



Preferences in periodontal disease

Dear Patient,

Thank you for your interest in this study. You were asked to participate since you as a patient are best able to evaluate the importance and impact of different aspects of your disease and its therapy. Your opinion on disease and treatment characteristics helps us to further improve your health care. Participation in this study is voluntary. The ethical committee of the University Hospital Cologne agreed on this study. The questionnaire is anonymous, which means that your answers to the questions are not combined with your personal data.

As shown in the example, in each questions you will see two disease and treatment situations. Please mark the one you regard as more preferable. Even though some combinations might seem illogical or not desirable try to choose the option that most likely fits your preferences.

Example: Here the patient prefers situation A over situation B.

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	1 tooth lost	no tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	0 €per year	500 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	no complaints	occasional gum bleeding
Frequency of periodontist visits	no necessary	4 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):	X	

→ The aspects of periodontal disease and its treatment will be explained on the following page in more detail.



Tooth loss within next 10 years:

Studies showed that patients with periodontal disease lose approximately 3 teeth during a time span of 10 years if their disease is left untreated. With treatment, all or some of these teeth may be saved. The treatment includes removal of plaque and calculus around the teeth and between gum and tooth necks as well as polishing of teeth.

Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment:

These include all costs, which you have to pay out of pocket annually. It includes costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment (i.e., any cost that is not covered by your health insurance).

Symptoms & Complaints:

These refer to symptoms and complaints that can occur when suffering from periodontal disease: sensitive tooth neck, occasional gum bleeding or long teeth due to gum recession (i.e. teeth appear longer than they are).

Frequency of periodontist visits:

This refers to the number of visits that are necessary for follow-up and re-treatment.

Thank you for participating in this study!

In case of questions please contact us:

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Question 1

Please assume: Without treatment, you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	1 tooth lost	no tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	100 €per year	100 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	no complaints	occasional gum bleeding
Frequency of periodontist visits	none necessary	2 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 2

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	2 teeth lost	1 tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	0 €per year	500 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	occasional gum bleeding	long teeth due to gum recession
Frequency of periodontist visits	none necessary	4 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 3

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	no tooth lost	2 teeth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	300 €per year	100 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	no complaints	sensitive tooth neck
Frequency of periodontist visits	none necessary	4 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 4

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	2 teeth lost	1 tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	300 €per year	100 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	no complaints	occasional gum bleeding
Frequency of periodontist visits	2 x per year	none necessary
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 5

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	no tooth lost	1 tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	500 €per year	0 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	sensitive tooth neck	long teeth due to gum recession
Frequency of periodontist visits	4 x per year	2 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 6

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	no tooth lost	no tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	300 €per year	300 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	long teeth due to gum recession	occasional gum bleeding
Frequency of periodontist visits	4 x per year	2 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 7

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	2 teeth lost	no tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	100 €per year	300 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	occasional gum bleeding	sensitive tooth neck
Frequency of periodontist visits	4 x per year	2 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 8

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	1 tooth lost	no tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	0 €per year	500 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	sensitive tooth neck	long teeth due to gum recession
Frequency of periodontist visits	2 x per year	none necessary
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 9

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	no tooth lost	2 teeth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	0 €per year	500 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	long teeth due to gum recession	no complaints
Frequency of periodontist visits	4 x per year	none necessary
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 10

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	2 teeth lost	1 tooth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	100 €per year	300 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	long teeth due to gum recession	no complaints
Frequency of periodontist visits	2 x per year	4 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 11

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	1 tooth lost	2 teeth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	500 €per year	0 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	sensitive tooth neck	no complaints
Frequency of periodontist visits	none necessary	4 x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 12

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	1 tooth lost	2 teeth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	500 €per year	0 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	occasional gum bleeding	sensitive tooth neck
Frequency of periodontist visits	2 x per year	none necessary
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Question 13

Please assume: Without treatment you will loose 3 teeth within the next 10 years. With treatment you can reach one of the following situations.		
	Situation A	Situation B
Tooth loss within next 10 years	no tooth lost	2 teeth lost
Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	0 €per year	500 €per year
Complaints & symptoms	no complaints	sensitive tooth neck
Frequency of periodontist visits	2 x per year	2x per year
Which situation do you prefer? (please tick a box):		

Which aspect was most or least important in your decisions? Please mark only one aspect in each row!				
	Tooth loss within next 10 years	Own costs for treatment, follow-up care and re-treatment	Complaints & symptoms	Frequency of periodontist visits
Most important				
Least important				

Which symptoms & complaints do you want to avoid most? Please mark only one symptom or complaint!		
long teeth due to gum recession	occasional gum bleeding	sensitive tooth neck

Demographic characteristics

1. Please select your gender:

Female	
Male	

2. Please provide your age-group:

30 years or youngerr	
31- 40 years	
41- 50 years	
51- 60 years	
61- 70 years	
71- 80 years	
older than 80 years	

3. When were you first diagnosed with periodontal disease?

less than 1 year ago	
1- 2 years ago	
3 or more years ago	

4. Have you been treated for periodontal disease already?

Yes	
No, but treatment is planned	
No, I do not want to / cannot be treated	

5. Please state any current and previous diseases:

no	
Diabetes Typ 1	
Diabetes Typ 2	
Cardiovascular diseases	
Other	

6. Are you pregnant?

Yes	
No	
Do not know / no answer	

7. Do you smoke?

Current smoker	
Previously smoked	
Non-smoker (never smoked)	

8. Please state your type of insurance:

Statutory Health Insurance without supplementary dental insurance	
Statutory Health Insurance with supplementary dental insurance	
Private insurance	

9. Please state your highest educational degree:

No degree	
Lower secondary degree	
College	
Vocational education	
Academic or comparable degree	