

**Caries Experience of Wa Minority and Han Chinese Children**

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**Aim:** To compare caries experience of 5- and 12-year-old Wa minority and Han Chinese children.

**Method:** This study was performed in Yunnan, China with ethics approval. Wa minority and Han children of 5- and 12-year-old were recruited from kindergartens and primary schools, respectively using cluster sampling method. Caries was diagnosed using criteria recommended by the World Health Organization.

**Results:** Totally 127 Wa and 118 Han 5-year-old children, and 488 Wa and 487 Han 12-year-old children were examined. Caries prevalence in the 5-year-old Wa and Han children were both 81%, and their caries experience in mean dmft were  $6.4 \pm 4.7$  and  $6.5 \pm 5.1$ , respectively ( $p = 0.86$ ). Caries prevalence of the 12-year-old Wa minority and Han children were 63% and 61%, respectively ( $p = 0.37$ ). Their caries experience in mean DMFT were  $1.94 \pm 2.16$  and  $1.90 \pm 2.24$  respectively ( $p = 0.82$ ).

**Conclusion:** The caries experience of 5- and 12-year-old Chinese children of Wa minority and Han were similar.