**OBJECTIVE**
Assess US dental school publication patterns in dental vs non-dental journals by NIH-research category (intense, active, inactive) and publication index (articles/faculty/year).

**INTRODUCTION**
Research-intensive dental schools (>$6,000,000/y) clearly show the highest publication number (X=58±24/y) and rate (0.54±0.22 pub/fac/y). It has been suggested that research-intensive schools also publish more frequently in non-dental (eg, Science, Cell) vs dental journals (eg, JDR, JPD).

**RESULTS**
No significant relationship of non-dental publication rates with dental schools with high faculty publication index.

**DISCUSSION of INDEX**
Important factors affect “numerator and denominator” of the INDEX that may distort the conclusions.

**Numerator** = “Number of Journal Articles”
- Skewness of faculty publishing profiles (active vs inactive) may arise because only a few faculty are producing all articles.
- Articles in non-dental journals might be more important to count.
- Could count only peer-reviewed articles, only faculty first-authored articles, or only scientific articles.

**Denominator** = “Number of Faculty”
- Could count only FT dental faculty who are expected to publish instead of all FTE’s (eg, ignore count of administrators).

**DISCUSSION of RESULTS**
Classification by Journals: Could classify articles rather than journals based on basic science versus dental/translational science.
Classification by Schools: Could ignore School and classify authors as basic science versus clinical science for stratification.
Classification by Funding Mechanism: Could ignore School funding level and only consider individual scientist funding source (eg, NIH versus non-NIH funding). Suspect that only 35% of all publications are NIH-funded.

**CONCLUSIONS**
All evidence suggests “no” relationship of “dental versus non-dental publication type” for any research category or publication index for faculty research productivity.