

ABSTRACT

The main objective of the present study was to determine the prevalence and severity of periodontal disease amongst diabetic patients in the age group of 35-54 years and, compare that with an age and sex matched healthy control group. It was conducted on 168 diabetic subjects attending the diabetic clinic, General Hospital Colombo and, on 56 non-diabetic control subjects attached to Chest Hospital Welisara, Ragama, from 29th June 1992 to 25th July 1992. The periodontal status of both groups were detected by using the CPITN methodology. In the diabetic subjects, relevant information regarding diabetic condition including the available recent fasting blood sugar levels were also recorded. It was found that, almost all diabetic subjects were afflicted with periodontal disease and required periodontal treatment, whereas 3.64% of the control group were free from periodontal disease and did not require any periodontal treatment; the difference was statistically significant. ($P < 0.05$). The mean number of missing teeth in diabetics was 8.96 ± 6.87 and that of the control group was 5.52 ± 4.13 and this difference was significant ($P < 0.001$). The percentage of missing sextants in diabetics was also highly significant ($P < 0.01$). The prevalence of both deep and shallow pockets altogether, was highly significant in diabetics ($P < 0.001$) and the percentage of sextants affected with total pockets (deep and shallow) in diabetics (40.59%) was significantly higher than that of control subjects (13.34%) ($P < 0.05$).

However, no significant difference was found between periodontal disease and type of treatment; duration of diabetes; fasting blood sugar level.