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2839 **Proposing the Dynamic Significant Caries (dSiC) Index for Low-caries Populations** [> View Abstract](#)**IADR/AADR/CADR General Session & Exhibition (March 11-14, 2015) (Boston, Massachusetts)
March 11-14, 2015, Boston, Massachusetts**[Hide Details](#)

Keywords: Epidemiology, Caries

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Abstract Disclosures

Objectives: In 2000, the Significant Caries (SiC) Index was introduced to describe the 1/3 of a population with the highest caries experience. However, it was shown recently that SiC might not be a meaningful epidemiological index in low-caries populations as individuals without caries experience might be included in SiC calculation in case of caries-free individuals exceeding 2/3 of a population.

In the era of robust caries decline in the young population in many countries, a conceptual refinement of the SiC is needed to sustain this index in describing a high caries fraction. **Methods:** Caries data for 12-year-olds were derived from the 3rd and 4th German Oral Health Studies (DMS III/IV), cross-sectional studies conducted in 1997 (n=1.043) and 2005 (n=1.383), respectively. Mean DMFT, SiC, and the percentage of caries-free subjects were calculated. Additionally, dSiC was assessed according to the following procedure: (1) DMFT values were listed ascendingly after a basic univariate analysis, (2) all caries-free subjects were capped and were therefore not included in the calculation, (3) the remaining subjects were used calculating a mean DMFT=dSiC Index.

DMFT, SiC, and dSiC were presented as follows: index acronym (100%-% of caries-free subjects=% of subjects included in analysis; mean DMFT of % of subjects included in analysis). DMFT, SiC, and dSiC were then compared according to information content, epidemiological interpretability, and professional comprehensibility. **Results:** In DMS III, caries data were: DMFT (100%;1.7), SiC (33.3%;4.1), 41.8% were caries-free, and dSiC (58.2%;3.0). In DMS IV, caries data were: DMFT (100%;0.7), SiC (33.3%;2.1), 70.1% were caries-free, and dSiC (29.9%;2.4). **Conclusions:** dSiC might be used as an alternative to SiC if more than 2/3 of a population are caries-free. dSiC includes information on the percentage of subjects with caries experience (1st value) and the mean DMFT of this percentage (2nd value). In this respect, dSiC can be interpreted as an index presenting key numbers of extent and severity of caries experience in a population.

Abstract

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