DESCRIPTION

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Archives of Oral Biology is an international journal which aims to publish papers of the highest scientific quality in the oral and craniofacial sciences. The journal is particularly interested in research which advances knowledge in the mechanisms of craniofacial development and disease, including: Cell and molecular biology Molecular genetics Immunology Pathogenesis Cellular microbiology Embryology Syndromology Forensic dentistry The aim is to be inclusive and multidisciplinary and papers are also welcome in the fields of structure and function of craniofacial tissues over the whole range of vertebrates including studies concerned with palaeontology and comparative anatomy. Archives of Oral Biology will also publish expert reviews and articles concerned with advancement in relevant methodologies. The journal will only consider clinical papers where they make a significant contribution to the understanding of a disease process.

AUDIENCE

Oral biologists, physiologists, anatomists, pathologists.

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**Statistical analysis**
Authors should ensure that the presentation and statistical testing of data are appropriate and should seek the advice of a statistician if necessary. A number of common errors should be avoided, e.g.: -

• Use of parametric tests when non-parametric tests are required

• Inconsistencies between summary statistics and statistical tests such as giving means and standard deviations for data which were analysed with non-parametric tests.

• Multiple comparisons undertaken with multiple t tests or non-parametric equivalents rather than with analysis of variance (ANOVA) or non-parametric equivalents.

• Post hoc tests being used following an ANOVA which has yielded a non-significant result.

• Incomplete names for tests (e.g. stating "Student's t test" without qualifying it by stating "single sample", "paired" or "independent sample")

• N values being given in a way which obscures how many independent samples there were (e.g. stating simply n=50 when 10 samples/measurements were obtained from each of 5 animals/human subjects).

• Stating that P=0.000 (a figure which is generated by some computer packages). The correct statement (in this case) is P<0.0005.

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