

# Converting Periodontal Data into Knowledge in a Health System that is Constantly Learning

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## Introduction

Health care decision-making using evidence is getting more difficult. Clinicians must integrate new scientific research into their recommendations and consider a variety of data inputs. After these choices are made, it is difficult to learn from them and eventually improve health outcomes because there is little information accessible regarding their long-term effects.<sup>1</sup> In order to ensure innovation, quality, and value at the point of care, the National Academy of Medicine<sup>2</sup> has called for the creation of a learning health system (LHS) in which patients and clinicians collaborate to choose care based on the best evidence<sup>3</sup> and to drive discovery as a natural outgrowth of every clinical encounter. A health system known as an LHS integrates external evidence, internal data, and experience in a systematic manner.

Periodontal disease is a chronic bacterial infection that affects the gums and bones supporting the teeth. It is estimated that over 50% of adults worldwide suffer from some form of periodontal disease. In order to diagnose and treat periodontal disease effectively, periodontal data needs to be collected and analysed. In this article, we will explore the process of converting periodontal data and its importance in periodontal treatment. Periodontal data can be collected in a variety of ways, including visual inspection, probing, radiographs, and other diagnostic tests. This data is used to determine the severity and extent of periodontal disease and to develop an appropriate treatment plan. However, raw periodontal data is often difficult to interpret and analyse without some form of conversion [1].

One way to convert periodontal data is through the use of periodontal charts. Periodontal charts are graphical representations of periodontal data that provide an easy-to-read visual summary of the condition of the gums and bones supporting the teeth. Periodontal charts typically include measurements of the depth of the gum pockets around each tooth, as well as the degree of bone loss and other relevant data. Another way to convert periodontal data is through the use of computer software. There are several software programs available that can analyse periodontal data and provide detailed reports on the condition of the gums and bones supporting the teeth. These programs can provide a more comprehensive analysis of periodontal data than traditional charts and can help identify patterns and trends in the data that may be difficult to detect manually [2].

## Description

The conversion of periodontal data is important for several reasons. First,

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it allows for a more accurate diagnosis of periodontal disease. By converting raw data into an easy-to-read format, periodontal disease can be diagnosed more accurately and efficiently. This, in turn, allows for more effective treatment planning and better patient outcomes. Second, the conversion of periodontal data allows for better communication between dental professionals. By using a common format for periodontal data, dental professionals can more easily share information and collaborate on treatment plans. This can lead to more effective and coordinated care for patients [3].

Finally, the conversion of periodontal data allows for better patient education. By presenting periodontal data in a visual format, patients can better understand the severity and extent of their periodontal disease. This can help motivate patients to adhere to their treatment plans and take an active role in their oral health. In conclusion, the conversion of periodontal data is an important aspect of periodontal treatment. By converting raw data into an easy-to-read format, periodontal disease can be diagnosed more accurately and efficiently, leading to better patient outcomes. The use of periodontal charts and computer software can help dental professionals analyse and interpret periodontal data more effectively. Continued research in this field is essential for the development of new and more effective tools for converting and analysing periodontal data [4].

Despite being widely available, electronic health record (EHR) data are an underutilised resource in dentistry.<sup>10</sup> Subpar health outcomes may result from the health care system's incapacity to learn from EHR data.<sup>9</sup> For a number of reasons, the EHR is an important data source for an LHS. First, even though they trail behind hospitals and medical practices, dental practises in the US are progressively implementing EHRs.<sup>11</sup> Secondly, compared to administrative claims or other data sources, EHR data may be able to offer a great deal more information on patient-level contacts.<sup>12</sup> Third, real-time usage in clinical care is made possible by the instant availability of data made available by EHRs. Providing the provider with important information during the clinical encounter may enhance clinical decision-making [5].

Periodontal disease is a chronic bacterial infection that affects the gums and bones supporting the teeth. It is a prevalent disease that affects over 50% of adults worldwide. In order to diagnose and treat periodontal disease effectively, periodontal data needs to be collected and analysed. However, converting periodontal data into knowledge that can be used to improve health outcomes requires a health system that is constantly learning. The process of converting periodontal data into knowledge begins with the collection of data. Periodontal data can be collected in a variety of ways, including visual inspection, probing, radiographs, and other diagnostic tests. This data is used to determine the severity and extent of periodontal disease and to develop an appropriate treatment plan. Once periodontal data is collected, it needs to be converted into a format that can be used to improve health outcomes. This requires a health system that is constantly learning and adapting to new information. In order to achieve this, several key components are necessary.

First, a robust data infrastructure is essential. This includes electronic health records (EHRs) and other systems that can collect, store, and analyse periodontal data. EHRs can be used to collect data from multiple sources, including patient history, laboratory tests, imaging studies, and other sources. This data can be analysed using advanced analytics tools to identify patterns and trends in the data. Second, a culture of continuous learning and improvement is necessary. This requires a commitment to on-going education and training, as well as a willingness to embrace new ideas and technologies. Health systems must be willing to experiment with new approaches and technologies and be open to feedback and criticism.

Third, collaboration and communication are essential. Health systems must be able to share data and knowledge across multiple stakeholders, including patients, providers, researchers, and policymakers. This requires a commitment to open communication and collaboration, as well as the development of common standards and protocols. The conversion of periodontal data into knowledge can lead to significant improvements in health outcomes. By analysing periodontal data, health systems can identify patients at high risk for periodontal disease and develop targeted interventions to prevent or treat the disease. This can lead to improved oral health, as well as reductions in healthcare costs.

## Conclusion

In addition, the conversion of periodontal data into knowledge can also help identify gaps in care and areas where additional research is needed. For example, if certain populations are found to be at higher risk for periodontal disease, this can lead to targeted interventions to reduce these disparities. Similarly, if certain treatments are found to be ineffective or have significant side effects, this can lead to the development of new and more effective treatments. Finally, the conversion of periodontal data into knowledge can also help inform public health policy. By analysing population-level data, policymakers can identify trends and patterns in the prevalence and severity of periodontal disease. This can help inform the development of public health interventions and policies aimed at reducing the burden of periodontal disease on society.

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