

# “A Descriptive Study To Assess The Knowledge And Awareness Regarding Dental Caries Among Mothers Of Children (5-10 Years) At Selected Community Area Dera Of District Ambala Haryana”

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## Abstract

Dental caries, a chronic disease is unique among human and is one of the most common important global oral health problems in the world today. It is the destruction of dental hard acellular tissue by acidic-products from the bacterial fermentation of dietary carbohydrates especially sucrose. The study aimed to explore the knowledge and awareness regarding dental caries among mothers of children (5-10 years) at selected community area dera of district Ambala Haryana. A quantitative study by using descriptive design was used, a sample size of 100 mother of children were selected by using convenient Sampling technique, Semi structured knowledge and awareness questionnaire were used to assess the level of knowledge among mother of children selected community area at village Dera District Ambala, Haryana. The study finding revealed that in the last part of analysis of present study, the result shows the association of level of knowledge of mothers of children with the socio- demo-graphical variables. The data presented in table depicts that the findings suggested that computed chi- square value of general population in age 43.680, marital status 25.00, educational status 43.680, occupation 49., type of family 1.440, religion 63.00, area of residence 16.00, monthly family income in rupees 25.00, knowledge about dental caries 64.00, and source of knowledge of dental caries 27.040. Majority of the mother were having good knowledge regarding dental caries.

**Keywords:** Children, Mother, Dental caries, Village, Knowledge, Awareness.

## INTRODUCTION

Dental is one of the most common preventable diseases which are recognized as the primary cause of oral pain and tooth loss. It is the major public health oral disease which is hinder the achievement and maintains of oral health in all age group. Healthy children are successful learners. School age children represent about 25% of total population. The goal of WHO “Health for all by the year 2025” also includes oral health. The school age child has multitude of problems of which one of the most prevalent problems is related to dental health. Dental caries remains one of the commonest disorders affecting the teeth, starting right from an early age. Hence the importance of preventing dental caries should be at the school age level.

Dental caries and periodontal disease, the most commonly seen oral disease show striking geographic variation, socioeconomic patterns and severity of distribution all over the World 1-5 Number of factors have been put forward to explain the variation in prevalence and severity of dental caries and periodontal disease that can be found between developing and technically developed countries, but also between rural and urban communities. Additionally, there is marked variability in the pattern of many diseases between different socio-economic groups in the same country. In recent studies, socio-economic factors have been identified as predisposing factors in the development of both dental caries and periodontal disease. Low income and poor education have been reported to influence periodontal status. Research in industrialized countries has revealed that children of high social class families experience less caries than those of lower social classes. However, this relationship appears to be reversed in the developing countries. Hence an attempt has been made to determine the relationship of oral hygiene status and dental caries experience with socio-economic status in Devanagari, India.

## NEED OF STUDY

Worldwide, most children and an estimated ninety percent of adults have experienced caries, with the disease most prevalent in Latin American countries, countries in the Middle East, and South Asia, and least prevalent in China. In the United States, dental caries is the most common chronic childhood disease, being at least five Dental caries can be traced to be as old as civilization with its evidence seen even in skeletal remnants of prehistoric humans. Dental caries remains

the most common disease affecting humans. Tooth decay is one of the most common of all disorders, second only to the common cold. It usually occurs in children and young adults but can affect any person. Numerous studies have reviewed the effectiveness of different preventive measures in different populations. In spite of these studies, children still suffer from high caries prevalence. In western countries, the prevalence of dental caries is low compared to developing countries. In 1979, the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution calling for attainment of "Health for all" by the year 2000. In line with this, the FDI recommended the establishment of specific oral health schedule on the time scale. Of the WHO goals for global oral health, the first goal is that 50% of 5-6 years old children should be caries free and the second goal is that the global average should not be more than 3 decayed, missing, or filled teeth at 12 years of age. Caries is more common than asthma. It is the primary pathological cause of tooth loss in children.

### Research hypothesis

There was statistically significant association between knowledge regarding the dental caries among mothers of children (5-10 years).

### Research Methodology:

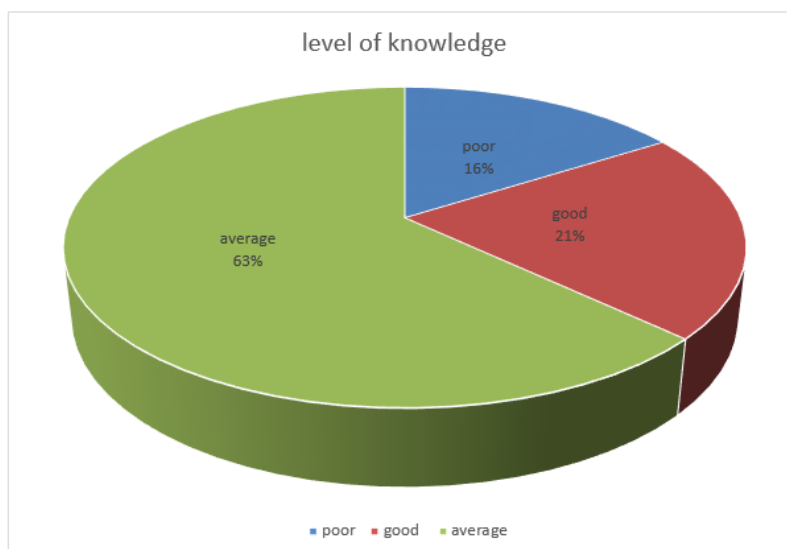
In this study quantitative research designed was used & non- experimental descriptive research design was used to assess the knowledge and awareness among sample size of 100 mothers of children (5-10 years) were used by convenient sampling techniques for data collection & Semi -structured knowledge and awareness questionnaire were used to assess the level of knowledge among mother of children selected community area at village Dera District Ambala, Haryana. The reliability of the dental caries tools was calculated by Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient. The reliability of the tool is about 0.96. Descriptive design Non -parametric test done with the help of SPSS V.22.

## RESULTS

The table depicts that out of 100 mothers of children majority 22% children were in the age group of 5-6years, 18% children were in the age of 6-7 years, 14% children were in the age of 7-8, 24% children were in the age group of 8-9years, 22% children were in the age group 9-10years. Majority of mothers 60% married, 15% widow and 25% were divorced. Majority of mothers of children 15% had primary education, 10% had middle education, 50% had secondary education and 25% had graduation and above. Majority of mothers of children 40% homemaker, 15 % are daily worker, 5% are government worker, 30% were semi-government and 10% are private job. Majority of mothers of children 45% had nuclear family and 55% had joint family. Majority of 50% people are Hindu 20% people are Muslim, 30 are others. Majority of mothers 70% were rural and 30% were semi urban. Majority of mothers 35% had above 10-20 thousand income, 20% had 15 thousand, 25% had <10 thousand and 20% had above 20 thousand. Majority of mothers 70% had knowledge about dental caries, 20% had no knowledge and 10% people are don't know about dental caries. Majority of mothers 10% friend and neighbor source of knowledge, 30% had mass media, 25% had health worker, 6% social media, 15% newspaper and 14% had internet source of the knowledge about dental caries.

### Frequency and percentage mean and standard deviation distribution of structured knowledge

Sr. no	Level of Knowledge	Frequency (f)	Percentage (p)	Mean	Standard deviation
1	Poor	16	16%	11.800 %	3.42008
2	Good	21	21%		
3	Average	63	63%		



The table depicts that the majority of 16% mothers had poor knowledge about dental caries, 21% people had good knowledge and about 63% people had average. The mean value is 11.800%, and the standard deviation value is 3.42008.

## DISCUSSION

This chapter includes the discussion of the finding of the study interpreted from statistical analysis, and where been organized and presented under the following section. Frequency and percentage distribution of sample characterized according to their socio-demographic variables. Frequency, percentage mean and standard deviation of structured knowledge questionnaire on dental caries. Association of level of knowledge and awareness of mother of children with the socio-demographical variables. Parents have a major role in preventing dental diseases in their children. In addition, they have a major role in any preventive measure. Parents' knowledge about different preventive methods has been studied previously. Children generally spend most of their time with parents and guardians, especially mothers, even when they attend primary-schools or nurseries. The number of cases has decreased in some developed countries, and this decline is usually attributed to increasingly better oral hygiene practices and preventive measures such as fluoride treatment. Nonetheless, countries that have experienced an overall decrease in cases of tooth decay continue to have a disparity in the distribution of the disease

## CONCLUSION

Majority of the mother were having good knowledge regarding dental caries. From the finding of the present study it can be concluded that though high risk school students are aware of the etiology and detrimental effects of dental possibly due to fear or because of ignorance of parents towards the dental health of their children. Another important finding was that even through majority of the study participants were aware that frequent tooth brushing can prevent tooth decay, they still chose brush not more than once a body. Also, majority of our study mother of children were unaware of the beneficial effects of fluoride towards caries prevention which signifies dental health education among mother and children.

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