



In Sync or Not? Exploring Parent-Child Dental Treatment Preferences

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Objective

- To compare the esthetic preferences for various dental treatment in primary teeth between pediatric patients and their parents.

Materials and Methods

- 50 dyads of pediatric patients (aged 3-7) and their parents (aged 20-50) from the pediatric clinic at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.
- Questionnaire with 22 questions involving before-and-after photographs of different restorative treatment options in the anterior region.
- Each treatment option was rated on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 indicating the least preferred and 10 indicating the most preferred treatment option.
- Parameters collected included dental and sociodemographic factors such as race, gender, age, type of dental insurance, presence of dental home, and level of education.
- Statistical tests such as Chi-Square, Fisher's Exact Test, T-test, ANOVA, and Pearson's correlation analyzed how individual dental and sociodemographic factors related to responses on the questionnaire.

Results

- 36% of participants were Hispanic, 30% African American, 18% Asian, and 16% White.
- 54% of participants were preschool-aged (3-5), 46% school-aged (6-7).
- No correlation between patients and parents for stainless steel crowns (Fig. 1).
- Significant correlation between patients and parents for extractions (Fig. 2).
- Patients significantly preferred stainless steel crowns in comparison to SDF (Fig. 3).
- Parents significantly preferred Zirconia crowns in comparison to SDF (Fig. 4).
- Females were generally more accepting of extractions compared to males.
- Patients of all ethnicities strongly preferred esthetics of anterior stainless steel crowns.

Conclusions

- Patients prefer silver-colored restorations, while parents prefer white.
- Both patients and parents dislike SDF and extractions.
- The findings underscore the importance of integrating both patient and parental perspectives into pediatric dental treatment planning.

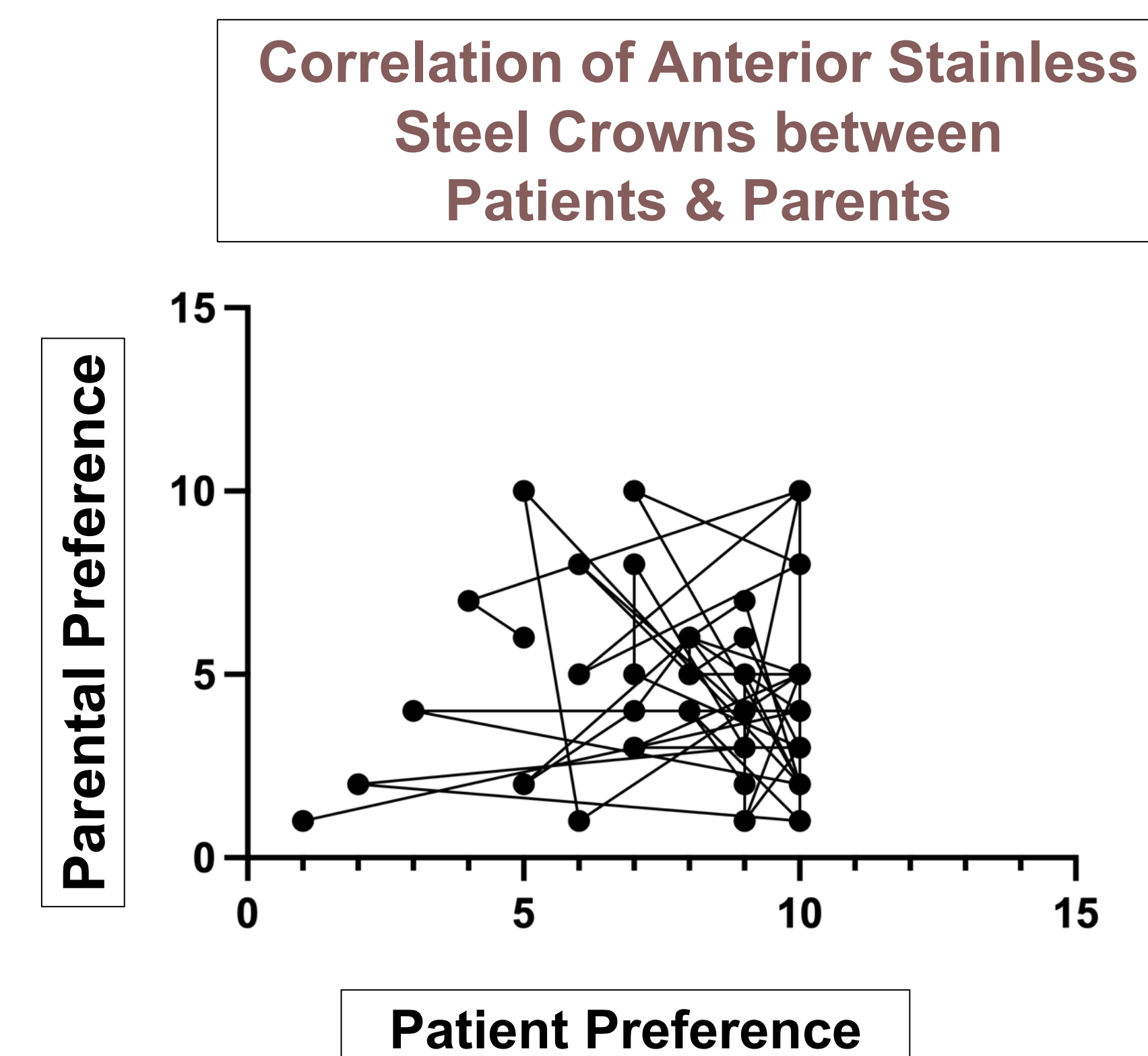


Figure 1 indicates there is no agreement between patients and parents regarding their preference for anterior stainless steel crowns.

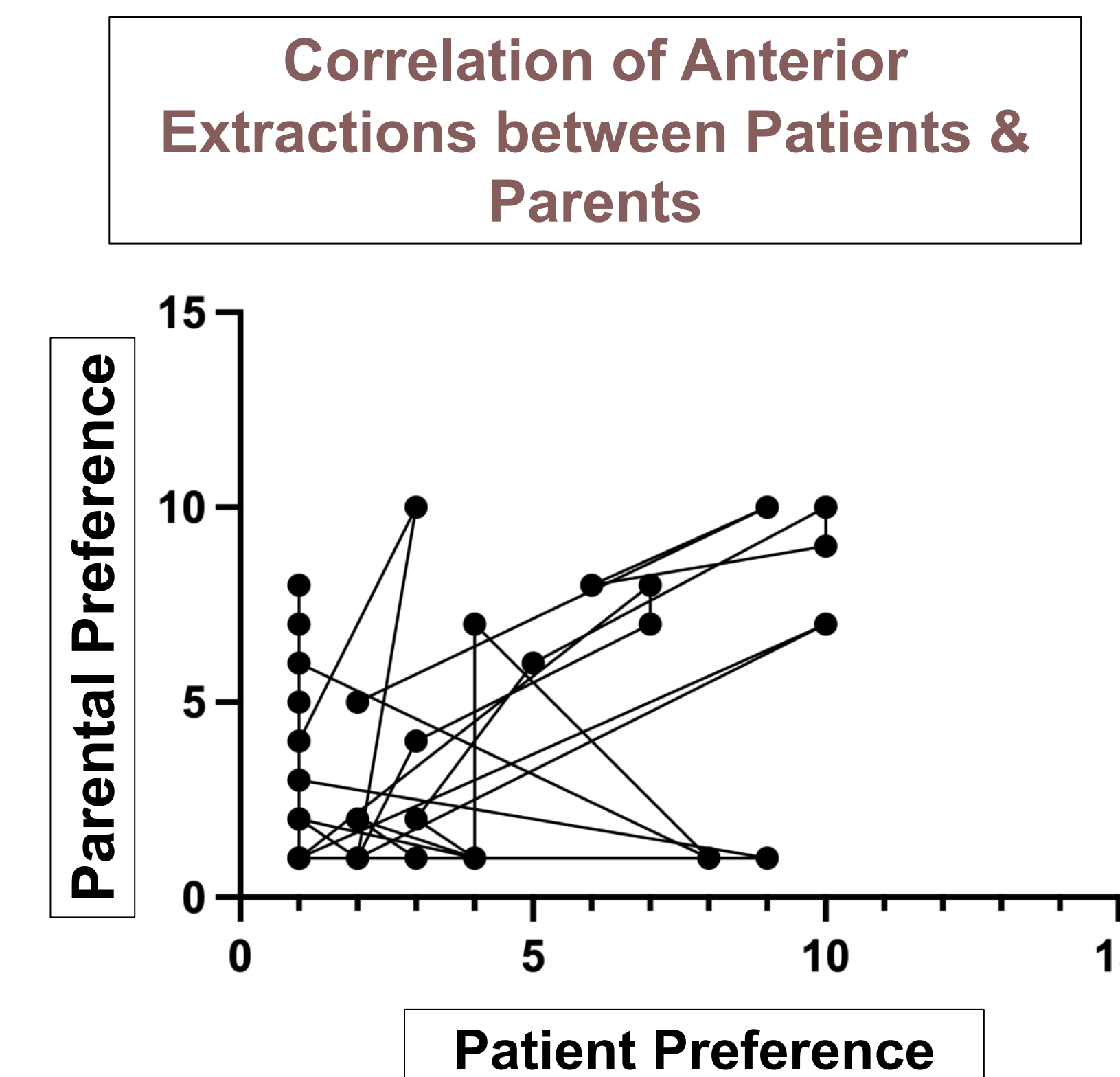


Figure 2 demonstrates a connection between children and parents regarding their dislike for anterior extractions.

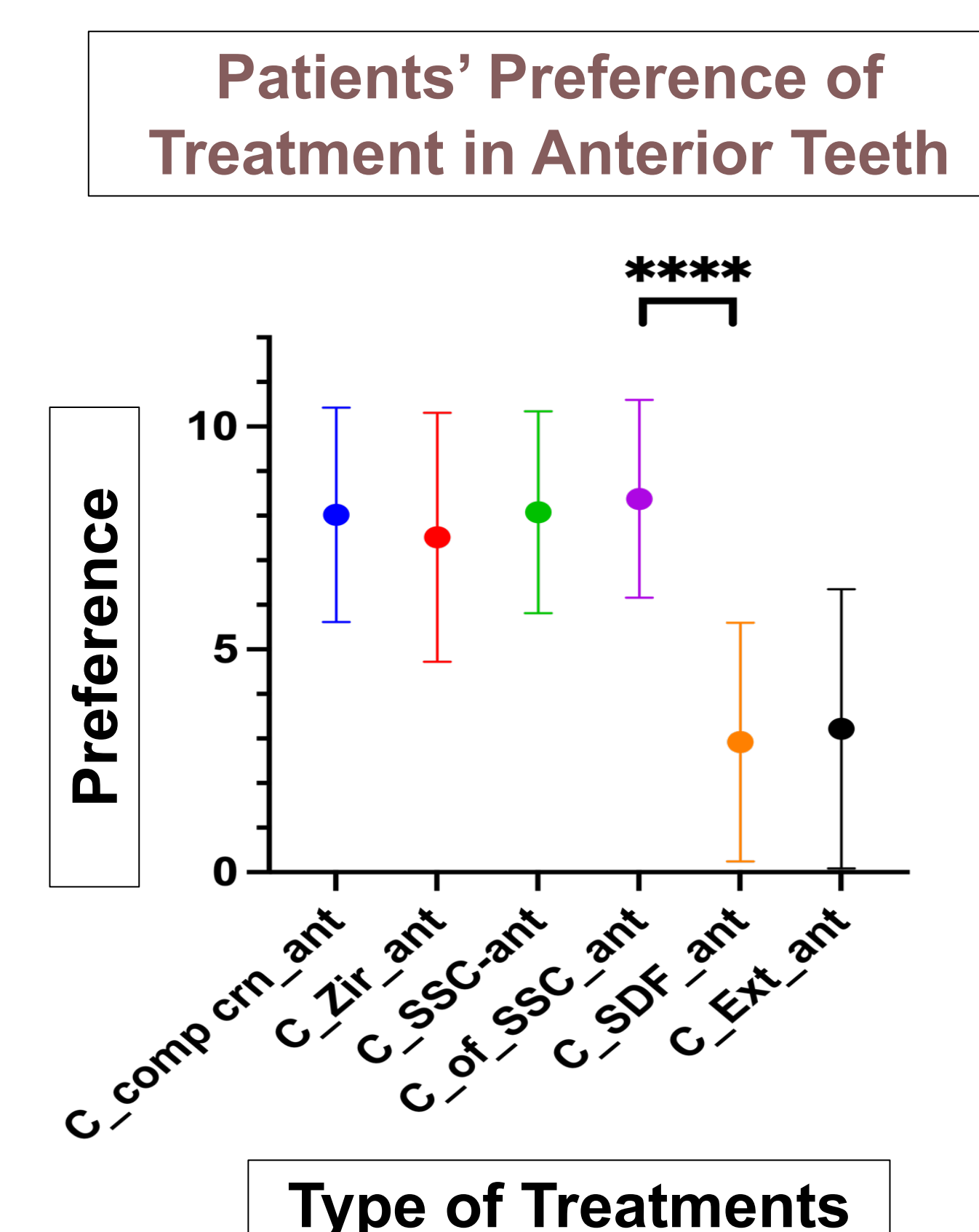


Figure 3 indicates that children typically prefer various treatment options in anterior teeth, except for SDF and extractions.

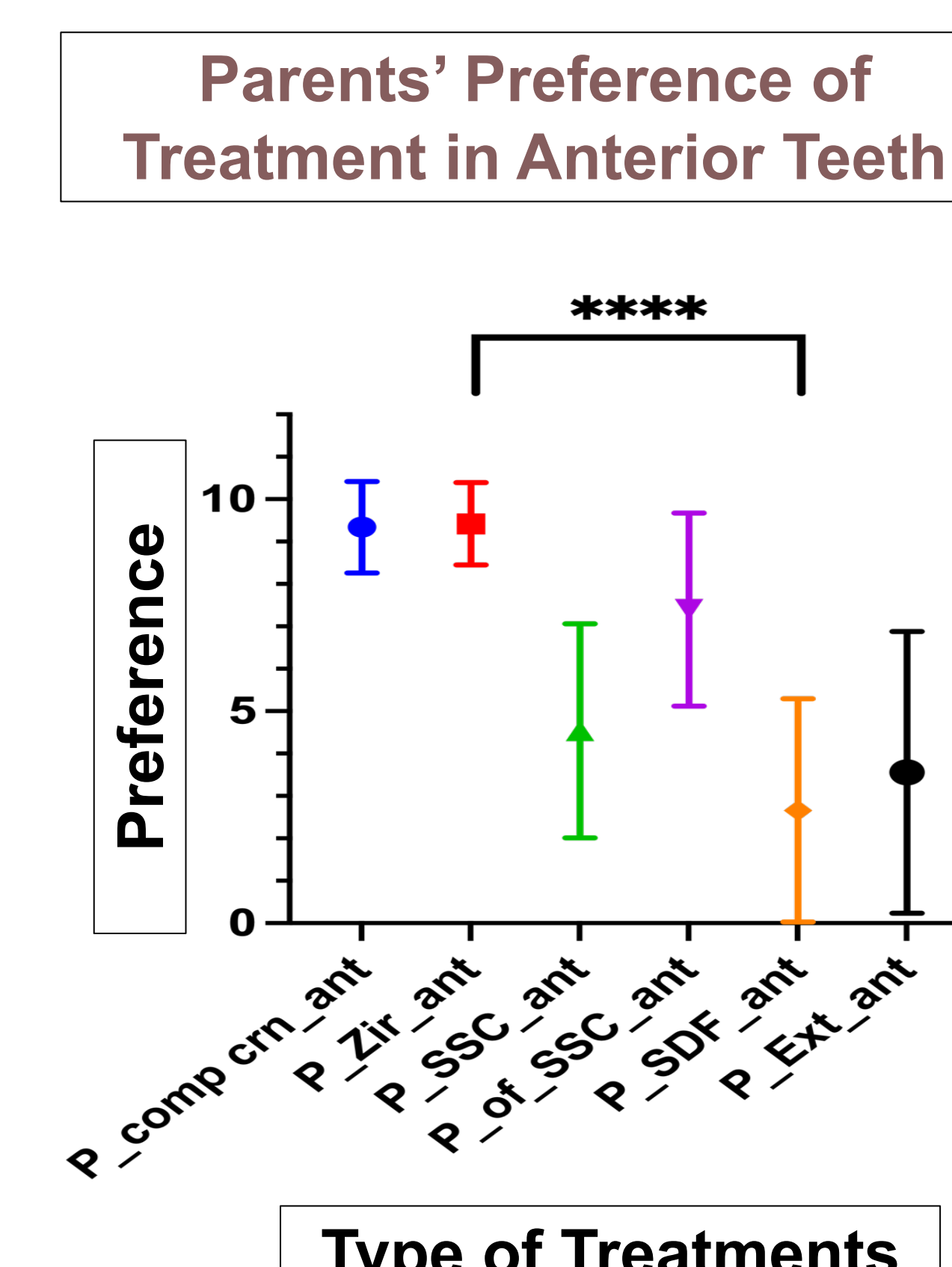


Figure 4 demonstrates that parents strongly prefer white-colored restorations in anterior teeth and strongly dislike SDF.