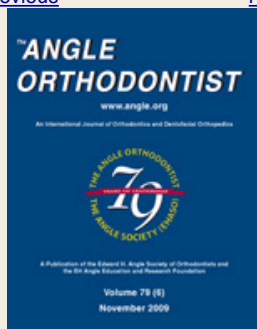


Volume 79, Issue 6
(November 2009)
[◀ Previous Article](#) [Volume 79, Issue 6 \(November 2009\)](#) [Next Article ▶](#)
[< Previous](#) [Next >](#)
[Add to Favorites](#) [Share Article](#) [Export Citations](#) [Track Citations](#) [Permissions](#)

[Current Issue](#)
[Available Issues](#)
[Full-text](#)[PDF](#)

Amy M. Krukemeyer, Airton O. Arruda, Marita Rohr Inglehart (2009) Pain and Orthodontic Treatment. The Angle Orthodontist: Vol. 79, No. 6, pp. 1175-1181.

Original Article

Pain and Orthodontic Treatment Patient Experiences and Provider Assessments

Amy M. Krukemeyer^a, Airton O. Arruda^b, and Marita Rohr Inglehart^c

Abstract

Objective: To explore whether patients' pain experiences and orthodontists' assessments of their patients' pain levels are consistent and whether orthodontists are aware of their patients' use of pain medication.

Materials and Methods: Survey data were collected from 116 adolescent patients (44 male, 72 female; aged 10 to 19 years; mean age, 14.27 years) and from their orthodontic care providers.

Results: While only 18.0% of these patients agreed that they had pain during their last orthodontic appointment, 58.5% indicated that they experienced pain for a few days after their appointment. On average, dentists underestimated the patients' pain during the last appointment (rated on a 5-point scale, with 1 indicating *no pain*: providers = 2.01 vs patients = 2.28; $P = .042$), immediately after the last appointment (1.93 vs 2.34; $P = .005$), and 1 day (1.77 vs 2.53; $P < .001$) and 2 days (1.57 vs 2.19; $P < .001$) after the previous appointment. Only 26.5% of the patients used pain medication immediately following and 1 day after the last appointment. Providers underestimated the amount of medication used.

Conclusion: Orthodontists underestimated the degree to which orthodontic treatment caused pain for their patients and their patients' use of pain medication.

Keywords: [Pain](#), [Pain management](#), [Quality of life](#), [Orthodontic treatment](#)

Accepted: February 2009;

^a Predoctoral student, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich^b Clinical Assistant Professor of Orthodontics, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich^c Associate Professor of Dentistry and Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychology, Department of Periodontics and Oral Medicine, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MichCorresponding author: Dr Marita Rohr Inglehart, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan, POM, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1078 (mri@umich.edu)

Journal Information

ISSN: 0003-3219

Frequency: Bimonthly

Register for a Profile

Not Yet [Registered?](#)*Benefits of Registration Include:*

- A Unique User Profile that will allow you to manage your current subscriptions (including online access)
- The ability to create favorites lists down to the article level
- The ability to customize email alerts to receive specific notifications about the topics you care most about and special offers

[Register Now!](#)

Related Articles

Articles Citing this Article

[Google Scholar](#)

Search for Other Articles By Author

- ⊖ Amy M. Krukemeyer
- ⊖ Airton O. Arruda
- ⊖ Marita Rohr Inglehart

Search in:

jo Angle Online



top ▲