

1



2



3

Program

- Outcome studies- Intro
- Lunch break
- Outcome studies PART 1= classical articles (Toronto, Ng)
- Outcome studies PART 2= CBCT
- Exercise
- Outcome studies PART 3= Monitoring the outcome in my clinic
- Coffee break

4

Outcome studies in Endodontology

- Importance and general concepts
- Definitions
- The Toronto studies
- The Ng Studies
- CBCT studies
- How to assess an outcome study myself?

5

Why are OUTCOME studies so important ?

Which irrigation protocol?	Ultrasonic Irrigation necessary?	Pulpotomy or direct pulp capping ?
Which file should I use?	Screening before bone marrow transplantation	
Which obturation ?	Use calcium hydroxide?	MTA or Biodentine?
Which sealer?	Which concentration of hypochlorite?	Bleaching with which material ?
Microscope necessary?	Follow up period ?	Perforations- what to do?
Pulpotomy or pulpectomy?	CBCT before every treatment?	Full crown of composite ?
To re-treat or not to re-treat?	Broken instruments- what to do ?	

6

- The Association between Choice of Diagnostic Imaging Modality and Long-term Treatment Outcomes for Patients Undergoing Nonsurgical Root Canal Treatment on Maxillary First Molars

Ptak et al. J Endod 2021

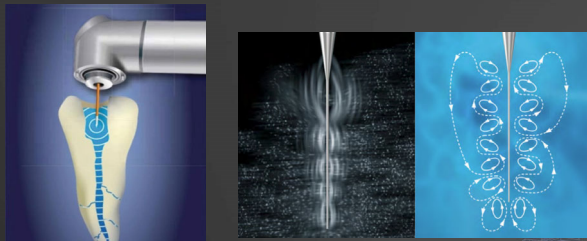
The decision to use CBCT imaging appears to serve as a proxy for case complexity and the associated increase in risk of posttreatment disease. This is important to keep in mind when assessing treatment prognosis.

7

- Outcome studies show us sometimes how careful we must be when making clinical recommendations based on in-vitro studies

8

- The most extensively studied
- Surge of enthusiasm in the early '2000s



ACTA

9

Căpuță PE et al. J Endod. 2019

...no strong clinical recommendations could be formulated.

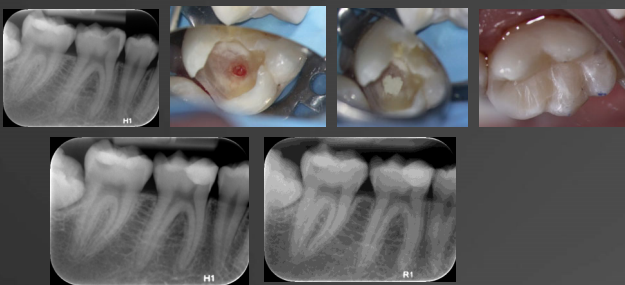
Silva EJNL et al. Br Dent J. 2019

...there was no evidence of effective improvement on periapical healing ...that supports the use of ultrasonic irrigation...



ACTA

10



ACTA

11



Outcome was mostly determined by radiographs.

Evidence shows that radiographs show only half of the truth...

12

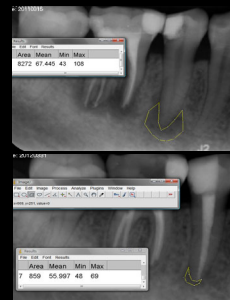
- **Radiographic success: half true half false**

- **Evidence:**

- Absence of AP on radiograph: half true half false or 2/3 true 1/3 false (Brynolf 1967, Barthel et al. 2004)..
- Absence of AP on radiograph: 60% true 40% false (Estrela et al. 2008, Christiansen et al. 2009).

13

How do we measure/ determine healing?



- Qualitative (strict)
- Simple measurements
- Scoring systems
- PAI
- CBCT-PAI
- 3D measurements

14

Qualitative assessment

- Healed or not healed ("strict criteria") –
- no measurement of the lesion, just present or absent.



Who used this system ?
Ng et al. 2011



15

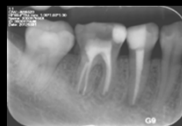
Advantages

- Quick and cheap method
- Gives clinically relevant information

16

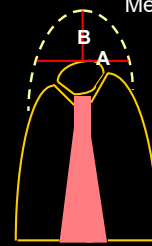
Disdvantages

- Subjective
- No meaning for "shrinkage"
- On CBCT- lower healed rate on teeth with pre-treatment lesions (Liang et al. 2012: less than 50% after 2 years)



17

Measurement of periapical lesions



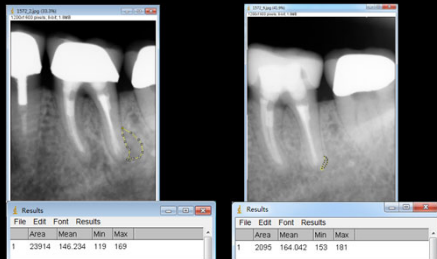
size of each lesion was calculated by taking the average of the lesion's largest dimension and its extent in the direction perpendicular to the largest dimension.

$$\text{Size} = \frac{A + B}{2}$$

Sjorgen et al. JOE 1990

18

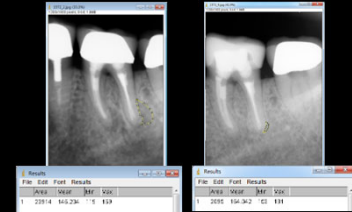
Measurement of periapical lesions



19

Advantages

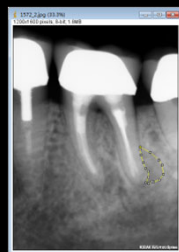
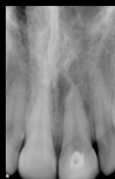
- Cheap method
- Quantitative



20

Disadvantages

- Time consuming
- Not accurate- difficult to standardize



21



Scoring systems

- Periapical scores for treatment outcome.
- Periapical destruction:
 - 1= definitely NOT present
 - 2= probably NOT present
 - 3= unsure
 - 4= probably present
 - 5= definitely present

Who used this system ?
Peters & Wesselink 2002

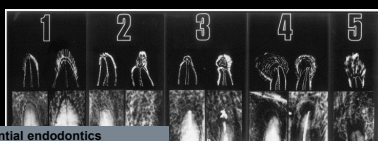
Reit & Gröndahl IEJ 1983

22

PAI Score



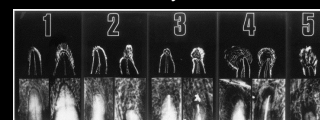
- PAI score (Ørstavik et al. 1986)
- "The PAI scoring system offers a visual reference scale for assigning a health status to the periapex."



Essential endodontics

23

- In order to evaluate periapical section according to the PAI score, you have to compare periapical radiographs with a set of 5 radiographic images derived from Brynolf's histological-radiographic correlation study

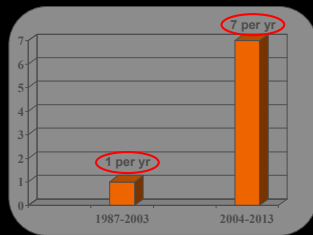


Brynolf, 1967

Who used this system ?
The Toronto studies
Marending et al. 2005
And
More than 70 studies !

24

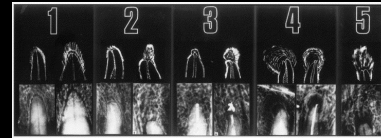
PAI has been used in more than 70 outcome studies since 1987



25

Advantages

- Relatively easy to perform
- Many studies and experience with this method
- Uniformity



26

Disadvantages

- Based on findings from maxillary incisors
- Based on 2D information



27

"Scores 2 to 5 represent increasing extent and severity of apical periodontitis."

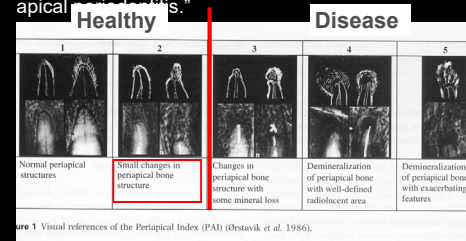


Figure 1 Visual references of the Periapical Index (PAI) (Ørstavik et al. 1986).

Ørstavik et al. Endod Dent Traumatol 1986

28

Prognostic value of the full-scale Periapical Index. Kirkevang et al. Int Endod J. 2014

Repeated radiographic assessments of teeth using the full-scale PAI reveal that each of the five scores had distinct prognostic value for the course of periapical disease ...

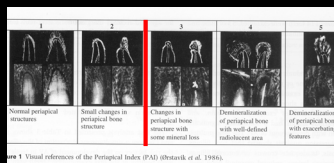
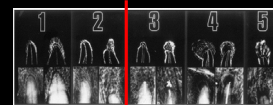


Figure 1 Visual references of the Periapical Index (PAI) (Ørstavik et al. 1986).

29

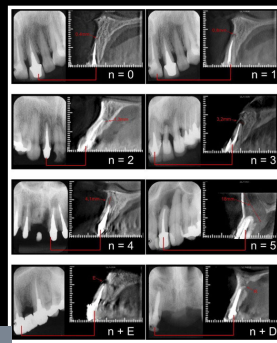
Success=	PAI 1+2	PAI 1
ALL	90	58
NO Pre-op PA	94	70
Pre-op PA	79	26



Ørstavik et al. Eur J Oral Sci 2004

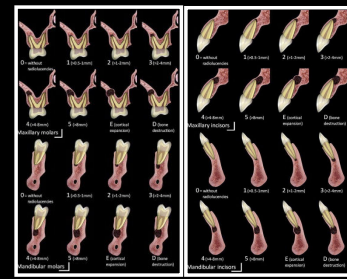
30

The CBCT-PAI score



Estrella et al. JOE 2008

31

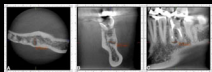


Estrella et al. JOE 2008

32



The sizes of radiolucent periapical lesions were measured on CBCT scans in 3 dimensions: buccopalatal, mesiodistal, and diagonal. The CBCT-PAI was determined by the largest extension of the lesion. A 6-point (0–5) scoring system was used.

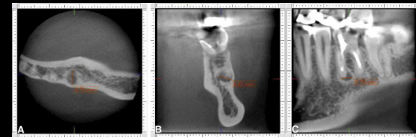


Who used this system ?
Esposito et al. 2011

33

Advantages

- Based on findings from all teeth
- Based on 3D information
- Take 3 planes into consideration



34

Disadvantages

- Measurements are still based on personal interpretation and 2D concepts
- Radiation
- Artifacts like metal posts and radiodense materials
- Time consuming

35

3D volume measurements

1. Threshold technique
2. The expansion technique

Who used this system ?
Metska et al. 2013
Van der Borden et al. 2013



36

Terminology

Patient-centered outcome:
Survival, functionality



Disease-centered outcome:
Healing of the periapical
lesion



37

Outcome terminology

- Success & failure
Too general ?
- Healing & healed
Disease centered
- Effective & ineffective
Patient centered
- Favourable and unfavourable outcome
Too general ?
- Survival & Functionality
Patient centered

38

So how do you assess the results of your endodontic treatments ?

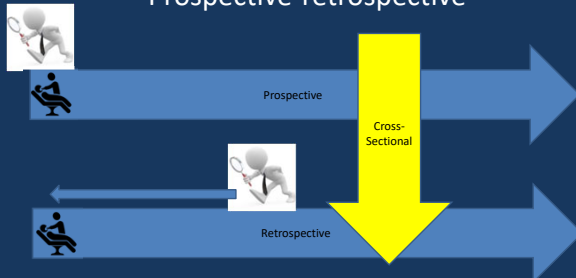


39

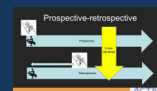


40

Prospective-retrospective



41



- Advantage of prospective : all treatment factors could be controlled and planned- fewer potential sources of bias and confounding
- Advantage of retrospective: easier to perform because you look at charts of previous patients

42

Toronto studies



43

The Toronto Study Project, established in 1993, is a continuous prospective investigation of the 4- to 6-year outcome of endodontic treatment performed by graduate endodontics students in a university clinic environment.

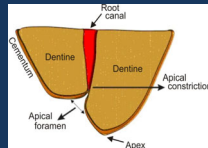
Patient recall has been divided into 2-year phases.

This modular design provides cumulative data with the completion of each successive phase, with the aim of amassing a sufficient sample to study the prognostic value of various factors.

44

TERMS

- NO success or failure !!!
- Healed and healing
- Functional
- Difference between functional and survival



45

Toronto studies - JOE

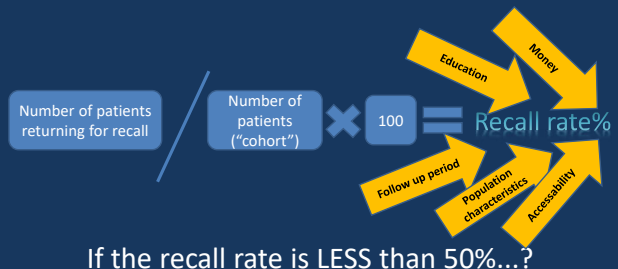
1.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto Study Phase 1 initial treatment. Friedman S, Abitbol S, Lawrence HP. 2003
2.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto Study Phase 2 initial treatment. Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Lawrence HP. Friedman S. 2004
3.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phases 1 and 2 Orthograde retreatment. Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2004
4.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: The Toronto Study Phases 1 and 2 apical surgery. Wang N, Knight K, Dao T, Friedman S. 2004
5.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto Study Phase 3 initial treatment. Marquis VL, Dao T, Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2005
6.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phases 3 and 4 orthograde retreatment de Chevigny C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Marquis V, Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2008
7.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phase 4 initial treatment. de Chevigny C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Marquis V, Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2008
8.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phases 3, 4 and 5 apical surgery. Barone C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Wang N, Friedman S. 2010

46

- Accumulation of results mean that the last 3 articles that report the accumulated results of all phases are the most important in terms of results and outcome predictors

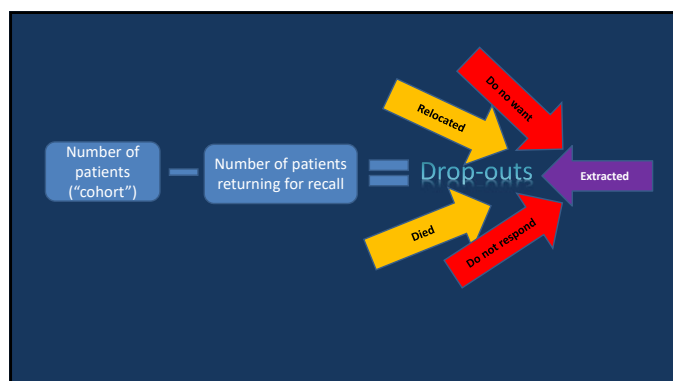
6.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phases 3 and 4 orthograde retreatment. de Chevigny C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Marquis V, Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2008
7.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phase 4 initial treatment. de Chevigny C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Marquis V, Farzanah M, Abitbol S, Friedman S. 2008
8.	Treatment outcome in endodontics: the Toronto study Phases 3, 4 and 5 apical surgery. Barone C, Dao TT, Baroni BB, Wang N, Friedman S. 2010

47

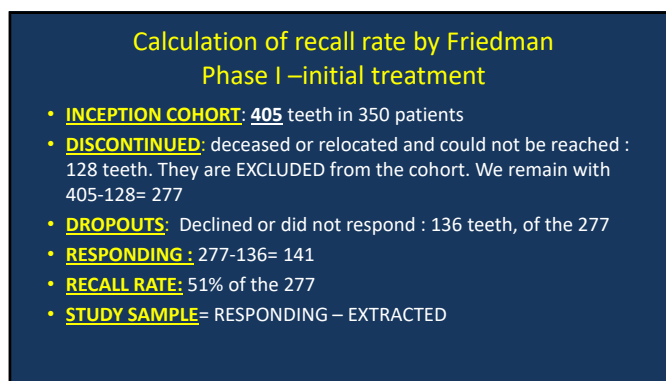


If the recall rate is LESS than 50%...?

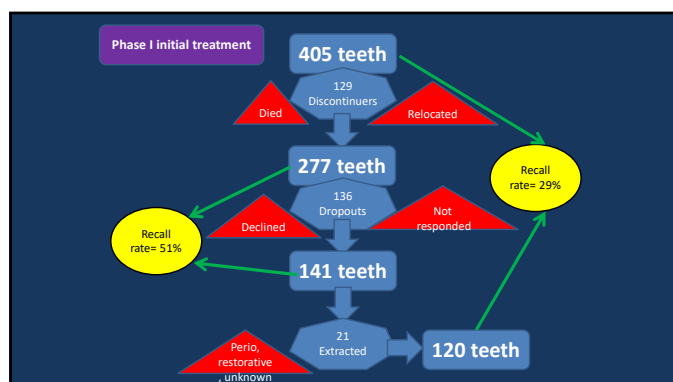
48



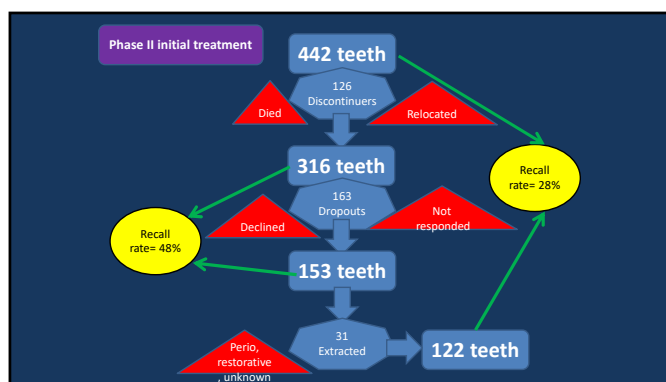
49



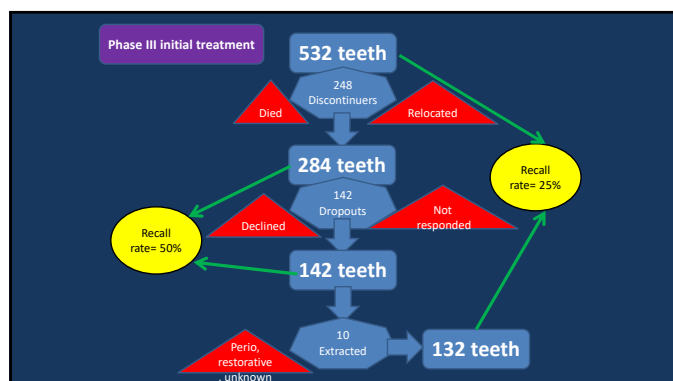
50



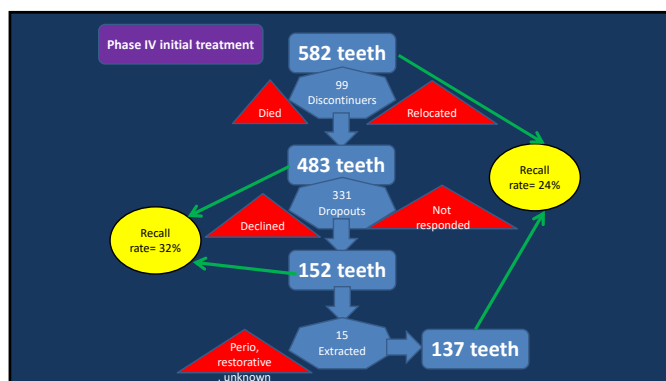
51



52

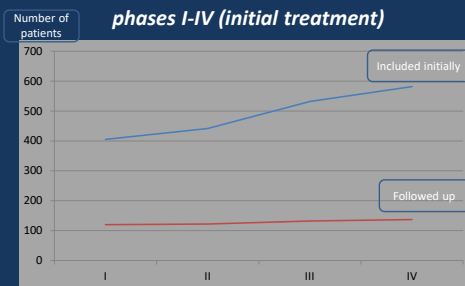


53



54

“Erosion of patient population”



55

“Response bias analysis”

- Explores whether the results could be skewed by the loss of follow-up.
- Patients lost to follow-up are checked for different characteristics (gender, pre-op diagnosis, tooth type...)
- If the populations lost to follow up and attending are significantly different in parameters which were identified as an outcome predictor, than the results could be skewed.

56

Came for the recall



Drop-outs



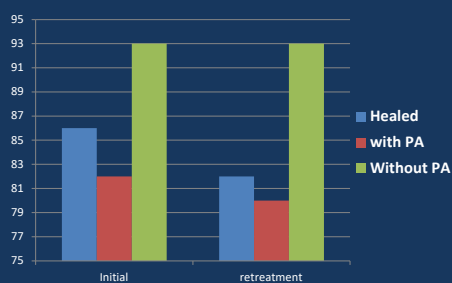
Population diversity : age, sex, smokers
Tooth characteristics : Type, diagnosis

57

Results- Toronto studies

58

Outcome phases 1-4 Healed percentage



59

Conclusions Toronto studies

- Importance
- Methodology
- Relevance
- Future

60

The Ng Studies



61

Ng studies- IEJ

1. "Outcome of primary...part 1" Ng, Mann, Rahbarab, Lewsey & Gulabivala 2007
2. "Outcome of primary...part 2" Ng, Mann, Rahbarab, Lewsey & Gulabivala 2007
3. "Outcome of secondary...part 1" Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2008
4. "Tooth survival..." Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2010
5. "A prospective study...part 1" Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011
6. "A prospective study...part 2" Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011

62

A prospective study of the factors affecting outcomes of nonsurgical root canal treatment: part 1: periapical health. - Ng, Mann & Gulabivala 2011

- The goal was to identify the prognostic factors for root canal (re) treatment.
- Observational design : factors cannot be controlled but only accounted for.
- All patients undergoing RCT of retreatment from 1st October 1997 until June 2005. By residents in Eastman. (Toronto : 1993-2001)
- Excluded from the study: perio or if the apex was not discernible on the x-ray
- Excluded from the analysis: follow-up less than 2 years, extracted, not enough data

63

- All treatments with anesthesia
- Various instrumentations
- GP + Roth canal sealer
- Various filling techniques
- Was magnification (microscope) used ?!

64

Classification

- Preoperative: 1. intact PDL 2. Widened PDL, 3. Lesion
- Diameter of the lesion measured with a ruler
- Diameter of widened PDL 0.5 mm

65

Outcome measurements

- Ng does not agree with Friedman and constantly uses the term "success rate".
- Primary: Clinical and radiographic : abscess or healing of lesion for each root
- Secondary: survival
- Success: 1.strict criteria : no pain, symptoms and complete healing
- 2. Loose criteria- healing lesion.

66

PAI score

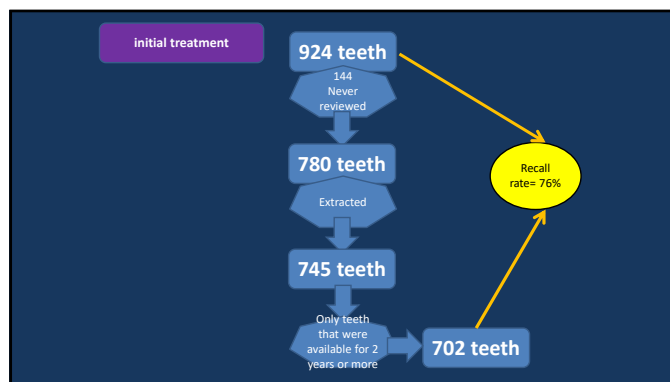
67

Numbers

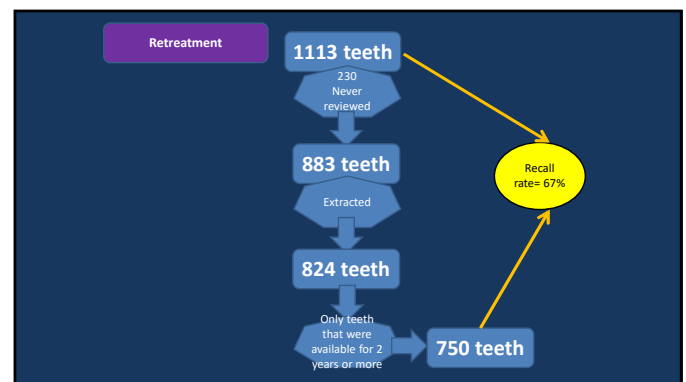
- Total: 924 teeth for initial treatments and 1113 teeth for retreatments

	<i>Initial-Ng</i>	<i>Retr-Ng</i>
Cohort	924	1113
Analysis	702	750

68



69

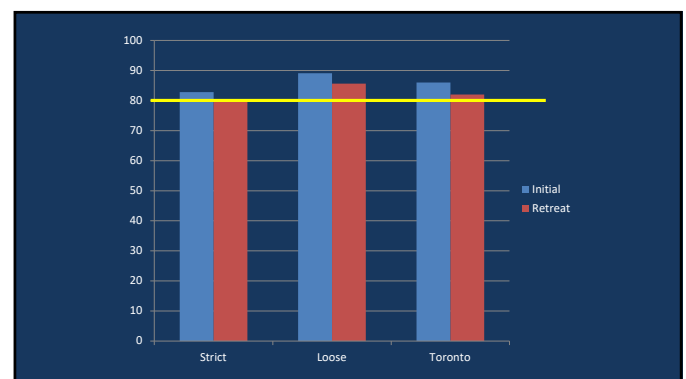


70

Results Ng

	Initial	retreatment
Strict	82,8	80,1
Loose	89,1	85,6
Toronto pooled	86	82

71



72

The root as a unit

- Friedman claimed that you SHOULD NOT use the root as a unit of measure because it had a tendency to OVERESTIMATE success.
- This study and Hoskinson et al. 2002 do not support this.
- Reason: root-level independent variables are more relevant

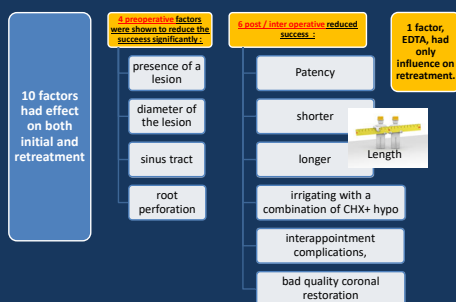
73

Sensitivity of the radiographs

- CBCT

74

Factors



75

On what do Ng and Friedman disagree?

- Root level- tooth level
- PAI score
- Calculation of the recall rate
- Factors

Still, their results are similar !!!

76

The Ng Studies II : Survival



77

Definitions

- Survival –time to extraction after RCT
- Functional survival (Friedman & Mor 2004)

78

Tooth survival- Review (2010)

1966-2007
31 articles identifies, 14 included
Pooled survival 2-10 years 86-93%

Questions

- Why are there so few studies on survival compared to studies on healing of periapical lesion ?
- Sample size is larger than studies on periapical healing. Why ?
- Influence of follow up time on the survival. Pooled results for 3-10 years but if you look at 8-10 years it is lower than 2-4 years.

79

80

Endodontic treatment outcomes in a large patient population in the USA: an epidemiological study.
Salehrabi R, Rotstein JOE 2004

- outcomes of initial endodontic treatment done in 1,462,936 teeth of 1,126,288 patients from 50 states across the USA was assessed over a period of 8 yr.
- Overall, 97% of teeth were retained in the oral cavity 8 yr after initial nonsurgical endodontic treatment.
- In conclusion, it appears that initial nonsurgical endodontic treatment is a predictable procedure with high incidence of tooth retention after 8 yr.

Problems

- Tooth exists in the mouth.
- But in which condition? Unclear (but irrelevant for "survival")
- No prognostic factors checked

81

82

Prognostic factors influencing survival

according to the review :

- 1. Crown restoration
- 2. Proximal contacts
- 3. Not an abutment
- 4. non-molar teeth

Tooth survival- Study (2011)

- Follow up 2-4 years
- Initial treatment & retreatment
- Initial : 95%
- Retreatment: 95%
- 13 prognostic factors were identified

83

84

- “The extraction outcome was reported either by the patient at the follow-up appointment, or without their attendance by phone or letter through the patient or referring dentist “
- Is this a big limitation ???
- No, because the recall rate was high.

85

Prognostic factors

- Diabetes
 - Steroid therapy
 - Probing depth
 - Pain
 - Discharging sinus tract
 - Perforations (2nd treatment only)
 - Perforations
 - Patency
 - Extrusion of filling material
 - Cast restoration vs. temporary
 - Post & core
 - Proximal contacts
 - Terminal location of the tooth
- Patient factors**
- Pre-op factors**
- Intra-op factors**
- Post-op factors**
1. Crown preparation
2. Root canal therapy
3. Root an abutment
4. Non-molar teeth
- Periapical healing

86

Why was the most important factor for healing (*pre-op periapical lesion) NOT a factor for survival ?

- “A mere presence of a periapical lesion was NOT a sufficient reason for active treatment” (Reit & Gröndahl 1988)

87

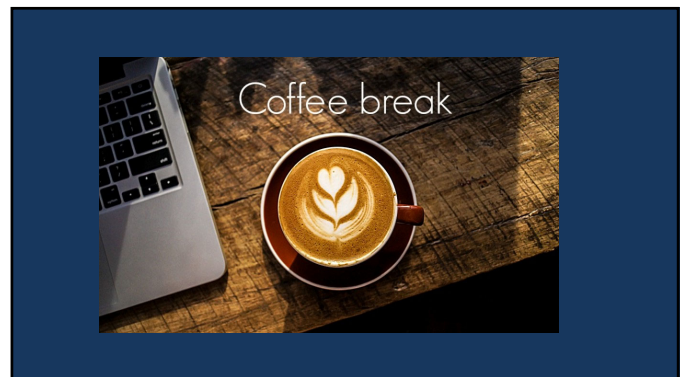
Conclusions Ng studies

- Importance
- Methodology
- Relevance
- Future

88



89



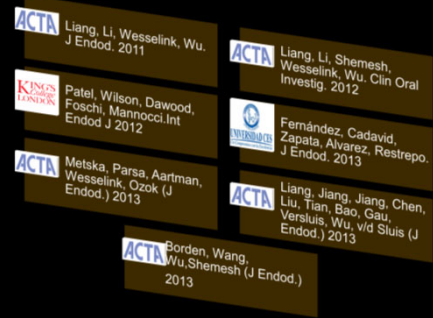
90

Outcome studies with CBCT



91

The first Outcome studies using CBCT



92

	Liang et al. 2011	Fernández et al. 2013	Liang et al. 2012	Patel et al. 2012	Liang et al. 2013	Borden et al. 2013	Metska et al. 2013
No. teeth	115	132/208R	234	84	50/71R	45	
Pre-op PA?	Yes	No pre-op CBCT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Follow up (y)	2	5	2	1	1-1.5	1-3	1
Method	Yes/No	CBCT PA	Yes/No	Categories	Categories (Volume)	Volume	Volume
Recall %	86	58	47	75	62	75	78

93



94


	Davies et al. 2015
No. teeth	117
Pre-op PA?	yes
Follow up (y)	1
Method	Increase/ decrease
Recall %	86
Healed X-ray	77
Healed CBCT	61
Diminished lesion CBCT	77
	IEJ 2015

95

ESE guidelines advise 1 year follow up

- Due to the generally high number of favourable outcomes, and the insensitivity of radiographs in detecting unfavourable outcomes it is reasonable to question whether a 1 year follow up with radiographs is justified especially in cases with small/ no pre-op radiolucencies

96




Important findings

- Treatment of vital teeth without a preop lesion results in a post-treatment lesion in ≈ 20%
- Complete healing of a periapical lesion is either slow or rare
- Looking at the "healed" and "healing" together results in success percentages which are clinically acceptable

Wu MK, Wesselink P, Shemesh H
New terms for categorizing the outcome of root canal treatment.

Wu et al. IEJ 2011

97




Conclusions

- Follow up should be reconsidered: timing, aim and procedures
- 2D PAI score to assess outcome is problematic
- "It is time for our specialty to re-evaluate the way we assess the outcome of root canal treatments"

Patel et al. IEJ 2011

98



Important areas deserving investigation:

- To what extent root canal treatments fail to achieve healthy outcomes and require further treatment *Surgery ?!*
- The risk that teeth with persistent but asymptomatic AP will lead to pain and swelling and/or increase in magnitude of bone lesions
- The risk to general health of not intervening in cases of teeth with AP. *To treat or not to treat ?!*

Bergenholtz & Kvist (Editorial, IEJ 2013)


99

- If we accept that for the time being the availability of CBCT remains limited:

"loose criteria"?

"survival"?

"Signs & symptoms"?



X-rays not needed for follow up!

"Shrinking" of the lesion


100


Patient-centered outcome

Disease-centered outcome

101

Time for a Paradigm Shift?

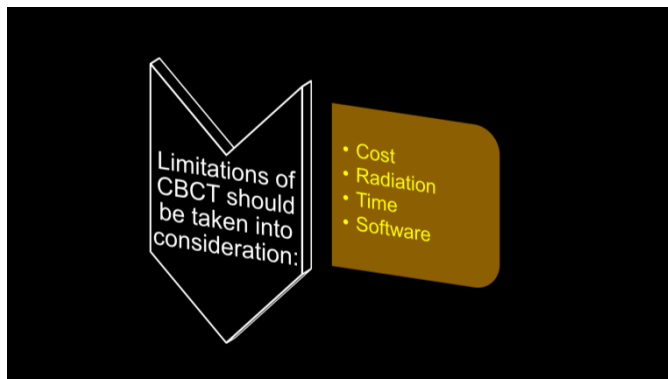




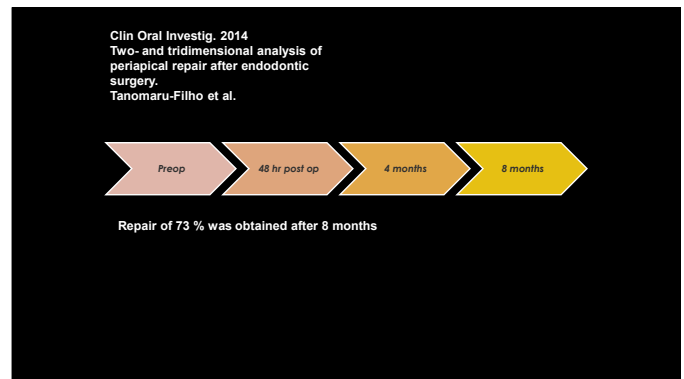
OF COURSE
you want your own x-ray unit

GENERAL ELECTRIC X-RAY CORPORATION

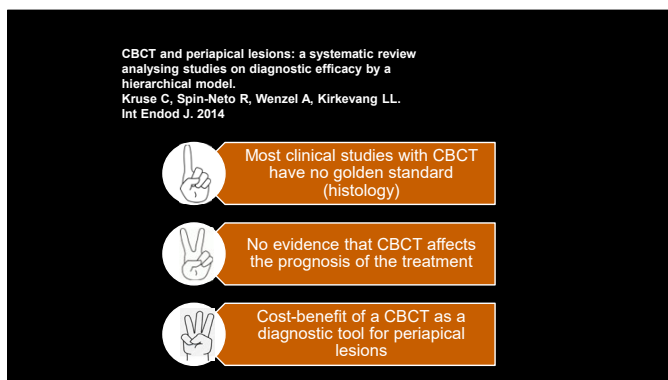
102



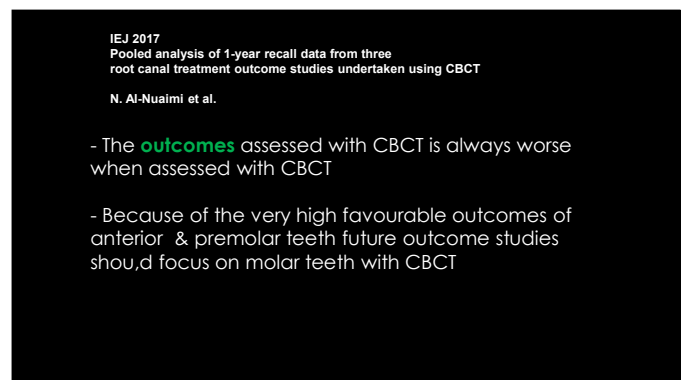
103



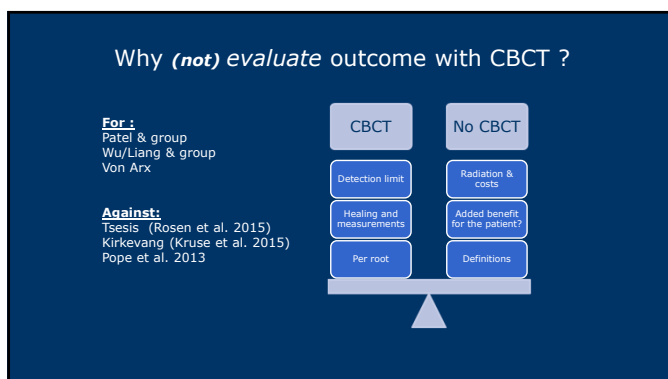
104



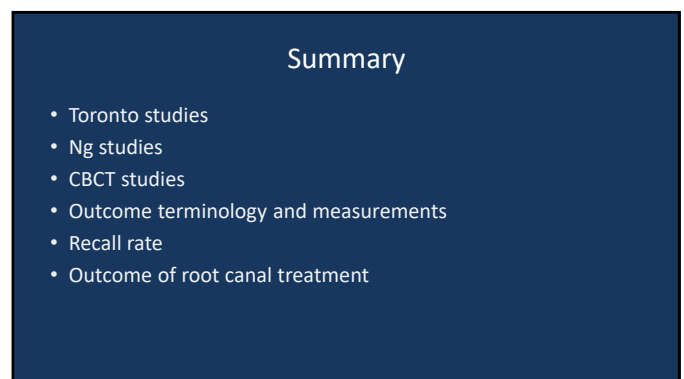
105



106



107

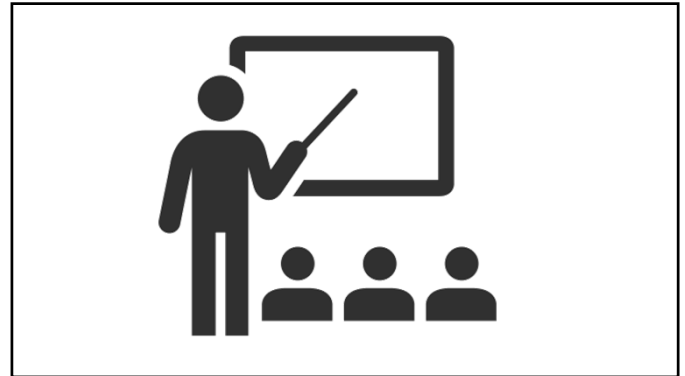


108

Now you :
Assess the following outcome article by yourself!



109



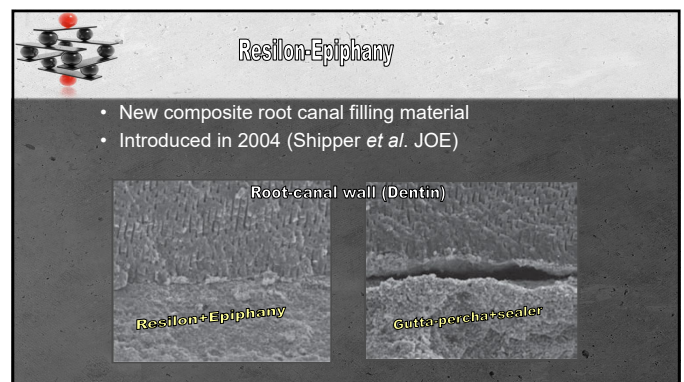
110

Long-term Outcomes of Endodontic Treatment
Performed with Resilon/Epiphany

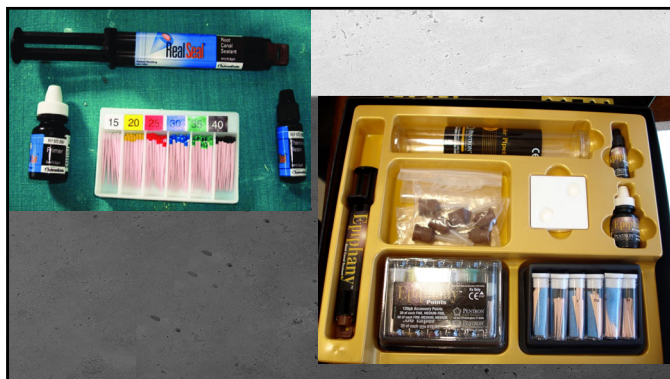
Strange et al. 2019

Read it in www.shemesh.nl (see "seminars and
lectures")

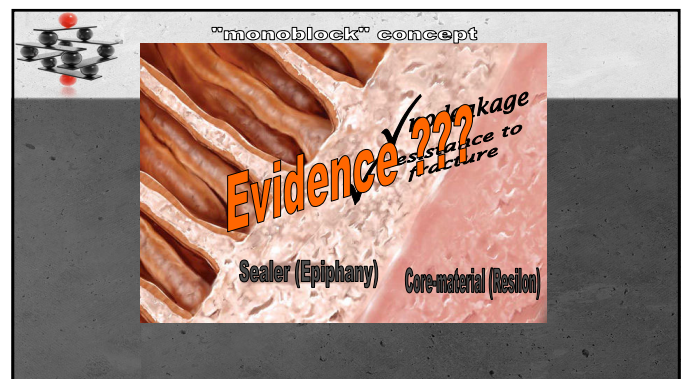
111



112



113



114

Leakage studies

Resilon is better than GP

Shipper *et al.* 2004

Budrumglu & Tunga 2006

Diferent conditions and modes!

GP is better dan Resilon

Shemesh *et al.* 2006

Paque & Sirtes 2007


Pasqualini *et al.* 2007

GP=Resilon

Shemesh *et al.* 2007

De Deus *et al.* 2007

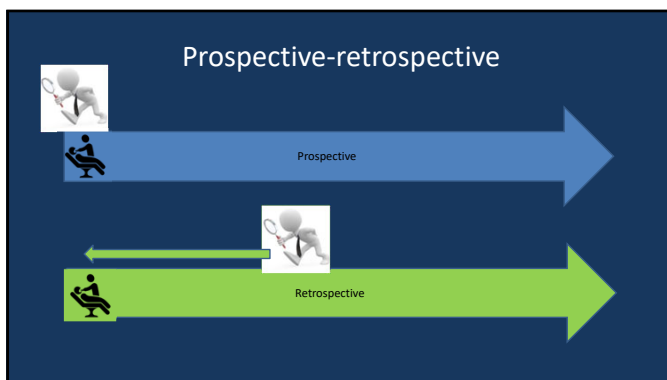
Baumgartner *et al.* 2007



115

Number of teeth originally	
Number of teeth at recall	
Recall rate	
Follow-up period	
Operator (who performed the treatments?)	
Radiographs or CBCT ?	
Outcome terminology (success ? healed ? ...)	
Outcome measurement (PAI, strict, shrinking...)	
Results :	
HEALED ("success")	
Conclusions	

116



117


Number of teeth originally	
Number of teeth at recall	
Recall rate	
Follow-up period	
Operator (who performed the treatments?)	
Radiographs or CBCT ?	
Outcome terminology (success ? healed ? ...)	
Outcome measurement (PAI, strict, shrinking...)	
Results :	
HEALED ("success")	
Conclusions	

118



119

So how do you monitor the results of your endodontic treatment?



120

Monitoring the outcome

1. A radiograph one year after the treatment
2. A radiograph 6 months after the treatment
3. I don't monitor the outcome
4. A CBCT one year after treatment
5. I follow it up after one and 4 years
6. I just call the patient on the phone

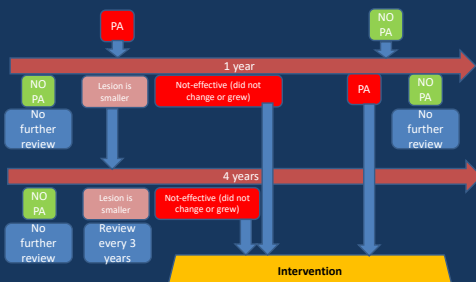
121

- Monitoring the outcome of root canal re-treatments - 2008 endodontic Topics
- Sathorn & Parashos



122

Non-surgical retreatment :(Sathorn & Parashos follow-up protocol)



123

Effectivity (Wu, Shemesh, Wesselink)- 2011



124

Take home message

- Outcome studies are the essence of clinical studies in endodontology because they can give answers to most clinical questions
- Healing of the periapical lesion on radiograph is mostly used to assess the outcome
- Patient centered outcomes are also being used (and should be used more often?)
- CBCT as a new tool to assess outcome (limited!)
- Important concepts of outcome assessment were discussed

125

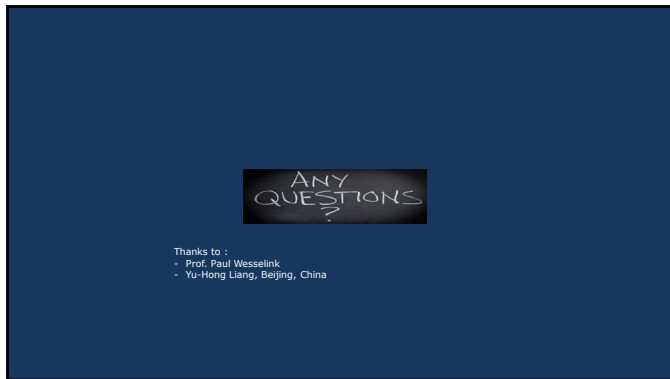
Editorial

Outcome of endodontic treatment – the elephant in the room
S. Patel et al. International Endodontic Journal 2020

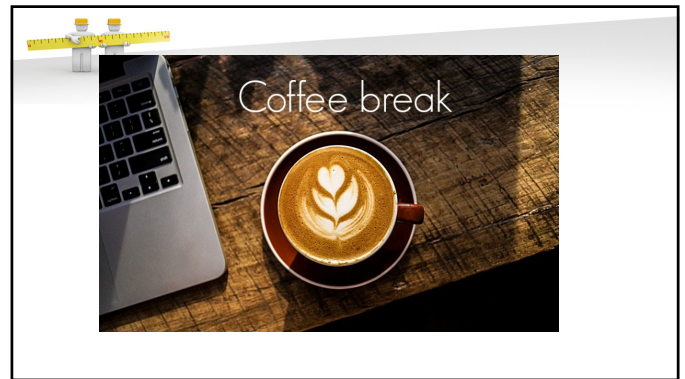


www.shemesh.nl

126



127



128