Evidence-based knowledge creation on orthodontic mini-implants: ‘Why we know so little’

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Stellingen

Evidence-based knowledge creation on orthodontic mini-implants:
‘Why we know so little’

1. Conducting systematic reviews of non-randomized studies is much more complex than undertaking such reviews of randomized studies. *(dit proefschrift)*

2. First, define outcomes and then record them. When you don’t define them, what do you record, and what do you synthesize? *(dit proefschrift)*

3. Combining apples and oranges in a meta-analysis makes sense if your goal is to produce a fruit salad. *(Robert Rosenthal)*.

4. Pre-drilling into dental roots is easy, predictable, and destructive; Self-drilling into these structures is difficult and requires persistence. *(dit proefschrift)*

5. Orthodontic mini-implants are promising anchorage devices, but few orthodontists use them. *(dit proefschrift)*

6. Researchers of orthodontic mini-implants should redirect their focus to implementation and qualitative issues and adverse effects of interventions. *(dit proefschrift)*

7. Eleven reasons for ‘why we know so little on orthodontic mini-implants’ were identified. Listing these rationales is an important initial step; addressing them is a long process that requires in-depth knowledge of evidence-based healthcare. *(dit proefschrift)*

8. One should always express one’s unfiltered opinions; dealing with people is otherwise completely useless. *(Mirco Raffaini)*

9. “If you want to tell people the truth, make them laugh, otherwise they’ll kill you”. *(George Bernard Shaw, Oscar Wilde and others)*

10. Not responding to systematic reviewers is not an option; it is unethical, because it could waste valuable research data and should be interpreted as an act of scientific misconduct. *(dit proefschrift)*

11. Duplicate publication of the same research data was identified in various studies on orthodontic mini-implants. Black-listing of such publications and their authors is indicated. *(dit proefschrift)*

12. Salami slicing can boost (1) the number of publications (2) scientific waste (3) the downfall of the associated stakeholders and (4) pleasure at cocktail parties.

13. Practice-based research networks are an important new direction for clinical research in orthodontics, especially for studying the long-term outcomes of interventions.

14. My best research ideas have been developed during my bike trips up to Passo San Iorio (Como).

15. Never stop your research studies! ‘I reckon that I have learned more per unit time during my years in retirement than I did during my ‘active’ career’. *(Klaus Wittmaack)*

Reint Meursinge Reynders

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