technique, it may well be necessary for the clinician to make refinements to the overall shape and its position in order to create a harmonious esthetic result. The magnitude of the differences in facial shape on either side of the face of patients with hemifacial microsomia may impact on the process. This requires further study.

Acknowledgments

The authors reported no conflicts of interest related to this study.

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Literature Abstract

Topical xylitol administration by parents for the promotion of oral health in infants: A caries prevention experiment at a Finnish public health center

The authors shared the result of a topical xylitol program in infants at a Finnish public health center from 2002 to 2011. All mothers who gave birth between September 2002 and October 2004 in the municipality (n = 285) were invited to participate in the study when their children were approximately 6 to 8 months of age. A total of 271 children from 266 families participated; 133 and 138 infants were allocated to the treatment and comparison groups, respectively. The parent was taught to administer once or twice daily a 45% solution of xylitol (2.96 M) onto their children's primary dentition beginning at approximately 6 to 8 months and continuing until approximately 36 months of age. Xylitol was applied with a cotton swab or with a children's toothbrush. The approximate daily xylitol dosage was 13.5 mg per primary tooth. Children remaining in the study at 7 years of age were examined. The results showed that the 80 children who had xylitol treatment experienced a significant reduction (P < .001) in enamel and dentin caries on the primary dentition compared to untreated children (n = 90). Similar findings were obtained when the children were 5 or 6 years of age. The treatment reduced the relative risk of need for a tooth filling (P < .001). The oral counts of mutans streptococci were also reduced significantly in the treatment group (P < .001). The authors concluded that topical at-home xylitol administration improved the infants' caries resistance. Families were also receptive to the program, and no side effect was reported.

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