

## Brazilian Oral Research

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### Abstract













[LUNARDELLI, Sandra Espíndola](#) and [PERES, Marco Aurélio](#). Prevalence and distribution of developmental enamel defects in the primary dentition of pre-school children. *Braz. oral res.* [online]. 2005, vol.19, n.2, pp. 144-149. ISSN 1806-8324. doi: 10.1590/S1806-83242005000200013.

Developmental defects of the enamel (D.D.E.) are changes in the deciduous dentition that have been little studied in Brazil, although they lead to aesthetic problems, dental sensitivity and may be predictors of dental caries. The objective of this study was to estimate the prevalence and distribution of D.D.E. in the deciduous dentition of pre-school children in the municipality of Itajaí, Santa Catarina, in 2003. A cross-sectional study was carried out with a sample of 431 children aged 3 to 5 enrolled in public day care centres. All of the teeth were examined and the enamel defects were assessed according to the Modified DDE Index (FDI, 1992). The prevalence of D.D.E. was 24.4% (CI 95% 20.3-28.5). Diffuse opacities were the most common defects found (17.9%), followed by hypoplasia (11.1%) and demarcated opacities (6.1%). The most affected teeth were the second molars (44.4%), followed by the first molars (23.5%). Defects were observed more frequently in the upper arch (58.2%). Assessing enamel hypoplasia separately, a prevalence of 15.1% (CI 95% 11.7-18.5) was observed, with the most affected teeth being the canines (33.6%) and second molars (33.6%). One quarter of the pre-school children presented enamel defects, with diffuse opacities being the most prevalent ones.

Keywords : Enamel defect; Developmental defect; Dental enamel hypoplasia; Dentition, primary; Prevalence.

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