

Chemistry and pathogenesis of erosion

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Because of the aggressive nature of the erosive challenge, therapeutic or preventive strategies developed against caries cannot be transferred directly to treatment of erosion. This applies particularly to use of fluoride. Whereas simple fluoride preparations are very effective under the relatively mild conditions of caries lesion formation, they have limited effect against erosion. New strategies – both in fluoride use and in other approaches – need to be developed. It may be that the most severe erosive challenges can overcome all preventive measures but an understanding of the chemistry of erosion is essential to develop methods to counter less aggressive, more everyday challenges.