## Milk and Dental Health Protection against tooth decay





In the three cross-sectional studies concerning children (5-11 years), all reported an inverse association between milk (and dairy) intake and the incidence of tooth decay. The nutrients calcium, phosphate and casein in milk may all play a role in milk's effect on dental health.

To reduce the occurence of tooth decay, it is recommended that children limit their consumption of sugary beverages (especially when not consumed with a meal) and to increase the consumption of milk.



## Key Scientific Papers

Llena & Farmer (2008) Caries Res. 42: 387-393. Levina et al. (2007) Comm Dent Health. 24: 82-87. Petti et al (1997). Eur J Epidemiol. 13: 659-664. Petridou et al. (1996) Comm Dent Oral Epidemiol. 24: 307-311.

\*The present infographic is based on evidence from three available studies in 5-11 year old children. All three cross-sectional studies report that the consumption of milk is associated with reduced risk of dental caries. Nonetheless, all of the above-mentioned studies have been of a cross-sectional nature. Therefore, a causal relationship between milk and dental health cannot be concluded. More research is certainly needed.

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