



Audiovisual Distraction for Pediatric Patients Undergoing OCS for Dental Procedure

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Introduction

52% of children by the age of 8 have a cavity in a primary tooth (1). One of the main objectives of pediatric dentistry is the ability to successfully manage children's dental fear and anxiety, while completing dental treatment in a safe environment with optimal clinical outcomes. Clinicians have methods to accomplish this- one being audiovisual distraction. Literature shows this can be successful but there is a gap when it comes to employing this during an oral conscious sedation visit.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to investigate if providing audiovisual distraction decreases the child's dental anxiety when undergoing oral conscious sedation for a dental procedure. The hypothesis of this study is that audiovisual distraction will decrease the child's dental anxiety, thus increasing patient cooperation during the procedure.

Methods

Children, ages 3-15, both males and females, with an oral conscious sedation appointment to complete dental treatment.

Subjects were randomly assigned to the control group or audiovisual distraction group.

Behavior was assessed and scored according to the FLACC scale.

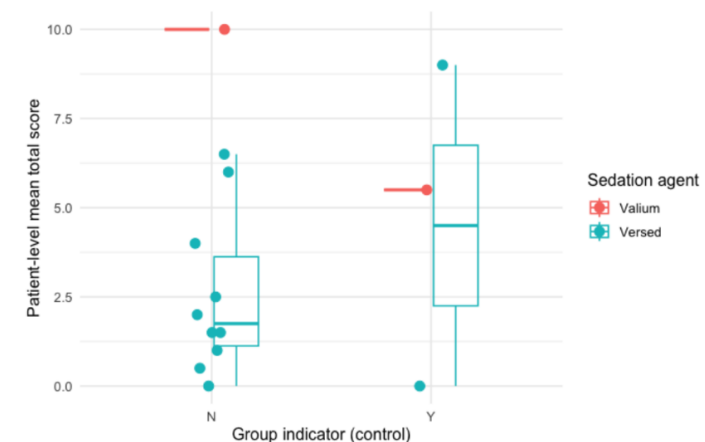
Conclusion

The main conclusion is that the adjusted estimate for control = Y was positive but highly uncertain.

Results

The average FLACC score for the control group was 4.83 and treatment group was 3.23; however, due to the small size of 14 and imbalanced size of the control/treatment groups, the analysis should be interpreted as an estimation of the direction of the group effect rather than definitive evidence for the treatment.

Figure 1. Patient-level mean scores by group



References

1 CDC. (2024, November 5). *Managing Oral Health in Schools*. Managing Health Conditions in School. <https://www.cdc.gov/school-health-conditions/chronic/oral-health.html>