The observation of higher risk for cardiovascular disease (CVD)-related mortality in younger edentulous patients nowadays could be a reason for increased awareness of health problems in these patients but the causal relationship for this observation is not yet known.

In the present study altogether 1308 patients were younger than 60 years at the time of implant surgery. Normally, cancers are the most common cause of death in the entire Swedish population in the age range 45-59 years. In contrast, cardiovascular mortality was the most common cause of death in the present study group. In total 386 patients of the younger patients died during the inclusion period of whom 76 of them were below an age of 60 years when reported as deceased.

Over the entire inclusion period (1986-2014) there was no statistically significant difference in the overall pattern of causes of death between the study group and the normal reference population, expect for CVD-related mortality. Edentulous implant patients below 60 years of age who had been treated with implant surgery between 1986-2014 showed significantly increased mortality due to CVD compared to the reference population of the same age and gender (p<0.05).

Younger patients (<60yrs) who are treated today with implants in the edentulous jaw may present an increased risk for early mortality due to cardiovascular diseases. However, the causal relationship requires further studies.

For additional information, please contact:
Dr. Jan Kowar
E-mail: jan.kowar@vgregion.se
The Brånemark Clinic