



**AUSTRALIAN DENTAL
ASSOCIATION INC.**

Media Release.

Australian Dental Journal- Mouth rinses

The Australian Dental Association (ADA) publishes the Australian Dental Journal (ADJ) which provides a forum for academic debate and discussion on key dental issues, but the opinions expressed by authors in the journal do not necessarily reflect the current position of the Association. Such an opinion will be based on overwhelming and widely accepted evidence.

"We provide valuable peer reviewed material in the ADJ which expresses views designed to educate, inform and speculate on issues that relate to dental care delivery in Australia. The articles published are designed to encourage readers to evaluate in their minds contemporary issues in dentistry" Dr Neil Hewson, President of the Australian Dental Association said today. "It is journal policy to not be influenced by market trends or pressures but rather present scholarly works on topics of interest and importance to dentistry as practised in Australia".

An essential part of this healthy process will at times involve controversy and conflicting views. An example of this is illustrated by the publication of a literature review¹ in the December 2008 issue of the ADJ that reviews articles published elsewhere that suggest a possible link between antiseptic mouthwashes that contain alcohol and an increased risk of oral cancer.

There have been a number of articles published on this issue and whilst the article in the December ADJ suggests there may be a link, there are other peer reviewed articles^{2,3} that have reviewed the evidence on this topic and have come to the opposite conclusion. We hope that ongoing publication of the ADJ continues to prompt research into issues of dental care delivery as such action provides impetus to the improvement of oral health both here and overseas. Without such debate progress will be stagnated.

"The ADA is justifiably proud of the ADJ which is well respected worldwide as evidenced by its world ranking" said Dr Hewson.

"Australian dentists have played a key role in encouraging people to and advising them how to maintain an excellent daily routine for their dental health and will continue to do so. Part of this advice on a case by case basis may involve the use of antiseptic mouthwashes"

1. McCullough and Farah Australian Dental Journal. December 2008.
2. La Vecchia; Oral Oncology, 2008 Available online 25 October 2008
3. Cole et al; Journal of the American Dental Association, Vol 134 Aug 2003

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