Sinus grafting procedures are an established therapy to gain bone height in the posterior maxilla. Depending on the remaining bone height, they can be performed with simultaneous or two-stage implant placement using osteotomes, a trans-alar or lateral-window approach. Numerous studies have shown predictable results using autogenous bone but also bone substitute materials. However, within the last decade, the role of autogenous bone as the “golden standard” for sinus grafting procedures has been increasingly discussed, since same results can be obtained using bone substitute materials without additional donor-site morbidity and additional stress for the patient.

In the webinar, different approaches of sinus grafting procedures, the selection of different bone substitute materials, clinical and histological results and a sufficient complication rate, the use of toothpicks to remove food particles from teeth. According to the scientists, the findings support the evidence of the habit ever recorded in Eastern China. Along with other Pliocene fossils from the country, it also confirms the hypothesis that the earliest use of tools was by the Homo genus, they said. To date, it remains unclear, however, whether the grooves found in the enamel and root surfaces of the teeth indicate a therapeutic purpose.

It has been suggested that the use of toothpicks is unique to the genus Homo, and tooth-picking could have accompanied the dietary shift to heavier reliance on animal protein. Thus, in human teeth, the proposal that tooth-picking with a hard needle-like stick was used to remove food particles caught between teeth to relieve gum pressure is likely to be very plausible,” the authors commented in the article.

In total, the researchers examined seven teeth from three individuals under a binocular microscope and scanning electron microscope. Two of the teeth exhibited interproximal grooves of different depths, which are characteristic signs of tooth-picking. Similar markings on the teeth of other Homo species found in different sites around the world have previously been reported.

The remains from the Yiyuan site, which included cranial fragments and was excavated by archaeologists in 1981, have been assigned to the Homo erectus species, which is widely considered to be a direct ancestor of modern humans and other human species, such as Neanderthals. Archaeological findings indicate that the species inhabited large parts of Asia, Africa and Europe between 1.8 million and 40,000 years ago. 

**International Imprint**

**Publisher Torsten Oeurn**

**International Editorial Board**

Dr. Naser Barghi, Ceramics, USA
Dr. Karl Bohm, Endodontics, Germany
Dr. George Freedman, Esthetics, Canada
Dr. Howard Glazer, Cantabria, USA
Prof. Dr. E. Kryszcz, Conservative Dentistry, Switzerland
Dr. Edward Lynch, Restorative, Ireland
Dr. Zee Maor, Implantology, Israel
Prof. Dr. Georg Meyer, Restorative, Germany
Prof. Dr. Reuphaberth, Function, Austria
Dr. Martin Steinmann, Implantology, Germany

**Licensing by Dental Tribune International**

**Copy Editors**

Sabrina Rehrl
Benedikt Modena двор

**Product/CEO**

Torsten Oeurn

**Media Sales Managers**

Matthias Bennet
Peter Legocki
Peter Oder
Mikolaieva
Vladamir Majecki
Bartosz Karczewicz

**CFO/COO**

Natalie Dornier
Karen Harmsbeck

**Marketing & Sales Services**

Catherine Bock
Claudia Schubnik

**Business Development**

Ecevhan President

**AdProduction**

Marina Moger

**Designer**

Homayoun Emid

**Dental Tribune International**

Bolzmannstr. 20, 02022, Leipzig, Germany
Tel.: +49 341 4847-114 · Fax: +49 341 4847-117
Internet: www.dental-tribune.com · E-mail: info@dt-tribune.com

**Regional Offices**

Asia Pacific
DT Asia Pacific Ltd.
c/o Yonto Risio Communications Ltd, 20A, Harvard Commercial
Building, 105-111 Thomson Road, Wan chai, Hong Kong
Tel.: +852 3155 8177 · Fax: +852 3155 6199

The Americas
Dental Tribune Americas, LLC
110 West 37th Street, Suite 505, New York, NY 10018, USA
Tel.: +1 212 244 7185 · Fax: +1 212 244 7187

**Asia News**

Dental routine practised among early inhabitants of China

ITP Asia Pacific

JINAN, China/OXFORD, UK: Early ancestors of humans who lived in Eastern China almost half a million years ago might have regularly used toothpicks, anthropologists have recently suggested in the specialist journal *Quaternary International*.

In several fossil teeth recovered from a Middle Pliocene site in Yiyuan near the capital Beijing, they found interproximal grooves, which they believe signifies the habitual use of sticks made from hard material to remove residual food particles from teeth.

According to the scientists, the findings support the evidence of the habit ever recorded in Eastern China. Along with other Pliocene fossils from the country, it also confirms the hypothesis that the earliest use of tools was by the *Homo* genus, they said. To date, it remains unclear, however, whether the grooves found in the enamel and root surfaces of the teeth indicate a therapeutic purpose.

It has been suggested that the use of toothpicks is unique to the genus *Homo*, and tooth-picking could have accompanied the dietary shift to heavier reliance on animal protein. Thus, in human teeth, the proposal that tooth-picking with a hard needle-like stick was used to remove food particles caught between teeth to relieve gum pressure is likely to be very plausible,” the authors commented in the article.

In total, the researchers examined seven teeth from three individuals under a binocular microscope and scanning electron microscope. Two of the teeth exhibited interproximal grooves of different depths, which are characteristic signs of tooth-picking. Similar markings on the teeth of other *Homo* species found in different sites around the world have previously been reported.

The remains from the Yiyuan site, which included cranial fragments and was excavated by archaeologists in 1981, have been assigned to the *Homo erectus* species, which is widely considered to be a direct ancestor of modern humans and other human species, such as Neanderthals. Archaeological findings indicate that the species inhabited large parts of Asia, Africa and Europe between 1.8 million and 40,000 years ago. 

**Upcoming Webinars**

**SINUS LIFT PROCEDURES IN THE DAILY PRACTICE**

Daniel Rothamel

Sinus grafting procedures are an established therapy to gain bone height in the posterior maxilla. Depending on the remaining bone height, they can be performed with simultaneous or two-stage implant placement using osteotomes, a trans-alar or lateral-window approach.

Numerous studies have shown predictable results using autogenous bone but also bone substitute materials. However, within the last decade, the role of autogenous bone as the “golden standard” for sinus grafting procedures has been increasingly discussed, since same results can be obtained using bone substitute materials without additional donor-site morbidity and additional stress for the patient.

In the webinar, different approaches of sinus grafting procedures, the selection of different bone substitute materials, clinical and histological results and a sufficient complication management will be discussed.

**ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR HIV+ PATIENTS**

David Reznik, DDS

It has been 32 years since the first reports of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) were reported to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The dental team has been and continues to be an important part of HIV primary care since the early days of the epidemic when up to 80% of all HIV+ patients would present with an oral manifestation related to disease progression. Recognition of the oral manifestations of HIV infection are important tools in accessing a patient’s overall well-being as they are important indicators of disease progression for those known to be HIV positive. For those with unknown HIV status, the presence of these lesions may signify HIV infection or other systemic conditions.

This presentation will enable the participants to accurately diagnose and manage the most common oral opportunistic infections seen in association with HIV disease. Topics to be covered will also include proper dental management for people living with HIV disease including a discussion of important lab values and when, if ever, premedication prior to invasive dental procedures is required.
SONGKHLA, Thailand: A new study has provided additional evidence that probiotics are beneficial against a number of oral conditions. Researchers in Thailand recently found that lactobacilli in particular could help reduce levels of mutans streptococci, which can cause dental caries, especially in cleft lip and palate patients with fixed orthodontic appliances.

The study included 50 cleft lip and palate patients who had been undergoing treatment between June and August 2011 with fixed orthodontic appliances for at least three months with attachments on at least 20 permanent teeth. For a period of four consecutive weeks, half of the patients consumed milk powder with probiotic Lactobacillus paracasei SD1 in 50 ml of water once a day, while the remainder received the same amount of milk powder in water but without probiotic bacteria.

From an analysis of participants’ saliva samples, the researchers observed a significant reduction in salivary mutans streptococci after the four-week period in the first group. In addition, a significant increase in salivary lactobacilli was noted in this group.

The results suggest that especially orthodontic patients, who usually need treatment owing to irregularities in tooth size and misalignment of teeth, could benefit significantly from probiotic intervention because fixed appliances facilitate the colonisation of bacteria such as mutans streptococci and render this group more susceptible to dental diseases. However, further long-term studies with a larger sample size are needed to clarify the mechanisms of probiotic bacteria in reducing oral microbial counts, the researchers concluded.

CANBERRA, Australia: The Australian government intends to scrap over half a billion Australian dollars worth of subsidies for dental health care from its next federal budget. Among other cut-backs, the proposed plans will see the end of the Dental Flexible Grants Programme, which was originally introduced to help dentists set up in outer metropolitan areas. This way, the government aims to save almost A$229 million (US$211.5 million) over the next four years.

Another A$90 million (US$85 million) is to be put aside by delaying a federal-state partnership programme that was intended to support local governments in providing public dental health care services. Dental and oral health clinic developments at Charles Sturt University in Sydney will also be halted.

In return, the government said it will put A$2.7 billion (US$2.49 billion) into new programmes, such as the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.

The measures are part of a larger cut-back of federal medical subsidies that will require patients to pay more out of pocket for visiting a doctor or basic medical services, such as having an X-ray taken. According to the government, the savings from these measures will go into an A$2.7 billion (US$2.49 billion) medical research fund to advance therapies for systemic conditions, such as cancer.

Overall, the government expects to accumulate A$80 billion (US$73.9 billion) in combined savings from the health and education sectors over the next ten years.

Representatives from dentist and patient organisations have already criticised the plans, which they think will further burden the already extensive waiting list for public dental treatment. President of the Australian Dental Association Dr Karin Alexander told ABC News that she expects that the waiting list could double or treble owing to the cut-backs.

It is estimated that up to half a million people are currently on a public waiting list for dental treatment.

www.ivoclarvivadent.com
Ivoclar Vivadent AG
Bendererstr. 2 | 9494 Schaan | Liechtenstein | Tel.: +423 235 35 35 | Fax: +423 235 33 60

Probiotic bacteria found helpful in orthodontic patients

Australia to cut dental spending

Tetric® N-Ceram Bulk Fill
The nano-optimized 4-mm composite

4 mm to success
• Bulk filling is possible due to Ivocerin®, the patented light initiator
• Special filler technology ensures low shrinkage stress
• Esthetic results are achieved quickly and efficiently in the posterior region