

ORAL HEALTH & PARKINSON'S DISEASE

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INTRO

Daily oral biofilm removal is essential for the maintenance of a healthy dentition and disease free periodontium. While this is commonly achieved through manual flossing and daily brushing, some people may need to utilize alternative oral hygiene tools and techniques throughout their life. Patients with Parkinson's Disease have limitations in their dexterous abilities that severely impinges on the efficacy of their daily biofilm removal. While there are many products available on the market for these patients, education about their ease of use and essential nature is lacking.

As a group we decided to address this issue by providing the Palo Alto Young Onset Parkinson's Disease support group with an informational powerpoint presentation on oral complications, considerations, and self care modifications.



SUBJECT MATTER

- A general overview of dental health in relation to dental caries and periodontal disease
- Various complications in relation to Parkinson's Disease
 - Medication-induced xerostomia
 - Angular cheilitis and hypersalivation
- Oral hygiene aids and modifications to aid individuals with limited dexterity in performing daily self care

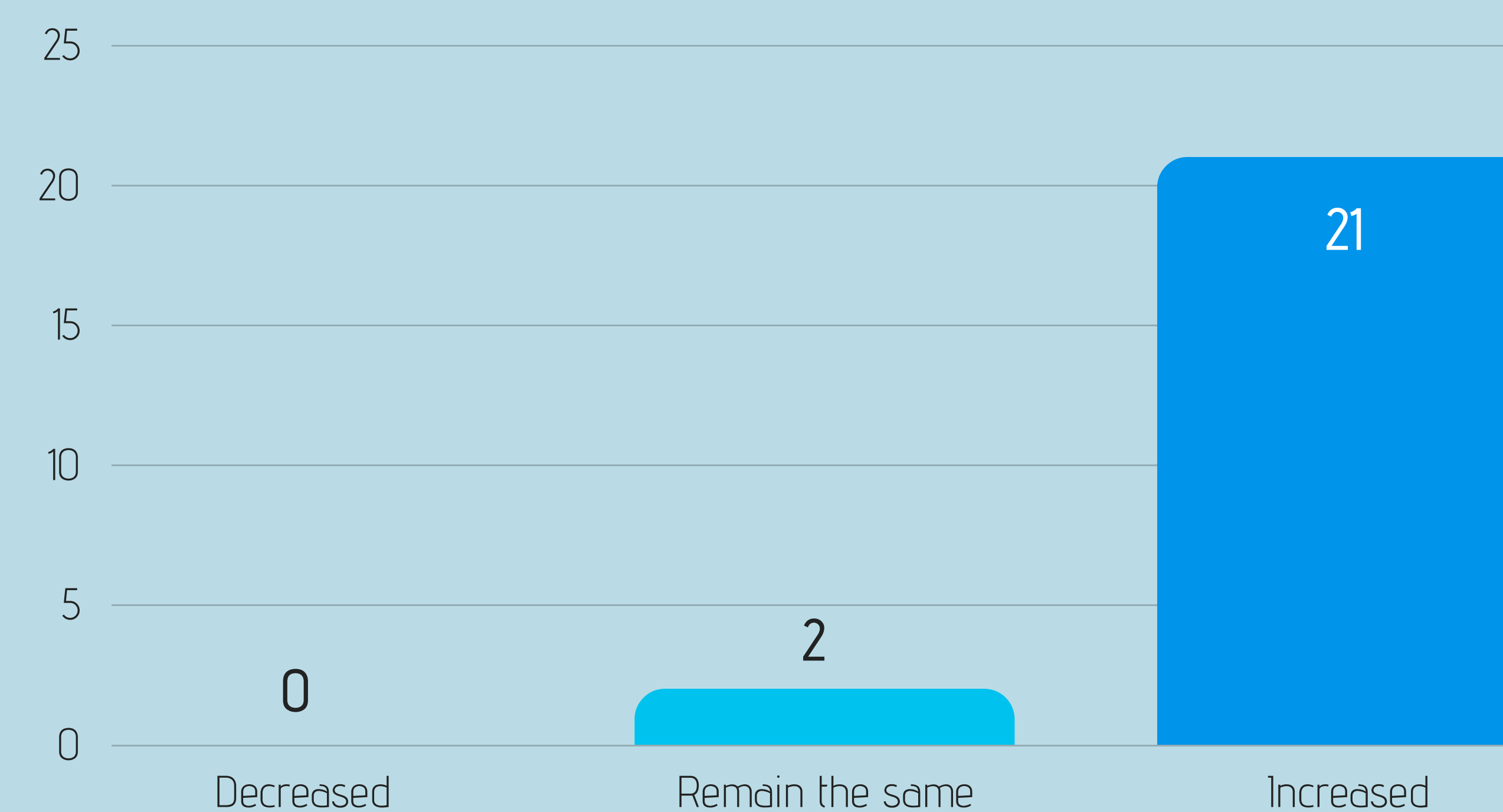
METHOD

Presented an informational powerpoint presentation on oral complications, considerations, and self care modifications for patients with Parkinson's Disease at the Palo Alto Young Onset Parkinson's Disease support group meeting at Stanford University.

RATIONAL

We wanted to increase awareness regarding oral health in Parkinson's Disease patients and provide a service to this particular subset of the Bay Area community that are at a high risk of developing periodontal disease and caries.

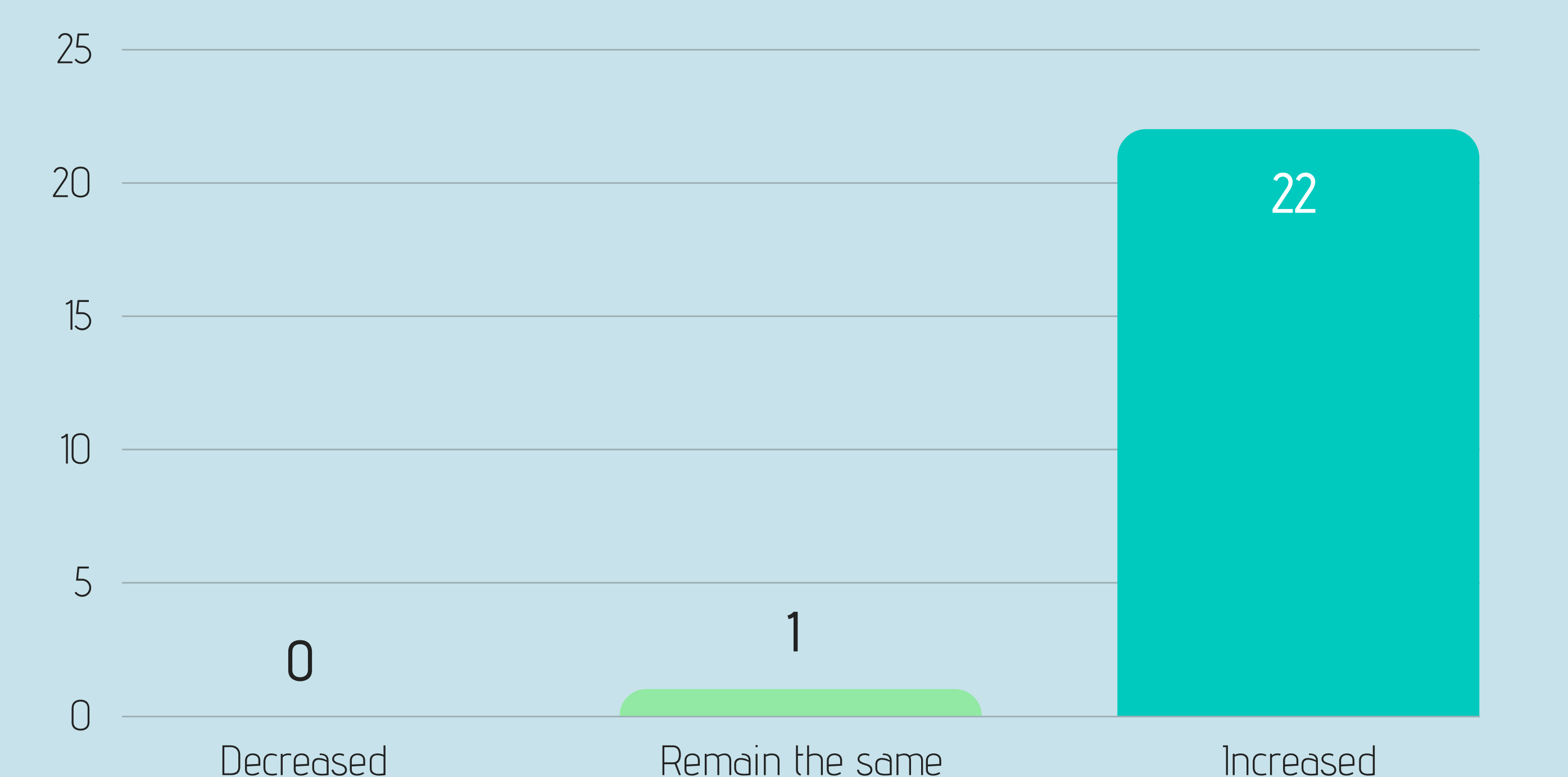
PARTICIPANT'S REPORT ON IMPORTANCE OF ORAL HEALTH IN RELATION TO SYSTEMIC HEALTH AFTER AN EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION



PARTICIPANT'S REPORT ON INTEREST IN IMPLEMENTING PRESENTED HYGIENE AIDS AFTER AN EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION



PARTICIPANT'S REPORT ON AN UNDERSTANDING OF ORAL HEALTH IN RELATION TO PARKINSON'S DISEASE AFTER AN EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION



IMPACT, RESULTS, FUTURE PLANS

- People rated the importance of their oral health higher after the presentation, versus prior
- More participants were interested in trying alternative hygiene aids after our presentation than they were before