PERIODONTITIS IS ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED DISEASE ACTIVITY IN PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

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A Swedish cohort study of 786 IBD patients found that self-reported severe periodontitis was significantly associated with increased disease activity and disability but not with IBD severity or quality of life.

KEY POINTS

- Self-reported severe periodontitis was significantly associated with higher current disease activity in both Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients (OR 1.72, p=0.004) based on validated activity indices
- Severe periodontitis was associated with increased IBD disability scores (Coef. 5.07, p=0.002) and higher self-reported disease activity over the past 12 months (OR 1.44, p=0.025)
- Number of missing teeth, an indirect indicator of periodontitis severity, was associated with increased IBD disability scores (Coef. 4.47, p=0.020)
- IBD severity, defined by history of IBD-related surgery or biological therapy, was not associated with periodontitis or tooth loss
- The authors state these results suggest increased attention should be given to oral health in IBD patients

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