

Childhood bruxism: The importance of diagnosis and treatment: Literature review

Abstract

The objective of this study was to investigate the diagnosis and treatment of bruxism in childhood in order to clarify and offer safer and more effective treatment options. Bruxism is a muscular rhythmic masticatory activity characterized by grinding and clenching the teeth. This article presents a review of literature, done with electronic searches on the websites Scielo and Pubmed. It was concluded that bruxism is a parafunctional activity of complex etiology and diagnosis, that there is no single treatment for infant bruxism, not even a cure, and that the form of treatment discussed depends on the etiological factor, making an individual and multidisciplinary treatment necessary.

Descriptors: Bruxism. Oral habits. Sleep bruxism. Etiology. Diagnosis.

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