

Content-type: text/html

Mail form to: IADR, 1619 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3406, USA (FAX SUBMISSIONS WILL BE REFUSED.)

Type perfect original of abstract here:

Changes in life quality following third molar surgery. C. McGrath\*, M.B. Comfort,  
E.C.M. Lo, Y. Luo (Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong).

1581

**PURPOSE:** This study evaluated patients' perceptions of changes in oral health related quality of life (OHQOL) in the early postoperative period following third molar surgery. **METHODS:** Fifty patients (aged 17 to 41 years) were enrolled in a prospective cohort study of the surgical removal of third molars under local anaesthesia. Two specific oral health related quality of life measures, OHIP-14 and OHQoL-UK<sup>®</sup> were administered to the study group prior to surgery. Following surgery standardised postoperative analgesics were provided. Patients kept a diary of changes in life quality each postoperative day (POD) for 7 days, completing both OHIP-14 and OHQoL-UK<sup>®</sup> daily. **RESULTS:** Both oral health related quality of life measures identified a significant deterioration in quality of life on POD1 ( $P<0.01$ ) and this remained evident on POD2 ( $P<0.01$ ), POD3 ( $P<0.01$ ), POD4 ( $P<0.01$ ) and POD5 ( $P<0.01$ ). By POD6 and POD7 there was no significant difference in quality of life compared to preoperative status ( $P>0.05$ ). Deterioration in life quality over the study period was associated with tooth factors ( $P<0.01$ ), surgical procedure ( $P<0.05$ ), and postoperative clinical findings ( $P<0.05$ ). **CONCLUSION:** The study concludes that there is a significant deterioration in oral health related quality of life in the immediate postoperative period following third molar surgery; particularly during the first five days. This is associated with tooth, surgical and postoperative factors. This has implication for patients deciding on their molar surgery and informed consent. Supported by a grant from URC, HKU.

981

For Office Use Only:  
 (1) Special Scheduling  
 (2) Fellowship  
 (3) Print Problem  
 (4) Symposium/HOW  
 (5) IADR Habit  
 (6) INVITER

(Type or print legibly in black or blue ink.)

5. Area of Review (check only one):

- (1)  Behavioral Sciences/Health Services Research  
 (2)  Behavioral Sciences/Epidemiological Methods

10. List five descriptors by number (see reverse side).

If existing descriptors do not fit your research, then write one new word under "Other". (1) 960

[Browse the technical program](#)

of the 79th General Session of the International Association for Dental Research (June 27-30, 2001)