

PERIODONTAL DISEASES IN CHILDREN

- A REVIEW

Library Dissertation

Submitted to the Department of Periodontics in partial

fulfilment of the requirements for the

Degree of Master of Dental Surgery

in the speciality of

Periodontics

1997-98

Dr. SREENIVAS RAO AKULA

t-173



**DEPARTMENT OF PERIODONTICS
S. D. M. COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES & HOSPITAL
SATTUR-DHARWAD.**

Periodontal and Gingival diseases in their various forms have afflicted humans since dawn of the History.

The term "Periodontal Disease" has been associated with terminal stages in which methods of treatment are seldom effective. This led to common assumption that Periodontal disease is seen in later life and little can be done about it. But Periodontal disease which occurs at any age, is usually a slow progressive disease which extends over many years and the early stages are extremely common in children and during puberty¹¹. Unless these early stages are eliminated more severe forms are inevitable in later years.

Although Periodontal diseases are infectious in nature with a specific Pathogenic flora, recent evidence has indicated disease susceptibility and individual variability in the host response which plays a major role in the disease process. The significance of a bacterial plaque and other local irritants in the Periodontal disease has been well established^{21,22}. Until recently the non specific plaque hypothesis in the etiology of the Periodontal disease was well accepted.

The observation that children with Periodontal disease involving the primary dentition may develop advanced Periodontal disease involving their permanent dentition. This corresponds with the observation that there are inherent host factors which make certain individuals more susceptible to Periodontal breakdown. Alveolar bone loss may already be evident in children and may be indicative of an inherent susceptibility to further Periodontal breakdown in the permanent dentition. Therefore the early diagnosis and treatment of individuals at risk for Periodontal disease in childhood should be considered a goal in clinical dentistry.

Systemic diseases will also have Periodontal manifestations. These