



EFFECTS OF MATERNAL DEPRESSION AND ORAL HEALTH ON CHILD ORAL HEALTH

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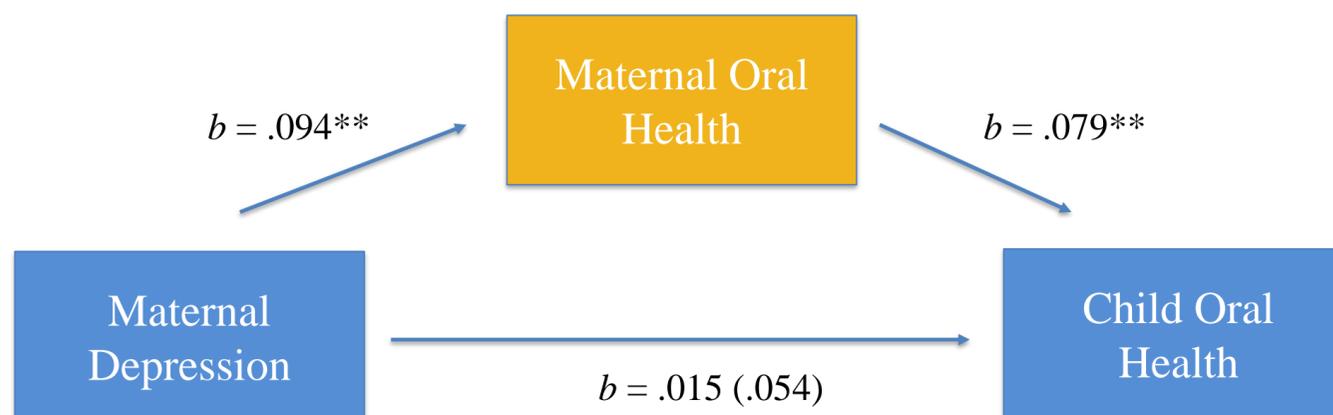
BACKGROUND

- Individuals in the Appalachian region experience disparities in oral health (Martin, McNeil, Crout, Ngan, Weyant, Heady, & Marazita, 2008).
- Maternal oral health has a relationship with child oral health (Mattila, Rautava, Sillanpää, & Paunio, 2000).
- Depression has been shown to lead to poorer oral healthcare (Okoro, Strine, Eke, Dhingra, & Balluz, 2012)

The current study seeks to:

- Replicate association between depression and oral health.
- Replicate association between mother and child oral health.
- Understand the possible impact of maternal depression on child oral health.

RESULTS



Note. ** indicates $p < .01$.

- Maternal depression is negatively correlated with child dMFT scores ($r = .11$, $p = .03$).
- Maternal oral health (95%CI: .0006, .0178) mediated the relation between maternal depression and child oral health ($F(2, 401) = 14.85$, $p < .01$).
- Maternal oral health accounted for 6.9% of the variance in the model.

METHODS

Participants

- 404 Appalachian mother-child dyads.
- M age mother = 34.1 years, $SD = 5.1$
 - M age child = 4.1 years, $SD = 0.9$

Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CESD)

- Utilized to obtain intensity of depression symptoms in mothers.

Dental Exam

- Performed by a calibrated dental professional.
- Assessed for cavities using the decayed, missing, and filled teeth (DMFT for mothers, dMFT for children)

DISCUSSION

- Maternal depression associated with maternal oral health, and thus, child oral health.
- Depression may make it difficult for mothers to care for their own dental hygiene or that of their child.
- Maternal depression should be considered when developing oral healthcare interventions for Appalachian mothers.
- Maternal depression consideration during oral healthcare interventions for Appalachian children.

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