

## Hyperactivity and Impulsivity as Risk Indicators for Dental Trauma in Children

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### Abstract

**Statement of the Problem:** Behavioral dysregulation in attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may increase injury risk in children. Evidence linking dimensional ADHD symptom expression with dental trauma remains limited.

**Purpose:** To examine whether hyperactivity and impulsivity scores are associated with dental trauma in a pediatric dental population.

**Methodology:** This cross-sectional study included 80 children (42 boys, 38 girls; mean age  $8.37 \pm 3.11$  years). Caregivers completed the standardized ADHDT questionnaire. Oral examination assessed dental trauma (0 vs 1–2 traumatized teeth). Independent samples t-tests were performed ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Results:** Children with dental trauma demonstrated significantly higher hyperactivity (8.90 vs 4.73;  $p = 0.044$ ) and impulsivity (8.40 vs 4.51;  $p = 0.021$ ) scores compared to children without trauma. Total ADHD scores were also higher (24.60 vs 13.57;  $p = 0.032$ ). No significant associations were observed between ADHD symptoms and caries, plaque, gingivitis, or oral hygiene.

**Conclusion:** Hyperactivity and impulsivity are associated with increased risk of dental trauma. Behavioral dimensions may serve as clinically relevant risk indicators in pediatric dental practice.