

Study to Assess the Knowledge on Dental Caries Among Mothers of Underfive Children.

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Abstract

Background of the Study: Oral health is a crucial aspect of overall health, and oral hygiene is extremely vital for maintaining oral health. Additionally, it has become evident that the risk and causal variables for oral disorders are frequently the same as those linked to the main general diseases. The purpose of the current study is to determine how well-informed mothers of young children are on the causes and prevention of dental caries. **Methods:** For this investigation, a descriptive study was modified. 30 samples were chosen using a convenience sampling method with non-probability. In this study, Mothers knowledge of dental problems was assessed using a self-administered questionnaire. Statistics, both descriptive and inferential, were used to analyse the data. **Results:** Out of the 30 samples, 1 (3.3%) had sufficient understanding of dental caries, 9 (30%) had fairly adequate knowledge, and 20 (66.7%) had inadequate knowledge. **Conclusion:** Dental caries was common in children under the age of five, and the majority of the decaying teeth went untreated. Children's caries prevalence was correlated with the frequency with which they had sugary snacks, how often they visited the dentist, and their socioeconomic status. It became clear that raising knowledge of dental caries among Mothers of under-fives was necessary in order to prevent dental issues in children.

1. Introduction:

“A Healthy Tooth Never Rots”

The primary cause of infection for a child is their mother. An infectious contamination is present in dental. Children below the age of five often spend most people in their time with their fathers, mothers and guardians, especially mothers, even if they attend preschool or nurseries. Multiplied caries occurrence is connected to parents' poor attitudes about their children's dental fitness as new-borns and younger kids.¹

Children's poor dental health is a considerable worldwide public fitness problem. Even though paediatric oral fitness care has made good sized strides recently; tooth decay is still one of the maximum avoidable persistent sicknesses that have an effect on kids.² Tooth decay affects greater youngsters than another infectious disorder in wealthy countries, in which between 60 to 90% of school-age children have dental caries and most of the people of infections went untreated.³ Kid's oral diseases can cause a variety of practical boundaries which have a big effect on how nicely children get at the side of their friends, grow, and increase. Children with terrible dental hygiene are much more likely to

have dental ache, take more absences, and do badly in school.⁴ Even at the same time as dental caries is less common and much less intense in most of the people of African international locations, it is anticipated that due to changes in lifestyle, the prevalence of dental caries in youngsters may also quickly grow in many of those international locations.⁵ Among forty seven, 4% and 74% of young children in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia, were observed to have early formative years caries, in keeping with two separate studies. If mothers are well-versed in paediatric dental care, kid's dental caries can be less complicated to manage.⁶ The American Academy of Paediatric Dentistry (AIAPD) indicates using a validated questionnaire to assess a mother's awareness and attitude to be able to create a programme that correctly promotes the oral health of kids.⁷

Oral fitness is defined by the world Health Organization (WHO) as "a state of not having any pain originating from the mouth and face, oral and throat most cancers, oral contamination and sores, periodontal sickness, tooth decay, teeth loss, and other diseases and problems that restrict an individual's potential for biting, chewing, smiling, talking, and psychosocial nicely-being"⁸ Due to the

fact that early childhood is a time when oral fitness-related behaviours and eating regimen are formed and maintained, mothers' understanding of oral health has an impact on the dental health in their youngsters. Four mothers specifically have a sizable impact on their children's dental health when you consider that they act as ambassadors for healthful conduct. Their advanced food information and dental hygiene practices also advantage their children' oral health.⁹ Parents of children with bad oral fitness are more likely than kids of parents with good oral health to showcase poor dental health as adults.¹⁰ Oral fitness is impacted by a wide range of complex statistics, attitudes, and behaviour that make up fitness behaviour.¹¹

Need for the Study

Poor maternal oral fitness, as an example, can enhance the hazard of early childhood caries and feature a primary poor have an impact on both the mother's and her baby's standard health. Mothers' attitudes on their children's utilization of diverse sugar-sweetened items are linked to their own fitness behaviours.¹² In Lithuania, dental caries in children is massive. Early youth caries (ECC) influences around half of three-year-old kids, in keeping with reviews.¹³ The key factors influencing ECC development have been bottle feeding, meals options, and bad oral hygiene.¹⁴ consistent with Razmien (2013), as much as 90% of children aged four to six have caries, which negatively influences their nice of lifestyles.¹⁵

Any number one tooth in a child more youthful than 71 months of age that has one or more decaying, lacking, or filled tooth surfaces is known as early childhood caries (ECC).¹⁴ The most usual chronic youth contamination, ECC, has emerged as an international fitness problem. The sector Dental Federation has given interest to this age institution because it has lately become more popular in youngsters among the along time of 2 and five round the sector.¹⁶ Untreated dental caries can cause systemic infection. In reality, micro-organism from a teeth abscess unfold to a toddler's mind inside the America and brought on death.¹⁶ In Hong Kong, a program to provide dental outreach treatments to all kindergarten students in the neighbourhood has been initiated with the aim of preventing and controlling ECC among preschoolers.¹¹ An epidemiological analysis carried out with the aid of the World health Organisation (WHO) in 1968 located that the prevalence of caries become five. Three based

totally at the mean score of five- to 6-year-old youngsters.¹⁷ Mother and father undergo the essential duty for selling favourable attitudes and behaviours about oral hygiene routines. Mothers play a crucial role in influencing steering and better oral fitness behaviours.¹⁸ Additionally, Parents' behaviour has a massive impact on how a good deal dental caries there may be in youngsters' mouths. In accordance to investigate, encouraging mothers to education right dental hygiene and adopt a more-healthy way of life in trendy can also result in tremendous enhancements and boom long-time period blessings for the fitness of each mother and child. Mothers of children with primary tooth decay to hold their oral hygiene popularity without a simple expertise of caries hazard elements, and it'll be difficult to place effective caries prevention strategies into instruction.¹⁹

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

A study to assess the knowledge on dental carries among mothers of under-five children.

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the level of knowledge on causes and prevention of dental carries.
- To find the association between knowledge of causes and prevention with demographic variables.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:

Assess:

In this study it refers to the process used find out the knowledge about causes and prevention of dental carries

Knowledge:

A measure of the extent information know about causes and prevention of dental carries

Dental caries:

Dental caries is consider to be a major public health problem globally due to it high prevalence and significant social impact. Dental caries is the most common childhood microbial disease of the calcified tissue of teeth.

Mothers of under-five children:

They refer to the Women who are having 1- 5 years children.

2. Methods and Materials

Research approach

Non experimental study approach was used for this study

Research design

Descriptive research design.

Sampling technique

Non-Probability purposive sampling method was used for this study.

Description of tool

Part I: Demographic variables includes age, socioeconomic status, literacy level, and the number of children.

Part II: It comprises of 30 multiple-choice questions to test mother's knowledge on dental caries.

Data collection and scoring

By using knowledge questionnaire data were drawn from the samples. Each question had four possible answers with only one correct answer. Every accurate response received a score of "one," while every incorrect response received a score of "zero."

Scoring procedure

Adequate = 76-100%

Moderate = 51-75%

Inadequate = 1- 50%

Statistical analysis

Descriptive and inferential statistical analysis was chosen.

3. Results

Table 1: Socio-demographic Information of the Mothers. (N=30)

SL. No	Demographic Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Age		
1.1	21– 24 yrs	11	36.67%
1.2	25 – 28 yrs	10	33.33%
1.3	29 – 32yrs	9	30.00%
2	Socioeconomic status		
2.1	Lower	1	3.3%
2.2	Upper Lower	4	13.3%
2.3	Middle	17	56.6%
2.4	Upper class	8	26.6%
3	Literacy level		
3.1	Illiterate	6	20%
3.2	Primary	8	26.6%
3.3	Secondary-Higher secondary	9	30%
3.4	Degree and graduate	7	23.4%
4	No of children		
4.1	1	8	26.6%
4.2	2	15	50%
4.3	3	14	46.6%
4.4	Above3	3	10%

Table: 1 showed that in terms of socio-demographic variables, the majority of 11(36.67%) mothers were in the 21–24, while the majority of 17 (56.6%) mothers belonged to the middle class. Most of the mothers 9(30%) were from secondary or higher

secondary schools in terms of educational background. Regarding the number of children, the majority 15(50%) of the mothers have two children

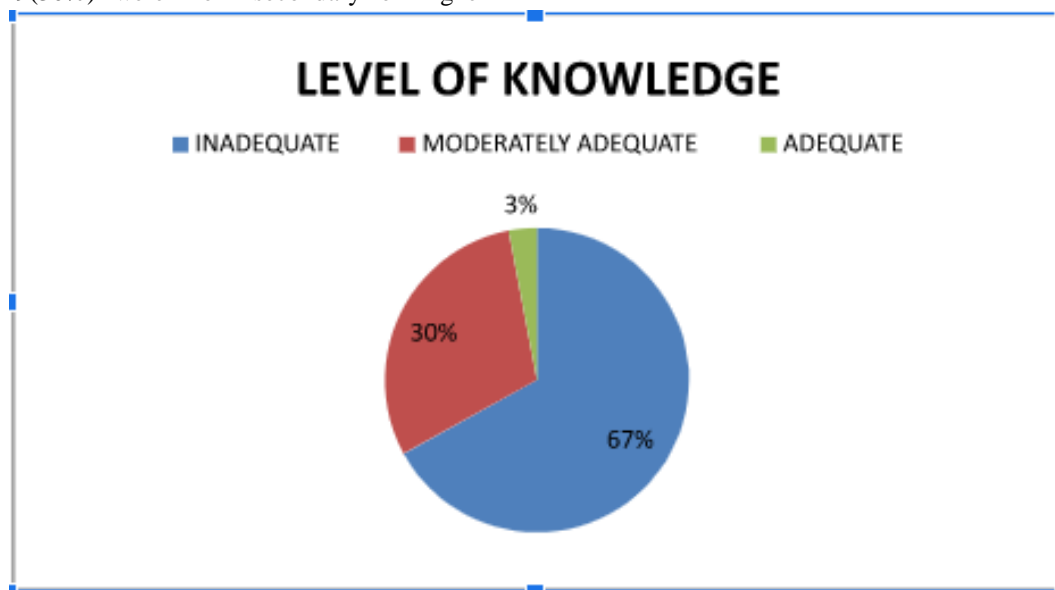


Fig1: Level of knowledge regarding dental caries among mothers of under-five children.

Fig-1 revealed that 1(3.33%) respondents' knowledge was adequate, 9(30%) respondents' knowledge was moderately adequate and 20 (66.7%) of them had

inadequate knowledge regarding dental caries among mothers of under-five children.

Table 2: Association of knowledge scores regarding dental caries among mother of under-five children with their selected demographic variables (N=30)

Demographic variables		Level of knowledge						X2	Table Value
		Adequate		Moderately Adequate		Inadequate			
		No	%	No	%	No	%		
1	Age								
1.1	21– 24 yrs	1	3.33%	5	16.67%	5	16.67%	5.762	12.59
1.2	25 – 28 yrs	1	3.33%	4	13.33%	5	16.67%	d(f)=6	
1.3	29 – 32yrs	-		3	10.00%	6	20.00%		
2	Socioeconomic								
2.1	status								
2.2	Poverty	-	-	1	3.33%	-	-		
2.3	Below economic	-	-	2	6.67%	2	6.67%	3.27	12.59
2.4	Middle class	1	3.33%	6	20%	10	33.33%	d(f)=6	
	Above economic	-	-	1	3.33%	7	23.34%		
3	Literacy level								
3.1	Illiterate	-	-	2	6.67%	4	13.33%		
3.2	Primary	-	-	2	6.67%	6	20%	6.18	12.59
3.3	Sec., and Hr.Sec	1	3.33%	1	3.33%	7	23.34%	d(f)=6	
3.4	Degree	-	-	4	13.33%	3	10%		
4	No.of children								

4.1	1	1	3.33%	2	6.66%	5	16.66%	2.78	12.59
4.2	2	-	-	5	16.66%	10	33.33%	d(f)=6	
4.3	3	-	-	1	3.33%	3	10%		
4.4	Above 3	-	-	1	3.33%	2	6.66%		

NS = Not Significant, S = Significant

The results showed that there was a non-significant relationship between the knowledge scores of mothers of children under the age of five and their demographic factors, such as age ($\chi^2 = 5.762$), socioeconomic status ($\chi^2 = 3.27$), literacy level ($\chi^2 = 6.18$) and number of children ($\chi^2 = 2.78$).

4. Discussion

The first objective of the study is to assess the level of knowledge of mother of under five children on dental caries. The result observed that amongst 30 mothers with kids under five, 20 (66.6%) had insufficient understanding of dental caries, 9 (30%) had pretty good enough expertise, and 1 (3.3%) had good enough expertise. It has become clear that raising cognizance of dental includes become necessary. The findings are supported by using research performed by Joanna Baginska. In line with her survey, 95.7% of mothers had been privy to the price of habitual enamel brushing to take away dental plaque, 85.7% had been privy to the advantages of fluoride-containing toothpaste, and 82.8% indicated they averted ingesting goodies. They have been additionally aware that everyday dental check-ups were necessary for top oral fitness (89.2%). Handiest 65.7% of them had been convinced that there's an instantaneous correlation among the situation of the deciduous and everlasting dentition, in spite of most people of them (87%) knowing that deciduous tooth ought to be handled as everlasting ones. The survey of mothers of young youngsters in Bialystok, Poland, discovered a gap among consciousness of dental caries prevention ideas and their application in each day existence. A vast portion of kids elderly three to 4 washed their teeth no more than once per week (15%) or now and again (3.6%). 10% of the sample's 75% children had their last dental appointment 12 months previous, while some other 42.8% had in no way had one.²⁰

The second objective is to find the association between the levels of understanding regarding dental caries with their selected demographic variables. In line with the look at, there was no association between level of knowledge and selected demographic variables. The subsequent study conducted by Pradhan et al. provides support for the study's conclusions. In a village of Biratnagar, a

descriptive survey was conducted among under five children's mothers. Data was gathered through interview using a self-structured interview guide using a non-probability purposive sampling strategy. The majority of parents were aware about high-quality brushing conduct. The first dental visit need to be made whilst the first tooth erupts or in the first year of existence, but best 12% of the dad and mom have been aware of this. Even though there has been no correlation among knowledge and socio-demographic factors, above half (79%) of mothers are aware about children's tooth decays.²¹

5. Conclusion:

Mothers with under five children had a basic understanding of how to prevent caries and its causes, but they still needed improved education on how to promote dental health, with a focus on incorporating acceptable behavior into daily activities. Early dental health instruction and practice may be crucial and serve as a solid foundation for a long-term disease-free life. Parents, especially Mothers, can do this. They serve as a major source of influence for their kids. However, it is important to motivate mothers to instill healthy oral hygiene habits at the start of the infant stage. It is suggested that the governmental health sectors should provide with facilities in importing information regarding dental health practices among mothers of under-five's whenever they get chances to approach them. Mass media also could provide constant education on the significance and methods of dental health practices in children which act as a fast-reaching aid to all corner of the society.

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