

Consequences of no systematic dental health care

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Somatic assessments of 120 Swedish children recently placed in foster or residential care

Dental examination performed by a paediatrician – aimed to detect **serious and untreated tooth decay and cavities**. These were found in:

- 29% of the preschool children and
- 50% of children aged 7–17.

Six children with advanced tooth decay and cavities were scared of dentists and were referred to a paediatric dentistry specialist. For the remainder, case workers organised appointments at a dental clinic.

Kling, Vinnerljung, Hjern, 2015

Somatic and dental health screening of 91 youths, placed in four special residential homes in Sweden

Severe dental decay

- Close to every second girl 43 %
- Boys 9 %

Gingivitis (inflammation, bleeding gum)

- Girls 44 %
- Boys 35 %

After the health screening, almost all girls (93 percent) and 2/3 of the boys were referred to some form of health care or dental care clinic.

Dental neglect (DN) among adolescents in a deprived area of the UK

- Four in ten adolescents in the study experienced neglect of dental prevention and five in ten experienced neglect of dental treatment.
- Those 'looked after' by a local authority experienced a higher proportion of both types of DN.

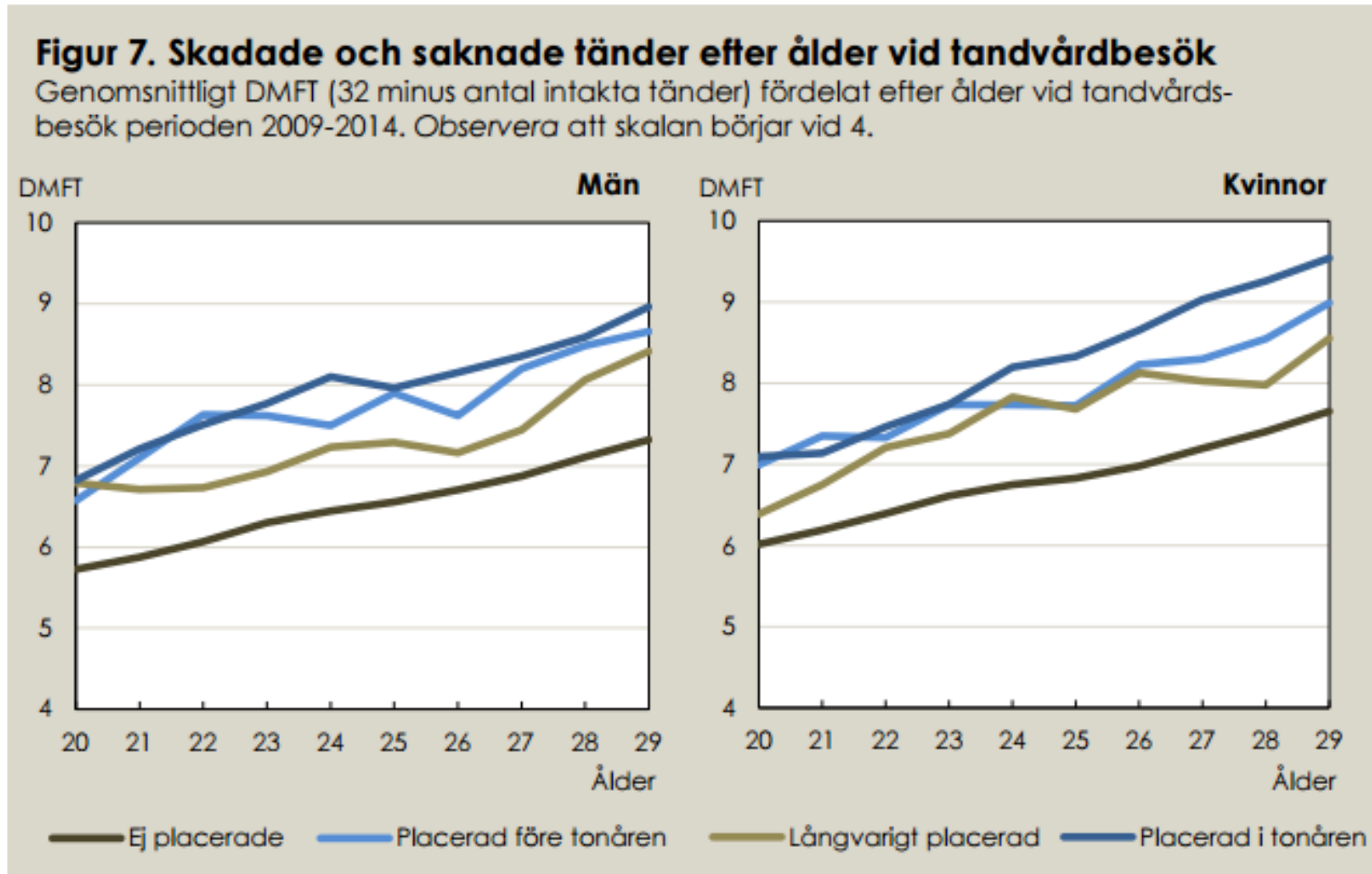
As DN may overlap with other types of child neglect, resources could be more efficiently allocated.

Young adults placed in out-of-home care during childhood

- 20-29 year olds
- 2009 – 2014
- Time of placement:
 - Placed before teenager (< 5 years)
 - Long-lasting placement (min. 5 years)
 - Placed as teenager

Young adults placed in out-of-home care during childhood

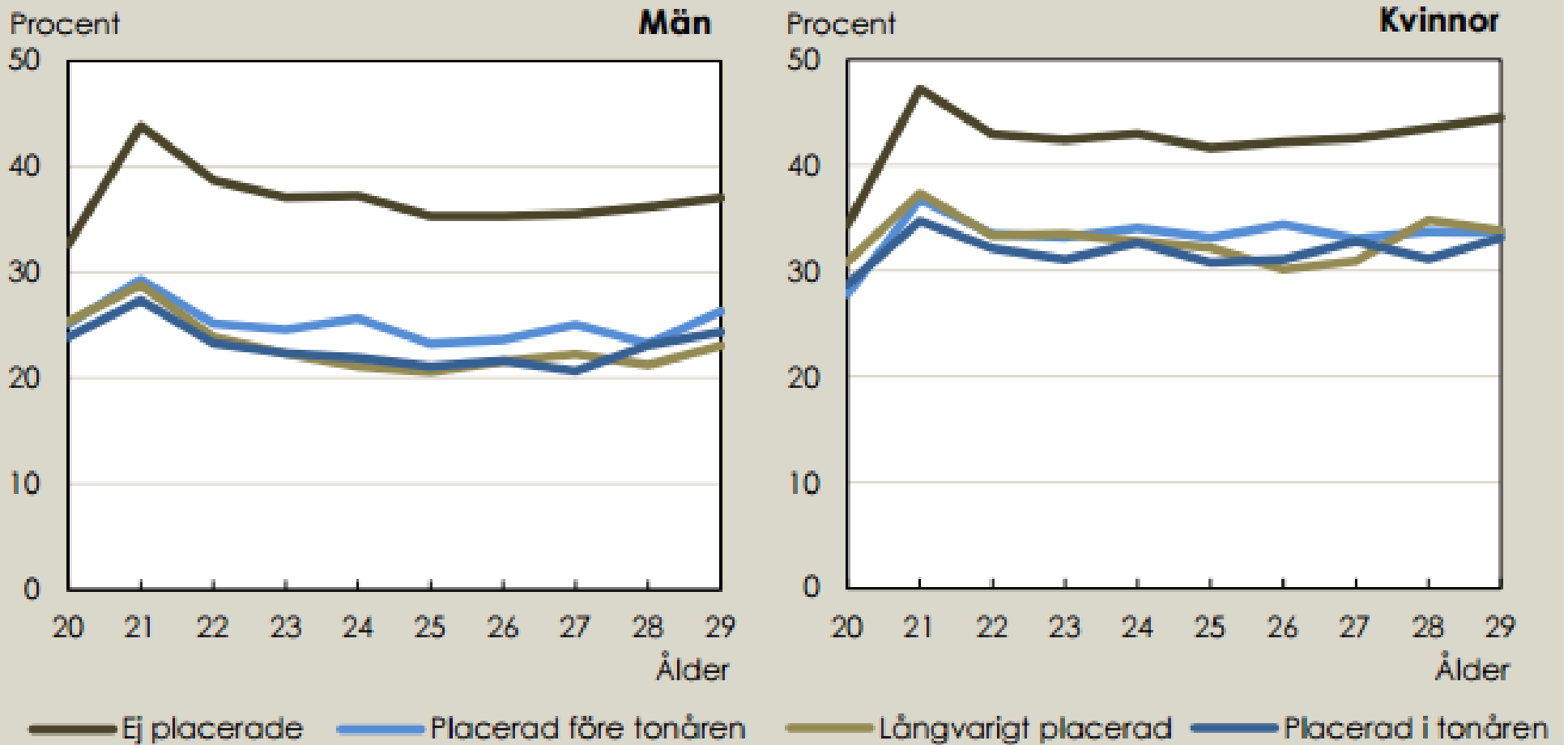
Decayed and missing teeth by age at dental visits



Control and prevention visits

Figur 2. Kontroll och förebyggande besök

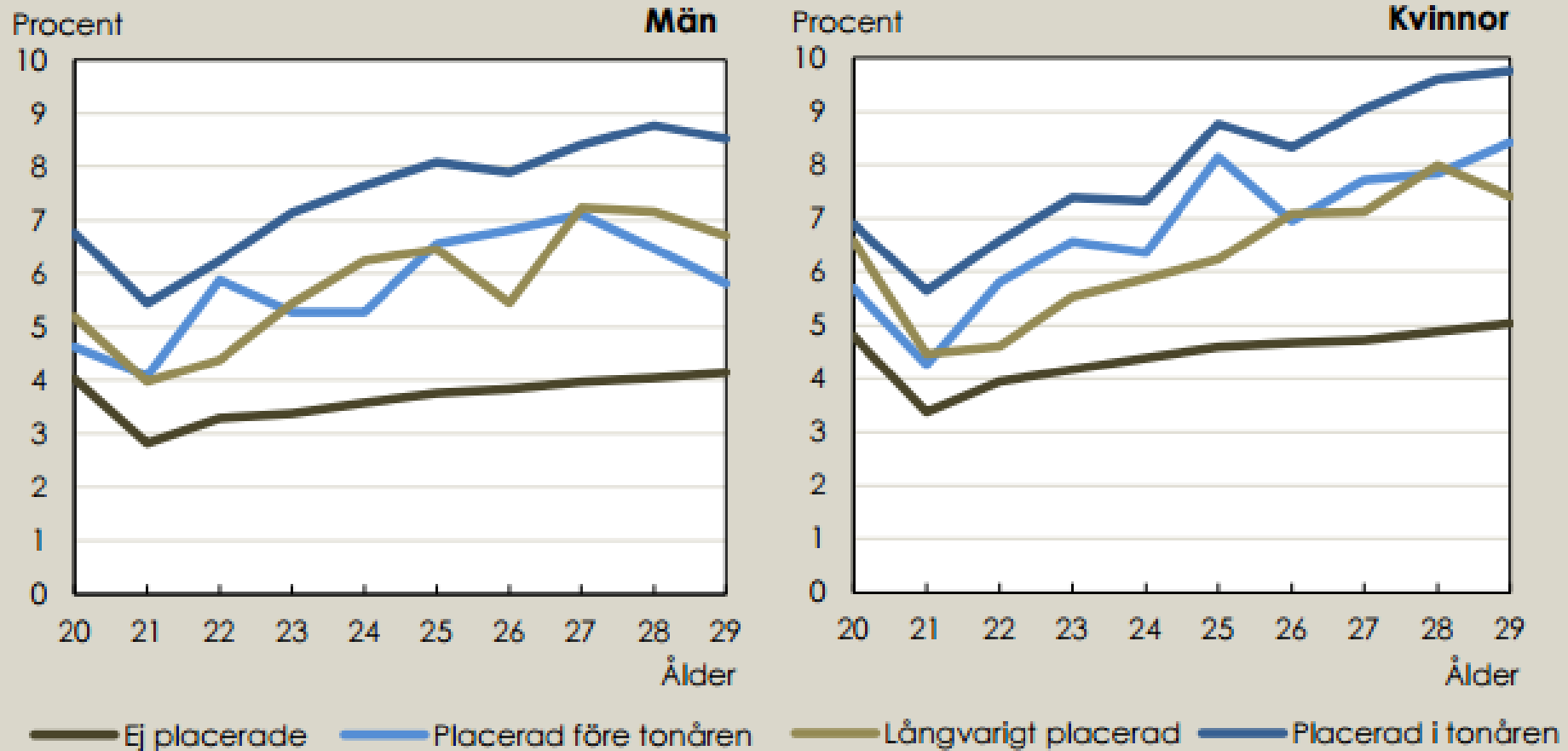
Andel som gjort kontroll eller förebyggande besök i tandvården vid olika åldrar.
Åren 2009-2014.



Only emergency visits

Figur 3. Endast akutbesök

Andel som bara gjort akutbesök i tandvården vid olika åldrar. Åren 2009-2014.



- 10 % had extracted one or more teeth
- More decayed and missing teeth (DMFT)
- Emergency dental visits more common

...compared with non-placed young adults

Poor dental health leads to:

- discomfort, pain and inferior function
- higher costs for dental health care

Poor oral health has also negative impact on an individual's ability to eat, talk and social life, which in turn leads to ***lower quality of life***

Swedish dental care:

Main goal:

"... a good dental health and dental care on equal terms for the entire population"

Children placed in out-of-home care

About 30 000 children/year

Serious consequences

-if no systematic dental care

Thank You for Your attention!

