**Table S1:** Comparison of additionally assessed plaque indices that were not part of the NMA according to the study protocol specifications

| Outcome date/Study | index | weeks after intervention | Intervention | n* | mean+ | SD+ | Intervention | n* | mean+ | SD+ | SMD | SE | CI (95%) lb | CI (95%) ub | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | **1st study arm compared** | | | | **2nd study arm compared** | | | | **standardized mean difference** | | | | |
| **Primary outcome date (Last date of assessment)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deinzer et al. natural teeth [40] | TQHI | 12 | NST | 30 | 1.79 | 0.56 | Fones | 32 | 1.87 | 0.52 | -0.15 | 0.25 | -0.65 | 0.35 | 0.565 |
| | | | NST | 30 | 1.79 | 0.56 | Bass | 30 | 1.63 | 0.43 | 0.32 | 0.26 | -0.19 | 0.83 | 0.223 |
| | | | Fones | 32 | 1.87 | 0.52 | Bass | 30 | 1.63 | 0.43 | 0.50 | 0.26 | -0.01 | 1.00 | 0.055 |
| Deinzer et al. crowned teeth [40] | TQHI | 12 | NST | 30 | 0.91 | 0.49 | Fones | 32 | 0.9 | 0.48 | 0.02 | 0.25 | -0.48 | 0.52 | 0.936 |
| | | | NST | 30 | 0.91 | 0.49 | Bass | 30 | 0.93 | 0.7 | -0.03 | 0.26 | -0.54 | 0.47 | 0.899 |
| | | | Fones | 32 | 0.9 | 0.48 | Bass | 30 | 0.93 | 0.7 | -0.05 | 0.25 | -0.55 | 0.45 | 0.845 |
| Harnacke et al. 2012 [41] | TQHI | 28 | NST | 19 | 1.86 | 0.52 | Fones | 19 | 1.68 | 0.49 | 0.35 | 0.33 | -0.29 | 0.99 | 0.286 |
| | | | NST | 19 | 1.86 | 0.52 | Bass | 18 | 1.97 | 0.54 | -0.20 | 0.33 | -0.85 | 0.44 | 0.538 |
| | | | Fones | 19 | 1.68 | 0.49 | Bass | 18 | 1.97 | 0.54 | -0.55 | 0.34 | -1.21 | 0.11 | 0.100 |
| **Secondary outcome date (First date of assessment)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Deinzer et al. natural teeth [40] | TQHI | 6 | NST | 30 | 1.94 | 0.59 | Fones | 32 | 1.88 | 0.6 | 0.10 | 0.25 | -0.40 | 0.60 | 0.695 |
| | | | NST | 30 | 1.94 | 0.59 | Bass | 30 | 1.73 | 0.49 | 0.38 | 0.26 | -0.13 | 0.89 | 0.142 |
| | | | Fones | 32 | 1.88 | 0.6 | Bass | 30 | 1.73 | 0.49 | 0.27 | 0.26 | -0.23 | 0.77 | 0.291 |
| Deinzer et al. crowned teeth [40] | TQHI | 6 | NST | 30 | 1.03 | 0.61 | Fones | 32 | 0.96 | 0.51 | 0.12 | 0.25 | -0.38 | 0.62 | 0.628 |
| | | | NST | 30 | 1.03 | 0.61 | Bass | 30 | 1.1 | 0.72 | -0.10 | 0.26 | -0.61 | 0.40 | 0.689 |
| | | | Fones | 32 | 0.96 | 0.51 | Bass | 30 | 1.1 | 0.72 | -0.22 | 0.25 | -0.72 | 0.28 | 0.382 |
| Harnacke et al. [41] | TQHI | 6 | NST | 19 | 2.03 | 0.55 | Fones | 18 | 1.71 | 0.44 | 0.63 | 0.34 | -0.03 | 1.29 | 0.063 |
| | | | NST | 19 | 2.03 | 0.55 | Bass | 19 | 2.02 | 0.46 | 0.02 | 0.32 | -0.62 | 0.66 | 0.953 |
| | | | Fones | 18 | 1.71 | 0.44 | Bass | 19 | 2.02 | 0.46 | -0.67 | 0.34 | -1.34 | -0.01 | 0.046 |

*number of participants analyzed (for total n and drop outs see Appendix 2);+Values retreived from the authors; SD: Standard deviation; SMD: standardized mean difference (Hedges 1981); SE: standard errors of the observed standardized mean difference; CI (95%) lb: lower border of the 95% confidence interval of SMD (Hedges 1981); CI (95%) ub: upper border of the 95% confidence interval of SMD (Hedges, 1981); p: probability value of corresponding SMD; NST: no specific technique

**Table S2:** Comparison of additionally assessed gingivitis indices that were not part of the NMA according to the study protocol specifications

| Outcome date/Study | index | weeks after intervention | Intervention | n* | mean | SD | Intervention | n* | mean | SD | SMD | SE | CI (95%) lb | CI (95%) ub | p |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | **1st study arm compared** | | | | **2nd study arm compared** | | | | **standardized mean difference** | | | | |
| **Primary outcome date (Last date of assessment)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schmalz et al. [50] | PBI | | NST | 22 | 0.58 | 0.44 | Fones | 22 | 0.53 | 0.35 | 0.12 | 0.30 | -0.47 | 0.72 | 0.6824 |
| **Secondary outcome date (First date of assessment)** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schmalz et al. [50] | PBI | | NST | 22 | 0.58 | 0.32 | Fones | 22 | 0.48 | 0.44 | 0.26 | 0.30 | -0.34 | 0.85 | 0.3991 |

*number of participants analyzed (for total n and drop outs see Appendix S2); SD: Standard deviation; SMD: standardized mean difference[32]; SE: standard errors of the observed standardized mean difference; CI (95%) lb: lower border of the 95% confidence interval of SMD[32]; CI (95%) ub: upper border of the 95% confidence interval of SMD [32; p: probability value of corresponding SMD; NST: no specific technique; NST: No specific technique; TQHI: Turesky's modification of the Quigley and Hein Index; PBI: Papillary bleeding index.