

Standing Committee Nomination Form 2026

First Nomination Nomination for re-election

This nomination is for:
(tick one box only) PLEASE USE **ONE FORM PER NOMINATION**

Public Health Committee Science Committee

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Written presentation from the Nominee in English (Maximum 350 words for Standing Committees)

Included

Curriculum Vitae (CV) / personal record in English in a Word format

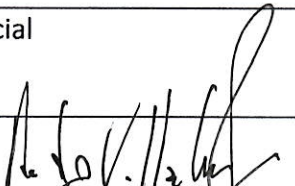
Included

NOMINEE'S INFORMATION

Title: DDS, MSc, PhD
Name: Karol Ramírez
Address: 150 oeste del INEC, Condominio 101 Escalante, Apartamento 98, Mercedes de Montes de Oca, 11503
Member Association: Colegio de Cirujanos Dentistas de Costa Rica
The nominee declares that he/she is willing to serve in this position <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Signature <i>Karol Ramirez</i>



NOMINATING ASSOCIATION/ORGANIZATION'S INFORMATION

Name of the Association/Organization Colegio de Cirujanos Dentistas De Costa Rica
Name of Official representing this Association/Organisation (President/NLO/President-elect). The Nominee may not nominate himself/herself. Rodrigo Villalobos Jiménez
Position of Official President
Signature 

To be eligible for election to a standing committee, nominees should meet the specific criteria for each committee listed below. Please tick the boxes below if the corresponding criteria are met.

Public Health Committee

A post-graduate academic qualification in dental public health or preventive and community dentistry is **an asset**. Please tick this box if applicable

- Able to communicate effectively in English, verbally and in writing
- Documented knowledge and work experience in dental public health c.q. oral health promotion and disease prevention
- In depth knowledge and documented experience relevant to areas of dental public health, such as disease prevention, fluorides, oral cancer, tobacco, nutrition, disease risk factors and health promoting behavioural aspects, community oral health etc.
- Documented experience in aspects of oral health development projects, such as developing, implementing, managing and evaluating these projects
- Experience in the development, implementation and evaluation of community-based projects and programs, including awareness, education and promotion, for different types of population.
- Experience in policy formulation and advocacy at highest levels in the field of (dental) public health and/or in high level decision making in international or national (dental) organisation
- Experience in epidemiology or public health research
- Contacts (network) of internationally renowned dental scientists or key health decision makers
- A successful candidate evaluation results (in case of nomination for re-elections)



Science Committee Note: *for Science Committee, a mix of members with expertise from different areas is important. There is currently a need for a candidate with experience in the field of dental materials or periodontology.*

- Able to communicate effectively in English verbally and in writing
- Post-graduate scientific qualifications
- A substantial record of publications in scientific journals especially dental
- Experience in the management of scientific projects
- Knowledge of the principles and practice of evidence-based dentistry
- Contacts (network) of internationally renowned dental scientists
- A successful candidate evaluation results (in case of nomination for re-election)

CLOSING DATES FOR NOMINATIONS FOR STANDING COMMITTEES: 11 May 2026

This form must be signed and returned **by email** to:

Ms Djerdana (Gina) Ivosevic at divosevic@fdiworlddental.org
with copy to Ms Maria Kramarenko mkramarenko@fdiworlddental.org

Letter of Motivation

I am writing to express my interest in serving in the Science Committee of the FDI World Dental Federation (FDI). I am eager to contribute to FDI's mission of advancing global oral health through scientific evidence, collaboration, and inclusivity.

I am a dentist and a specialist in Periodontology, with a Master's degree in Clinical and Translational Research and a PhD in Oral Biology. Based in Costa Rica, my professional trajectory as a dental scientist has been shaped by a deep commitment to equitable, evidence-based oral healthcare and the strengthening of research capacity in diverse settings.

I currently serve as a Full Professor at the Faculty of Dentistry of the University of Costa Rica, one of the leading academic institutions in Latin America. Over the past 20 years, I have developed an academic career encompassing basic biomedical, translational, and clinical research. My areas of expertise include neuroimmunology and periodontal research, particularly patient-reported outcomes in individuals with periodontitis. I am also committed to improving children's access to oral healthcare in Costa Rica through evidence-based research focused on dental treatment needs in vulnerable populations.

Beyond academia, I have held leadership positions that strengthened my expertise in research governance and scientific integrity. I have served on the Institutional Review Board of the University of Costa Rica and as its President, gaining extensive experience in research ethics, interdisciplinary collaboration, and regulatory oversight in human subjects research. I also currently serve as a member of the University's Scientific Integrity Chair, promoting responsible research practices and scientific rigor among faculty and students.

As a scientist from Latin America, I strongly believe that diversity in global scientific committees is essential to ensuring broader perspectives and more equitable representation of regional realities in oral health research and policy. Latin America and the Caribbean face important oral health disparities, yet remain underrepresented in many international scientific discussions. I believe my participation would contribute not only scientific expertise, but also a regional perspective that can enrich dialogue, foster collaboration, and strengthen FDI's commitment to global representation.

I would be honored to contribute to the continued leadership and scientific mission of the FDI.

Sincerely, *Karol Ramirez*
Karol Ramirez, DDS, MSc, PhD



May 7th, 2026.

FDI World Dental Federation

Subject: Letter of Support for Dr. Karol Ramírez Chan's Candidacy to FDI Science Committee.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Through this letter, the Colegio de Cirujanos Dentistas de Costa Rica formally expresses its support for the candidacy of Dr. Karol Ramírez Chan to serve on the FDI Science Permanent Committee.

Dr. Ramírez Chan has an outstanding academic, scientific, and professional background in the field of dentistry. She holds a PhD in Oral Biology with an emphasis in Inflammation and Immunology from The Ohio State University and has extensive experience in research, university teaching, scientific ethics, and periodontics.

She currently serves as a Full Professor at the University of Costa Rica and has developed a strong scientific record, including numerous publications and participation in international conferences and academic forums related to dental research and evidence-based oral health.

We believe that her experience, academic leadership, and commitment to the advancement of dental science make her highly qualified to contribute meaningfully to the initiatives and objectives of the FDI.

For these reasons, Colegio de Cirujanos Dentistas de Costa Rica officially endorses the candidacy of Dr. Karol Ramírez Chan and respectfully recommends her for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rodrigo Villalobos Jimenez
President
Colegio de Cirujanos Dentistas de Costa Rica



Curriculum Vitae

Name: Karol Ramírez Chan

Date of Birth: October 29, 1977

Place of Birth and Residence: San José, Costa Rica

Email: karol.ramirez@ucr.ac.cr

ORCID iD: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4815-1049>



Education

- **2015** – PhD in Oral Biology (Inflammation and Immunology), The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA
- **2012** – Postdoctoral Master’s Degree in Clinical and Translational Research, University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- **2006** – Specialist in Periodontics, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia
- **2002** – DDS (Doctor of Dental Surgery), Universidad Latina de Costa Rica

Academic Experience

- **2025–Present** – Coordinator, Social Action Commission, Graduate Studies System, University of Costa Rica
- **2023–Present** – Advisory Council Member, Chair of Scientific Integrity, University of Costa Rica
- **2021–Present** – Scientific Committee Member, *Universitas Odontológica*, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana
- **2021–2025** – Health Representative, Academic Promotion Commission, University of Costa Rica
- **2022–Present** – Faculty Member, Good Clinical Practices Course (Vice Rector’s Office for Research, University of Costa Rica)
- **2020–2023** – President, Scientific Ethics Committee, University of Costa Rica
- **2017–2025** – Member, Research Commission, Faculty of Dentistry (Coordinator since 2020)
- **2016–Present** – Health Area Research Representative, Scientific Ethics Committee, University of Costa Rica
- **2015–2023** – Associate Editor, *Odovtos International Journal of Dental Sciences*
- **2007–Present** – Full Professor, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica

Clinical Experience:

- **2015- Present** - Clinical Instructor of the Section of Periodontology, University of Costa Rica
- **2007-2010:** Private Practice Limited to Periodontics
- **2002-2004:** General Dentist at Costa Rica Social Security Fund and private practice, Guanacaste Costa Rica

Research Publications:

Loría-Palma, S., Batista-Cárdenas, D., Solís-Rivera, A. P., & Ramírez, K. (2026). Prevalence, awareness, and factors associated with electronic cigarette use among dental students in Costa Rica. *Hygiene*, 6(2), 24. <https://doi.org/10.3390/hygiene6020024>

Baldi, N. F., Fernández-Chaves, J. M., Ruiz-Imbert, A. C., Infante-Herrera, D., Ibarra-Valverde, K., & Ramírez, K. (2026). Comparative oral health status of two pre-Hispanic archaeological sites in Costa Rica. *Frontiers in Oral Health*, 7, 1753557. <https://doi.org/10.3389/froh.2026.1753557>

Acuña-Amador, L., Rojas-González, G., Ramírez-Chan, K., & Barboza-Solís, C. (2025). From stability to dysbiosis: Ecological profiling of subgingival biofilms in Costa Rican adults with periodontal health and disease—A pilot study. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.15517/6ahjb198>

Muñoz-Solano, M. J., Malespín-Bendaña, W., Abarca-Montero, V., Altamirano-Vega, R., Córdoba-Araya, A., Ramírez, K., & Piedra-Hernández, L. (2025). Molecular detection of *Helicobacter pylori* in subgingival biofilm of patients with periodontal disease: A cross-sectional study. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*. Advance online publication. <https://revistas.ucr.ac.cr/index.php/rOdontos/article/view/2999>

Padilla-Fonseca, N., Araya-Castillo, A., Arias-Campos, M. P., Solís-Rivera, A. P., Jiménez-Matarrita, J., & Ramírez, K. (2024). The relationship between dental anxiety and oral health-related quality of life in patients with periodontitis. *Diagnostics*, 14(23), 2624. <https://doi.org/10.3390/diagnostics14232624>

Rodríguez-Callaci, M. F., & Ramírez, K. (2024). Importance of assessing the impact of combined lifestyle factors related to periodontitis in Costa Ricans. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 27(1), 16–21. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2024.62638>

Ramírez, K. (2024). Evolution of regulatory governance for human research in Costa Rica. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 27(2), 24–36. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2024.59202>

Batista-Cárdenas, D., Araya-Castillo, A., Arias-Campos, M. P., Solís-Rivera, A. P., Jiménez-Matarrita, J., Piedra-Hernández, L., Madriz-Montero, L., & Ramírez, K. (2024). Association of the severity and progression rate of periodontitis with systemic medication intake. *Frontiers in Oral Health*, 5, 1447019. <https://doi.org/10.3389/froh.2024.1447019>

Ramírez, K. (2024). Ethical principles in dental research of behavioral and social factors. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 26(3), 20–25. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2024.59408>

Sanabria-Bogantes, D., Redondo-Gómez, K., Artavia-Segura, J., Torres-Venegas, A., Cubillo-Vargas, A., Solórzano-Duarte, D., Gómez-Fernández, A., Piedra-Hernández, L., & Ramírez, K. (2023). Dental anxiety before the first step and after the second step of periodontitis therapy. *Revista*

de la Facultad de Odontología de la Universidad de Antioquia, 35(2), 64–76.
<https://doi.org/10.17533/udea.rfo.v35n2a6>

Fernández-Gudiño, A., Cruz-Morera, M. A., Vega-Cruz, M., Quesada-Romero, S., Alvarado-Echeverría, J. I., Vargas-Godínez, M., Piedra-Hernández, L., Gómez-Fernández, A., & Ramírez, K. (2023). Perception of oral health-related quality of life before the first step and after the second step of periodontal therapy. *Universitas Odontologica*, 42. <https://doi.org/10.11144/Javeriana.uo42.pohq>

Piedra-Hernández, L., Batista-Cárdenas, D., Gómez-Fernández, A., & Ramírez, K. (2023). Dental anxiety and oral health-related quality of life before and after non-surgical periodontal treatment. *Clinical Oral Investigations*, 27(9), 5459–5474. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00784-023-05165-1>

Jiménez-Lobo, J., Batista-Cárdenas, D., Aguilar-Cubillo, A., Gómez-Fernández, A., & Ramírez, K. (2023). Changes in oral health-related quality of life before and after dental treatment in 8–12-year-old Costa Rican schoolchildren. *Frontiers in Dental Medicine*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fdmed.2023.1167845>

Ramírez, K., & Gómez-Fernández, A. (2022). Dental caries in 12-year-old schoolchildren who participate in a preventive and restorative dentistry program. *Odvotos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 24(2), 136–144. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2021.47337>

Vega-Chin, A., Silva de la Fuente, S., Gómez-Fernández, A., Ortiz-Acuña, L., Mora-González, A., Rodríguez-Masis, R., & Ramírez, K. (2022). Gingival state and presence of red complex bacteria in 12-year-old schoolchildren. *Odvotos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 24(3), 161–175. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2022.50633>

Chavarría-Bolaños, D., Esparza-Villalpando, V., & Ramírez, K. (2021). Antibacterial and antifungal capacity of three commercially available mouthwashes with different concentrations of chlorhexidine. *Odvotos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 24(2), 69–80. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2021.48079>

Ramírez, K., Gómez-Fernández, A., Rojas, M., Rojas-Guzmán, R., Solano-Sanabria, M., Villalobos-Méndez, C., & Gómez, G. (2020). Gingival health related to intake of different types of foods and body mass index in 12-year-old schoolchildren. *Odvotos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 22(2), 165–177. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2020.41001>

Ramírez, K., Quesada-Yamasaki, D., & Fornaguera-Trías, J. (2019). A protocol to perform systemic lipopolysaccharide (LPS) challenge in rats. *Odvotos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 21(1), 53–66. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v21i1.35510>

McKim, D. B., Weber, M. D., Niraula, A., Sawicki, C. M., Liu, X., Jarrett, B. L., Ramirez-Chan, K., Wang, Y., Roeth, R. M., Sucaldito, A. D., Sobol, C. G., Quan, N., Sheridan, J. F., & Godbout, J. P. (2018). Microglial recruitment of IL-1 β -producing monocytes to brain endothelium causes stress-induced anxiety. *Molecular Psychiatry*, 23(6), 1421–1431. <https://doi.org/10.1038/mp.2017.64>

Elías-Boneta, A. R., Ramirez, K., Rivas-Tumanyan, S., Murillo, M., & Toro, M. J. (2018). Prevalence of gingivitis and calculus in 12-year-old Puerto Ricans: A cross-sectional study. *BMC Oral Health*, 18(1), 13. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12903-017-0471-5>

Quesada-Yamasaki, D., Arce-Soto, E., Ramírez-Chan, K., Fornaguera-Trías, J., & Mora-Gallegos, A. (2016). El papel de la microglia en la señalización neuroinflamatoria y la respuesta inmune. *Revista eNeurobiología*, 7(16), 101016. [https://www.uv.mx/eneurobiologia/vols/2016/16/Quesada/Quesada7\(16\)101016.pdf](https://www.uv.mx/eneurobiologia/vols/2016/16/Quesada/Quesada7(16)101016.pdf)

Ramírez, K., & Sheridan, J. F. (2016). Antidepressant imipramine diminishes stress-induced inflammation in the periphery and central nervous system and related anxiety- and depressive-like behaviors. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 57, 293–303. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbi.2016.05.008>

Ramírez, K., Niraula, A., & Sheridan, J. F. (2016). GABAergic modulation with classical benzodiazepines prevent stress-induced neuro-immune dysregulation and behavioral alterations. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 52, 154–168. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbi.2015.08.011>

Ramirez, K. (2015). Neuroimmunological responses to social isolation. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 17(1), 8–11. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v0i0.22032>

Ramírez, K., Fornaguera-Trías, J., & Sheridan, J. F. (2017). Stress-induced microglia activation and monocyte trafficking to the brain underlie the development of anxiety and depression. In *Current Topics in Behavioral Neurosciences* (Vol. 31, pp. 155–172). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/7854_2016_25

Ramirez, K., & Fornaguera-Trías, J. (2017). Estandarización de un protocolo de inmunohistoquímica para detectar microglia del cerebro de ratas de la cepa Wistar. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 19(3), 45–59. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v0i0.29698>

Ramírez, K., Shea, D. T., McKim, D. B., Reader, B. F., & Sheridan, J. F. (2015). Imipramine attenuates neuroinflammatory signaling and reverses stress-induced social avoidance. *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 46, 212–220. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbi.2015.01.016>

Ramírez Chan, K. (2014). Possible link between chronic periodontal disease and central nervous system pathologies. *Odovtos - International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 16, 23–31. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v0i16.20325>

Ramírez, K., García-Rodríguez, O., Murillo-Arocho, M., Fernández-López, O., & Elías-Boneta, A. R. (2013). Dentogingival complex: Dimension based on biotypes. *Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal*, 32(4), 182–186. <https://prhsj.rcm.upr.edu/index.php/prhsj/article/view/793/695>

Elias Boneta, A. R., Ramirez, K., Naboja, J., Mateo, L. R., Stewart, B., Panagokos, F., & De Vizio, W. (2013). Efficacy in reducing dentine hypersensitivity of a regimen using a toothpaste containing 8% arginine and calcium carbonate, a mouthwash containing 0.8% arginine, pyrophosphate and PVM/MA copolymer and a toothbrush compared to potassium and negative control regimens: An

eight-week randomized clinical trial. *Journal of Dentistry*, 41(Suppl. 1), S42–S49.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ident.2012.11.011>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2011). Manejo periodontal por fractura subgingival. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 7(1), 27–30. <https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227913004.pdf>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2009). Cubrimiento de recesiones gingivales con dermis deshidratada humana. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 5(2), 50–54.
<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227910002.pdf>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2009). Regeneración ósea guiada para preservación del reborde alveolar en la zona anterior. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 5(1), 29–33.
<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227909006.pdf>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2008). Colgajo posicionado coronal con injerto de tejido conectivo para el cubrimiento radicular. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 4(1), 30–32.
<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227908007.pdf>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2007). Consideraciones clínicas sobre la estética de la arquitectura gingival. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 3(2), 47–50.
<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227907002.pdf>

Ramírez Chan, K. G. (2007). Colgajo avanzado coronario sin incisiones laterales: Para el cubrimiento radicular. *Revista Científica Odontológica*, 3(1), 15–18.
<https://www.redalyc.org/pdf/3242/324227906005.pdf>

Editorials

Ramírez, K. (2020). Ethical orientation for conducting research involving human participants during the COVID-19 outbreak. *Odovtos International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 23(1), 8–9. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.2021.44781>

Ramirez, K. (2019). Editorial. *Odovtos International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 21(2), 9–10. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v21i2>

Ramirez, K. (2015). Guest editorial. *Odovtos International Journal of Dental Sciences*, 17(1), 7. <https://doi.org/10.15517/ijds.v0i0.22031>

Academic Appointments – Undergraduate and Graduate Thesis Supervision

2026 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Effectiveness of the dental plaque disclosing agent Dentoplak in a population with cognitive disabilities enrolled in the Institutional Program for the Inclusion of Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities in Higher Education (PROIN), Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

2026 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Therapeutic adherence in patients with diabetes and cardiovascular diseases treated at the Periodontics Clinic, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

2026 – Graduate Thesis Advisor, Master’s Program in Anthropology, University of Costa Rica; Comparative paleopathologies of Palo Blanco (G-800 PB) and Orocú (P-328-OR) (300–1350 AD): analysis of skeletal and dental indicators in wetland environments of northwestern Costa Rica.

2026 – Thesis Advisor, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Costa Rica; Effects of acute ethanol toxicity and its combination with anticholinergic drugs on neuroinflammation in female rats.

2025 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Diet quality and periodontal status of patients with periodontitis treated at the Periodontics Clinic, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

2025 – Thesis Director, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Health-related lifestyle factors in patients diagnosed with periodontal disease.

2025 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Association between the psychosocial impact of gingival esthetics, smile type, and treatment needs.

2025 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Reasons for consultation, oral health status, and dental treatment needs of children aged 6–12 years attending for the first time the Pediatric Dentistry and Interceptive Orthodontics Clinic, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

2025 – Advisor, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Comparative analysis of the Nolla and London Atlas radiographic methods in forensic dentistry for estimating biological age through dental development using panoramic radiographs.

2025 – Advisor, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Level of knowledge among Costa Rican dentists regarding malpractice: legal and ethical implications in clinical practice.

2024 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Use of e-cigarettes and perceptions regarding their use among undergraduate students in the Health Sciences and Social Sciences areas, Rodrigo Facio Campus.

2024 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Frequency of systemic medication use among patients attending the Periodontics Clinic, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica, 2019–2023.

2024 – Advisor, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Detection of *Helicobacter pylori* in subgingival biofilm of patients with periodontal disease.

2024 – Thesis Director, Graduate Program in Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Oral health practices, attitudes, and knowledge of parents or legal guardians and their association with their own oral health status and that of their children.

2022 – Thesis Director, Graduate Program in Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Evaluation of oral health-related quality of life in children aged 8–12 years before and after dental treatment at the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

2022 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Oral health-related quality of life in patients with periodontitis.

2022 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Dental anxiety in patients with periodontitis.

2021 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Gingival status and presence of red complex bacteria in 12-year-old children from Escuela Carmen Lyra.

2019 – Director, Undergraduate Graduation Seminar, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Gingival health and its relationship with nutritional status in 12-year-old children from Escuela Carmen Lyra.

2018 – Thesis Advisor, Graduate Program in Pediatric Dentistry, University of Costa Rica; Comparison of volumetric changes when preparing lower primary first molars for stainless steel crowns versus zirconia crowns: a laboratory study.

2018 – Thesis Committee, bachelor's degree in microbiology, University of Costa Rica; Evaluation of behavioral performance and microglial population size in young and middle-aged rats subjected to chronic corticosterone-induced stress.

Conference presentations:

Ramírez K. Dental treatment anxiety and oral health-related quality of life before the first step and after the second step of periodontal therapy. In: 1st Biomedical Research Congress CONIS 2025; 2025 Nov 10.

Ramírez K. Ethical guidelines for conducting research with contemporary human populations in Costa Rica. In: Research Workshop: Anthropology Meets Dentistry in Central America; 2022 Mar 3–6.

Ramírez K. Ethical aspects in dental biomedical research. In: 1st Research Conference of the Costa Rican Dental Association; 2021 Nov 10; San José, Costa Rica.

Ramírez K. Neuroimmunological changes as a response to psychosocial stress. In: 1st Costa Rican Conference on Prison Health; 2018 Nov 23; Costa Rican Association of Prison Health.

Ramírez K. Neuroimmunological changes as a response to psychosocial stress. In: Costa Rican Academy of Prosthodontics Meeting; 2018 Mar 6.

Abstract Presentations:

Ramírez K, et al. Association between periodontitis and medication intake: a retrospective study. In: IADR General Session; 2024; New Orleans (LA), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Dental anxiety and oral health impact profile in patients with periodontitis. In: IADR/LAR General Session & Exhibition with WCPD; 2023; Bogotá, Colombia.

Ramírez K, et al. Social isolation and environmental enrichment on neuroinflammatory signaling. In: IADR/AADR/CADR General Session; 2020; Washington (DC), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Gingival and nutritional status of 12-year-olds in Costa Rica. In: IADR/AADR/CADR General Session; 2020; Washington (DC), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Lorazepam and clonazepam prevent stress-induced neuro-immune dysregulation, anxiety, and depressive-like behavior. In: IADR/AADR/CADR General Session & Exhibition; 2015; Boston (MA), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Lorazepam and clonazepam prevent stress-induced neuro-immune dysregulation, anxiety, and depressive-like behavior. In: College of Dentistry Research Day, The Ohio State University; 2015; Columbus (OH), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Imipramine attenuates neuroinflammation and reverses stress-induced social avoidance. In: Psychoneuroimmunology Research Society 21st Annual Scientific Meeting; 2014; Philadelphia (PA), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Imipramine attenuates neuroinflammation and reverses stress-induced social avoidance. In: IBMR Research Day, The Ohio State University; 2014; Columbus (OH), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Dentogingival complex dimension based on biotypes. In: IADR General Session; 2013; Seattle (WA), USA.

Ramírez K, Arana C, Orraca L, Rivas-Tumanyan S, Elias A. High prevalence of gingivitis among school-attending 12-year-old Hispanics. In: IADR General Session; 2013; Seattle (WA), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Extrinsic stain removal efficacy of two commercially available toothpastes. In: IADR General Session; 2012; Iguazu Falls, Brazil.

Ramírez K, et al. Dental caries among twelve-year-old Puerto Ricans: 1997–2011. In: AADR Annual Meeting; 2012; Tampa (FL), USA.

Ramírez K, et al. Free gingival margin responses to marginal restoration placement. In: Clinical and Translational Research and Education Meeting, Joint Annual Meeting; 2011; Washington (DC), USA.

Grants

2024 – Undergraduate and Graduate Final Projects Fund within registered research projects, Vice Rector’s Office for Research Funds, University of Costa Rica.

2022 – Associate Researcher, Recipient of the 2022 Special Incentive Fund Competition, Vice Rector’s Office for Research Funds, University of Costa Rica, Health Area modality.

2022 – Associate Researcher, Recipient of a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Research Workshop modality. Proposal title: “Anthropology Meets Dentistry in Central America.”

2017 – Recipient of the 2017 Special Incentive Fund Competition, Vice Presidency for Research, University of Costa Rica

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