# Chapter 60 Dental Stress

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# Abstract

Stress-related problems in dentistry are a collection of various psychological and pathopsychological conditions. The most common and widely known phenomenon is dental fear, which may lead to phobic reactions, or panic attack in some cases. Further, the oral region appears to be particularly predisposed for functional and somatoform psychosomatic disorders which form another large group of stress-related challenges in dentistry. Prevention of dental fear should be integrated into the dental treatment of every patient regularly, especially because traumatizing dental events may also trigger psychosomatic oral symptoms. A normative evaluation by the dentist and a subjective evaluation by the patient related to the dental treatment may be rather different. Therefore, factors unrelated to operative/technological dental skills but that contribute to the success of dental treatments, are becoming more and more important in dentistry.