

## 2016 Clinical Research in Periodontology Award

Each year, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) presents the Clinical Research Award, sponsored by Quintessence Publishing Company, to an outstanding published scientific study with direct clinical relevance in periodontics. The winning study must follow established scientific methods for a human study, be published in English in a scientific journal during the previous calendar year, directly apply to the practice of periodontics, and provide new information that can be readily used by practitioners in the evaluation of patients.

The 2016 award recognized the study titled "Update on the Prevalence of Periodontitis in Adults: NHANES 2009 to 2012" (Paul I. Eke, Bruce A. Dye, Liang Wei, Gary D. Slade, Gina O. Thornton-Evans, Wenche S. Borgnakke, George W. Taylor, Roy C. Page, James D. Beck, and Robert J. Genco, *J Periodontol* 2015;86:611–622). The study authors accepted the award at the American Academy of Periodontology's 2016 Annual Meeting in San Diego, California, USA.

The study, which appeared in the May 2015 issue of the *Journal of Periodontology*, used data from the 2009 to 2010 and 2011 to 2012 cycles of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) to examine the prevalence, severity, and extent of periodontitis among US dentate adults aged 30 years or older.



Paul I. Eke, PhD, MPH (left), receives the 2016 Clinical Research Award from Wayne Aldredge, DMD (right), AAP President at the time of the award.

Defining periodontitis by a combination of clinical attachment loss and periodontal probing depth, the study found that 46% of US adults (64.7 million people) had periodontitis. Prevalence was highest among males and positively correlated with increasing age. Hispanics (63.5%) and non-Hispanic blacks (59.1%) showed the highest prevalence, with less occurrence of periodontitis seen among non-Hispanic Asians

(50.0%) and non-Hispanic whites (40.8%). The results of this study provide valuable information for population-based management of periodontitis among US adults.

To view the study's abstract, please visit <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25688694>. For information about the AAP Clinical Research Award, please visit [www.perio.org/members/ma/ma.html#clinical](http://www.perio.org/members/ma/ma.html#clinical).