

# Relationship between periodontal diseases and ascending bacterial infection with preterm delivery Relación entre enfermedad periodontal, infección bacteriana ascendente y patología placentaria con parto prematuro

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**Background:** There is an association between periodontal diseases and preterm delivery. **Aim:** To assess the relationship between periodontal diseases, ascending bacterial infection and placental pathology with preterm delivery. **Patients and methods:** A periodontal examination and collection of amniotic fluid and subgingival plaque samples were performed in women with preterm labor with intact membranes, without an evident clinical cause or preterm premature rupture of membranes, without clinical chorioamnionitis or labor and a gestational age between 24 and 34 weeks. Microbial invasion of the amniotic cavity was defined as the presence of a positive amniotic fluid culture. Cervicovaginal infection was defined as a bacterial vaginosis or positive culture of cervix or vagina with a high neutrophil count. Ascending bacterial infection was diagnosed as the microbial invasion of the amniotic cavity by ascending bacteria or cervicovaginal infection. Chorioamnionitis, funisitis or vellositis were