

Supplementary material

Supplementary Table 1. Corrected Search Strategy, Limits, and Records Retrieved

Database/ source	Search field/ syntax	Search strategy used	Filters/ limits applied	Records retrieved
PubMed/MEDLINE	Title/Abstract and MeSH terms where applicable	("Autism Spectrum Disorder" OR autism OR ASD OR autistic) AND (child* OR adolescent* OR pediatric OR paediatric) AND ("oral health" OR dental OR dentistry OR "oral hygiene" OR toothbrushing OR brushing OR "dental caries" OR plaque OR gingivitis OR periodontal OR "preventive dental care" OR "dental attendance" OR "dental visit*" OR "dental access" OR "dental care utilization") AND (parent* OR caregiver* OR mother* OR father* OR family) AND ("caregiver burden" OR "parental stress" OR "parenting stress" OR "caregiver strain" OR "parental attitude*" OR "caregiver attitude*" OR "parental perception*" OR "caregiver perception*" OR "caregiver knowledge" OR "parental comfort" OR "parent-assisted brushing" OR "family impact" OR "quality of life" OR OHRQoL OR diet OR "sugar exposure" OR "food selectivity")	English; humans; child/adolescent, where applicable	154
Scopus	Title, abstract and keywords	TITLE-ABS-KEY ("Autism Spectrum Disorder" OR autism OR ASD OR autistic) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (child* OR adolescent* OR pediatric OR paediatric) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("oral health" OR dental OR dentistry OR "oral hygiene" OR toothbrushing OR brushing OR "dental caries" OR plaque OR gingivitis OR periodontal OR "preventive dental care" OR "dental attendance" OR "dental visit*" OR "dental access" OR "dental care utilization") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (parent* OR caregiver* OR mother* OR father* OR family) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("caregiver burden" OR "parental stress" OR "parenting stress" OR "caregiver strain" OR "parental attitude*" OR "caregiver attitude*" OR "parental perception*" OR "caregiver perception*" OR "caregiver knowledge" OR "parental comfort" OR "parent-assisted brushing" OR "family impact" OR "quality of life" OR OHRQoL OR diet OR "sugar exposure" OR "food selectivity")	English-language records	186
Embase	Title/abstract and Emtree terms where applicable	('autism spectrum disorder' OR autism OR ASD OR autistic) AND (child* OR adolescent* OR pediatric OR paediatric) AND ('oral health' OR dental OR dentistry	English; humans; child/adolescent where applicable	142

		OR 'oral hygiene' OR toothbrushing OR brushing OR 'dental caries' OR plaque OR gingivitis OR periodontal OR 'preventive dental care' OR 'dental attendance' OR 'dental visit*' OR 'dental access' OR 'dental care utilization') AND (parent* OR caregiver* OR mother* OR father* OR family) AND ('caregiver burden' OR 'parental stress' OR 'parenting stress' OR 'caregiver strain' OR 'parental attitude*' OR 'caregiver attitude*' OR 'parental perception*' OR 'caregiver perception*' OR 'caregiver knowledge' OR 'parental comfort' OR 'parent-assisted brushing' OR 'family impact' OR 'quality of life' OR OHRQoL OR diet OR 'sugar exposure' OR 'food selectivity')		
Google Scholar	Keyword search	Simplified keyword combinations were used: "autism children oral health caregiver, " "ASD tooth brushing parent, " "autism dental access children caregiver, " "autism oral health quality of life family, " and "autism food selectivity dental caries children."	First 100-150 results per keyword combination screened for relevance	130
Supplementary/grey-literature and manual sources	Citation tracking, reference-list screening, institutional repository searching, author-uploaded full-text sources and manual journal searching	Relevant reviews and included studies were checked for additional primary studies. Citation tracking of the key included records was performed. Supplementary sources included institutional repositories and author-uploaded full-text sources, where available. Manual searches were conducted in journals relevant to pediatric dentistry, special care dentistry, disability, and autism.	English-language full text where available; relevance to children/adolescents with ASD and caregiver-mediated oral-health determinants	28
Subtotal: database records identified				612

Supplementary table 2. Full-text exclusion reasons

Reason for exclusion after full-text assessment	Number of reports excluded
Did not report caregiver-mediated determinants or caregiver/family-related factors relevant to oral-health outcomes	24
Reported oral-health-related outcomes but lacked an identifiable caregiver, family, homecare, diet, access or quality-of-life component	12
Did not provide ASD-specific child or adolescent data	12
Included adults only	5
Ineligible publication type, including review, commentary or opinion article	3
Insufficient methodological detail to assess eligibility	4
Total full-text reports excluded	60
This table summarizes the reasons for exclusion after full-text assessment and should correspond to Figure A1 and the Study Selection subsection.	