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Faryal Younis
Dr., BDS FCPS-1
fyounis15@gmail.com

Amna Basharat
Dr., WMO at DHQ Hospital Nankana sahib, Pakistan
usmanmaan520@gmail.com

Mudassar Naveed
Dr.
mudassirnaveed81@gmail.com

SECTION 20. Medicine.

FREQUENCY OF VARIOUS DENTAL PROBLEMS AMONG CHILDREN BELOW 10 YEARS OF AGE

Abstract: Objective: To determine frequency of dental abnormalities among children.

Design and duration: This is a cross sectional study. It was started in January 2018 and completed in August 2018 comprising on total duration of 8 months.

Setting: Study was conducted at Multan Medical and Dental College, a city of Pakistan.

Patients and methods: All patients below 10 years of age presenting to study institution dental out-door during study period, were included in this study. A performa was designed containing all relevant questions about age, dental problem, duration etc. Consent was taken from all patients included in this study. Permission was taken from ethical committee of the institution for conducting study. Data was documented properly and analyzed using Microsoft office. Results were calculated in the form of percentage and frequency and expressed via tables and graphs.

Results: There were total 180 cases included in this study including 100(55.5%) female cases and 80(44.4%) male cases. Presenting complaints among these cases were tooth ache in 82 cases while 98 were normal, tooth mobility was present in 35 cases, tooth fracture was in 40 cases, gum bleeding was seen in 67 cases, food impaction on teeth was reported in 120 cases, bad breath was noted in 72 cases, bad dentation was present in 25, tooth were sensitive in 110 cases, noise in jaw joint was present in 15 cases, holes in tooth were noted in 30 cases and poor oral health was seen in 60, good health in 85 and very good oral hygiene was seen in 35 cases.

Conclusion: Poor oral hygiene is associated with dental problems in school going children. Dental problems can be avoided by maintaining good oral hygiene.

Key words: Dental problems, oral hygiene, gum bleeding, tooth ache in children.

Language: English

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Introduction

In children dental problems are very common. Most common presenting complaint noted among these cases is bleeding gums and tooth ache. Children of young age are mostly unable to tell their parents about their dental pain and bleeding, so it remains obscure. Elder children can explain their complaint so it is easily comes in notice of parents and they consult to dentist. In our country there is deficiency of dental doctors so most of the people do

not have this facility and they try to deal with their dental problems by home-made remedies. There is need of dentists in every town, district and in all health centers either big or small. If dental problem is diagnosed in early stages then it can be cured quickly but late presentation makes cure delay. Tooth ache is a very common complaint and such experience is very painful often taking patients to the emergency ward for taking analgesic. Very high dose analgesic is required in this condition.

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Patients and methods

This is a cross sectional study conducted in a dental outdoor of Multan Medical and Dental College. All patients below 10 years of age presenting to study institution dental out-door during study period, were included in this study. A performa was designed containing all relevant questions about age, dental problem, duration etc. Consent was taken from all patients included in this study. Permission was taken from ethical committee of the institution for conducting study. Data was documented properly and analyzed using Microsoft office. Results were calculated in the form of percentage and frequency and expressed via tables and graphs. Patients were selected on the basis of inclusion criteria defined.

Results

There were total 180 cases included in this study including 100(55.5%) female cases and 80(44.4%) male cases. Presenting complaints among these cases were tooth ache in 82(45.5%) cases while 98(54.4%) were normal, tooth mobility was present in 35(19.4%) cases, tooth fracture was in 40(22.2%) cases, gum bleeding was seen in 67(37.2%) cases, food impaction on teeth was reported in 120(66.7%) cases, bad breath was noted in 72(40%) cases, bad dentition was present in 25(14%), tooth were sensitive in 110(61%) cases, noise in jaw joint was present in 15(8.3%) cases, holes in tooth were noted in 30(16.7%) cases and poor oral health was seen in 60(33.3%), good health in 85(47.2%) and very good oral hygiene was seen in 35(19.5%) cases.

Table 1.

Dental problems	Number of Patients (N)	%
Tooth ache		
Yes	82	45.5
No	98	54.4
Mobility of tooth		
Yes	35	19.4
No	145	80.5
Gum bleeding		
Yes	67	37.2
No	113	62.8
Food impction		
Yes	120	66.7
No	60	33.3
Bad breath		
Yes	72	40
No	108	60
Bad dentition		
Yes	25	14
No	155	86
Sensitive tooth		
Yes	110	61
No	70	39
Noise in Jaw joint		
Yes	15	8.3
no	165	91.7
Holes in tooth		
Yes	30	16.7
No	150	83.3
Oral hygiene		
Poor	60	33.3
Good	85	47.2
Very good	35	19.5
Tooth fracture		
Yes	40	22.2
No	140	77.8
Total	180	

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Discussion

Children of young age are mostly unable to tell their parents about their dental pain and bleeding, so it remains obscure. Elder children can explain their complaint so it is easily comes in notice of parents and they consult to dentist. In our country there is

deficiency of dental doctors so most of the people do not hav3 this facility and they try to deal with their dental problems by home-made remedies. There is need of dentists in every town, district and in all health centers either big or small. If dental problem is diagnosed in early stages then it can be cured quickly but late presentation makes cure delay. Tooth ache is a very common complaint and such experience is very painful often taking patients to the emergency ward for taking analgesic. Very high dose analgesic is required in this condition. There were total 180 cases included in this study including 100(55.5%) female cases and 80(44.4%) male cases. This is a cross sectional study conducted in a dental outdoor of Multan Medical and Dental College. All patients below 10 years of age presenting to study institution dental out-door during study period, were included in this study. A performa was designed containing all relevant questions about age, dental problem, duration etc. Consent was taken from all patients included in this study. Permission was taken from ethical committee of the institution for conducting study.

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