to each registered member (n=400) of the Italian Academy of Osseointegration (IAO). The email included a link to the anonym web questionnaire developed on www.encuestafacil.com. Collected data were analyzed using Stata 14 software (StataCorp, College Station, Texas, USA)

Results: 160 participants responded the survey (response rate=40%). Of whom, 146 were males (93.6%) and 10 females (6.4%). Most of the dentists were aged between 51 and 60 years old (30.1%) and the majority of them were graduated at a dental school in Italy (97.4%), the greatest part were graduated at the School of Dentistry of Milan (26.9%) Approximately 84% routinely prescribed prophylactic antibiotics always in conjunction with oral implant surgery, 15.6% prescribed antibiotics in certain situations and only one dentist (0.6%) do not prescribe antibiotics at all. Overall, 116 (72, 3%) respondents prescribed both pre-and postoperative antibiotics, 29 prescribed antibiotics only preoperatively (18.2%) and 14 prescribed antibiotics exclusively after surgery (8.8%). The most frequently preoperative regimen prescribed was 2gms oral amoxicillin/clavulanic acid one hour prior surgery (n=60, 41.9%). The most frequently postoperative regimen prescribed was 875/125 mg oral amoxicillin/clavulanic acid twice daily for 6 days after surgery (n=43, 32.5%). On average, Italian dentists prescribed a total amount of 10,719 mg antibiotics before, during or after oral implant surgery.

Conclusions: Antibiotic prophylaxis in conjunction with oral implant surgery is prescribed in Italy on a rather large scale. A large range of prophylactic regimens is prescribed, which shows a huge variety on the choice made by dentists. Besides, recommendations based on last-published evidence are frequently not being followed.

BIOGRAPHY

Fabio Rodríguez Sánchez is a PhD student from the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). He is a general dental practitioner working in the Netherlands. He has published at least than three papers in reputed journals and is actively collaborating with the Royal Dutch Dental Association (KNMT) and the Italian Academy of Osseointegration (IAO).

rs.fabio8@gmail.com