

Demography and socioeconomic factors in patients with deep neck space infections of odontogenic origin

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Background:

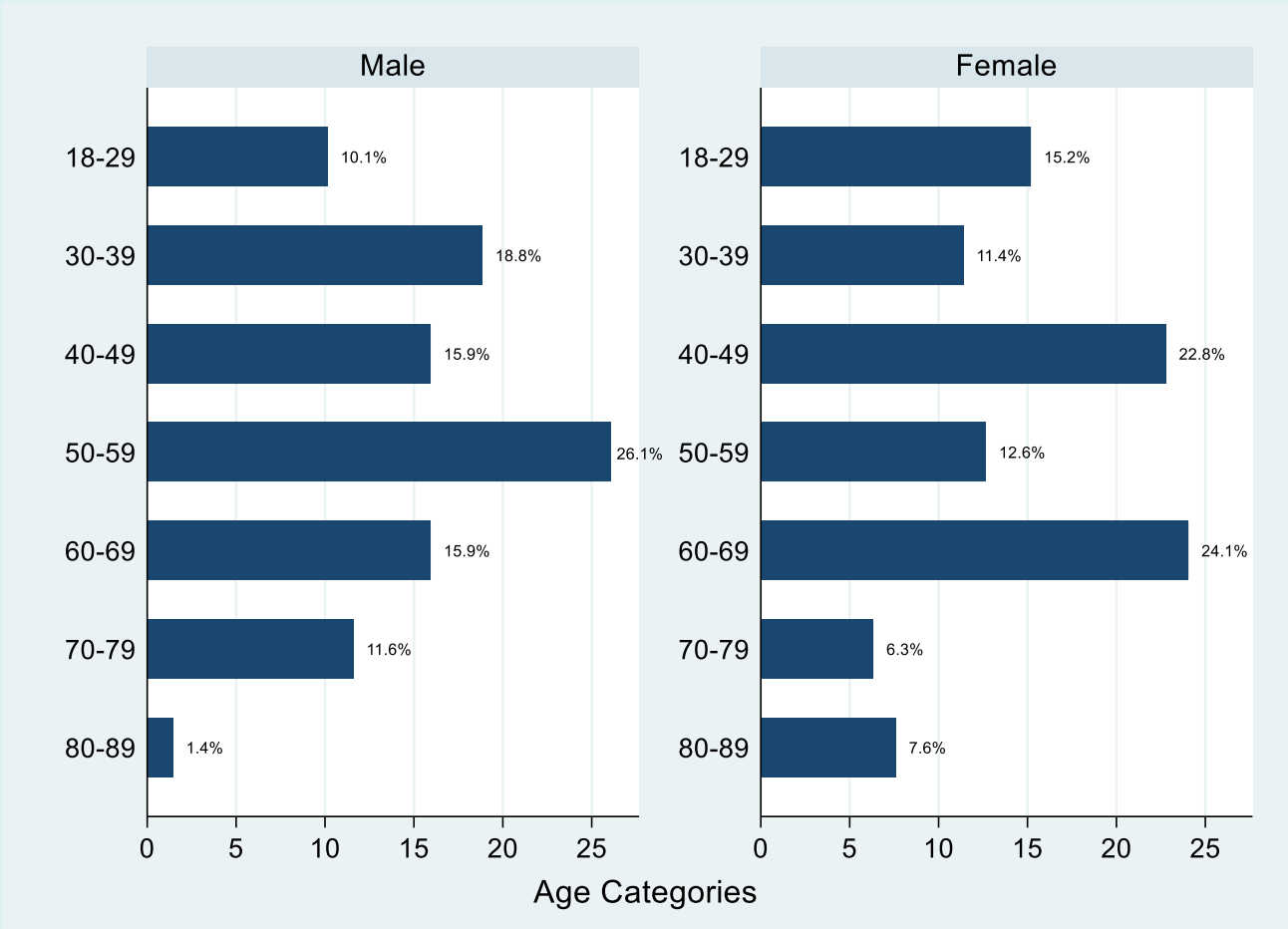
Deep neck space infection (DNSI) of dental origin is a rare but potentially severe complication to dental disease and dental procedures associated with high health economic costs that can be prevented. Identifying associated factors is important.

Purpose

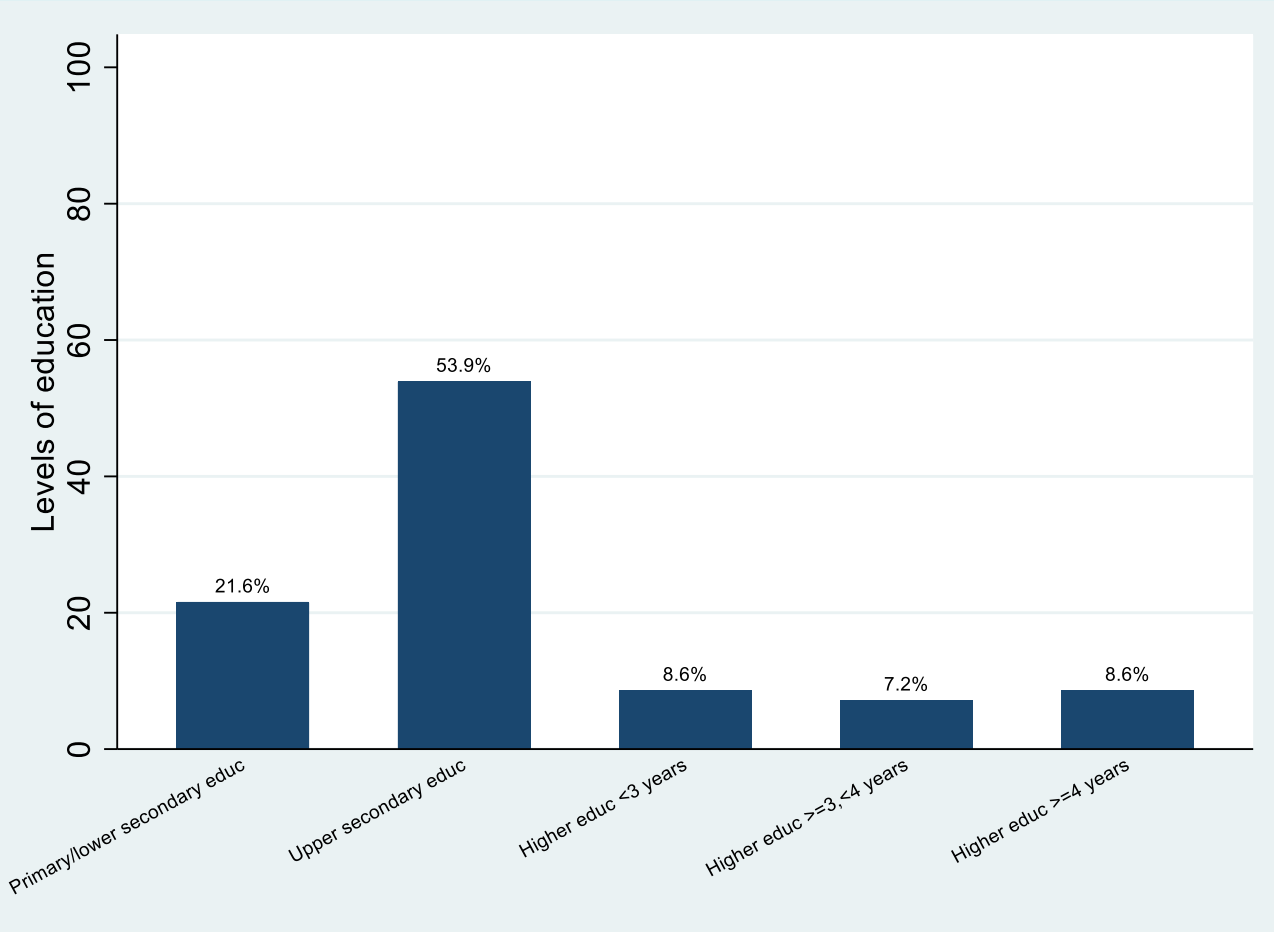
To analyze demographic and socioeconomic factors related to DNSI of odontogenic origin, in the Region Västra Götaland Sweden.

Study design

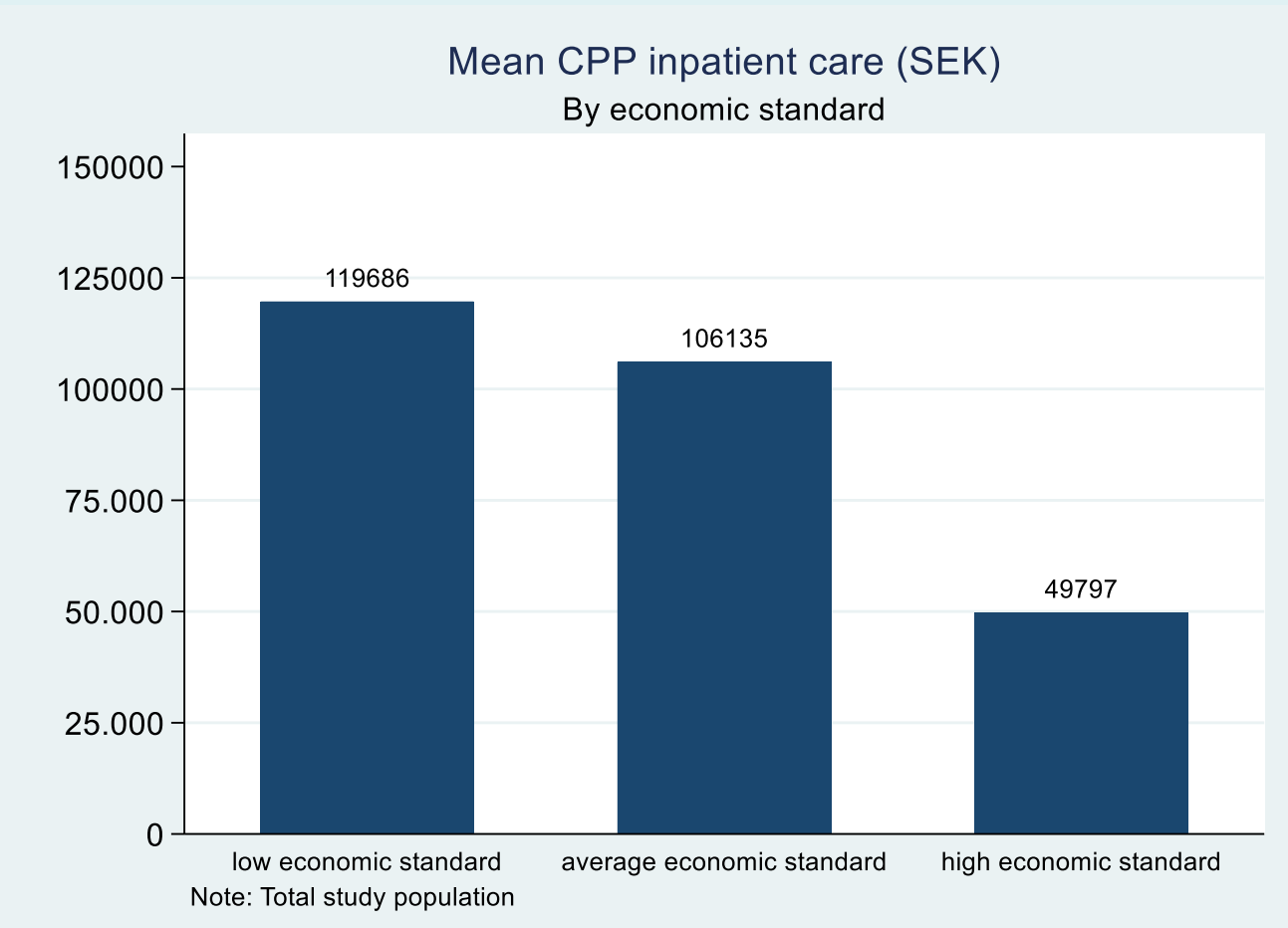
All patients aged >18 years hospitalized with DNSI of dental origin in 2019 were identified from the regional health care data base VEGA, based on the ICD-codes for DNSI and dental disease. Age, sex, educational level, domestic or foreign born, socioeconomic status, residency (city-rural), co-morbidities and individual cost per patient (CPP) was analyzed.



Study population stratified by age groups and sex



Highest level of education total study population
Around 22% of the study population is recognized as low educated, compared to a national level where the same number equals 10% (Statistics Sweden, 2022).



Mean CPP inpatient care by economic standard, men and women
The mean CPP is higher in the lowest economic standard group and lower among those in the highest economic standard group

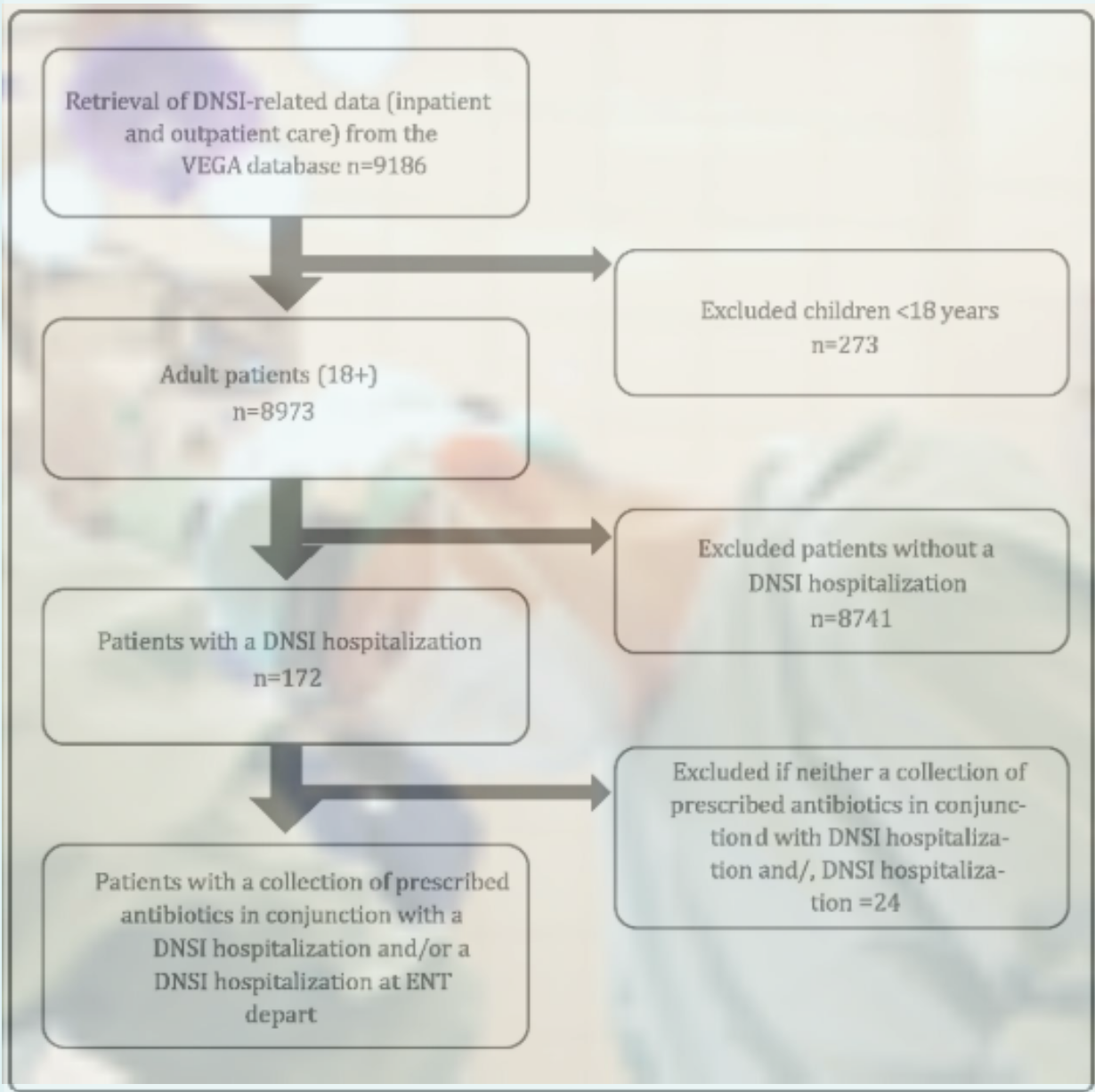
Results

A total of **148 patients** were included.

The ages 18-29, 40-49, and 60-69 stand out among the women, 30-39, and 50-59, among the men.

Compared to national data the study population had a higher percentage of “low educated”, 22% vs 10%, foreign born 25% vs 20% and 15% more subjects with “low economic standard”.

Mean CPP was higher in patients with the lowest economic standard and the lowest educational level.



Conclusion

DNSI of odontogenic origin is **associated with low education and low economic standard** and thus related to higher cost of illness in Sweden.

An awareness of odontogenic DNSI as a complication to common dental infections and procedures in these patients, is recommended.

In Sweden
DNSI of odontogenic origin
is associated with
low education and low economic standard