

*Presented on June 24, 2016*

## Untreated Dental Caries in Brazilian Children Five Years Old and Associated Factors

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### Abstract

**Objectives:** Objective: To assess the prevalence of untreated dental caries and associated factors in Brazilian children five years old.

**Methods:** Methods: Cross-sectional study with epidemiological and socioeconomic data of the National Oral Health Survey (SB Brazil 2010), a representative sample (n=7.217). The dependent variable was the prevalence of untreated dental caries, set by decayed component (dmft) and the independents variables were organized into individual and contextual factors. Multilevel models Poisson regression analysis were used for analysis.

**Results:** Results: The prevalence of children with untreated caries in Brazil (49.8%) was higher in the North region (64.9%) and lowest in the Southeast region (43.7%). The mean dmft was 2.45 (IC 0.95: 2.20-2.71) and the untreated carie was 2.05 (0.95; 1.81-2.29), with a significant difference between the North (3.11; 2.69-3.53) and Southeast (1.68; 1.40-1.95). The lowest family income remained associated with a higher prevalence of dental untreated caries (individual level). There was a higher carie prevalence in areas with less access to fluoridated water, lower oral health team coverage, larger population ratio/CD and a higher percentage of children living in low-income families (contextual level).

**Conclusions:** The prevalence of untreated caries in Brazilian children five years old is high, persistent and keeps association with income and services access: fluoridated water and oral health care, showing the importance of context for good outcome and the need to redesign oral health public policy in addition to the existing strategies.