

### **Prevalence of circumscribed opacities of enamel in schoolchildren in the Rhine-Neckar-region**

MJ Koch, U Reiss, U Niekusch.

Conservative Dentistry, Ruprecht-Karis-University, Heidelberg, Germany

The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of circumscribed opacities in schoolchildren of different ages (6–11 years old) in 22 different regular schools. In addition, correlation to diffuse opacities was evaluated. Within the school-year 1997/98, 6371 children were examined. Criteria of the DDE-index were used; all surfaces of erupted permanent teeth were included. Circumscribed opacities (of at least one permanent tooth) were noted in 14.9% of all children. The percentage of affected children varied in the different schools from approximately 9% to approximately 27%. Age, sex, and the presence of diffuse opacities did not show a correlation to circumscribed opacities. Of all teeth, upper central incisors appear to be most likely to show a circumscribed opacity. The data show a high prevalence of circumscribed opacities, which is comparable to findings of other studies.

(EADPH Kongress, 8.–9. September 1999, Straßburg, Frankreich)