



Prevalence of Dental Caries in Dental OPD at Tertiary Care Centre: A Retrospective Study

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Abstract

Aim: To know the prevalence of Dental caries in dental OPD at IGIMS, Patna. Material and method- Retrospective data was collected for 6 months. The data collected was analysed statistically. Result- The prevalence of dental caries in Dental OPD at IGIMS , Patna was 20%.

Introduction

Dental Caries is the outcome of a multiple complex process involving factors like diet, microorganisms, trace elements, saliva, genetic predisposition and tooth morphology. Apart from these, many related factors like individual, social, environmental and cultural factors are also responsible. In recent years, the global distribution of dental caries present a varied picture, most of the countries with low caries prevalence are experiencing an unprecedented increase in caries prevalence and severity of dental caries including India. On the other hand, in several. Industrialized countries a reduction of dental caries incidence and improvement of gingival health care are evident^{1,2}

The scenario in India is no different from other developing countries. Available literature of 1940 to 1960, the prevalence of dental caries in India showed a varied picture i.e., caries being very high in some areas and low in some areas^{3,4,5,6}. In spite of conflicting reports it has been observed that during 1940 the prevalence of dental caries in India was 55.5%, during 1960 it was reported to be 68%⁷. Further it has been observed that dental caries was always higher in highly urban and cosmopolitan places⁵.

Aim and Objectives

1. To know the prevalence of dental caries in dental OPD at Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna
2. To evaluate preventive measures to fight dental caries
3. To evaluate more effective curative measures

Material and methods

A retrospective study will be conducted where data of last 6 months will be collected. An analysis will be done. Data of 6 months will be analysed.

Duration- 6 months for tabulation and data analysis

Inclusion Criteria

All patients reporting with dental caries, dental pain, undergoing restoration, RCT , extraction due to carious tooth and patients with clinically present dental caries will be included in the study.

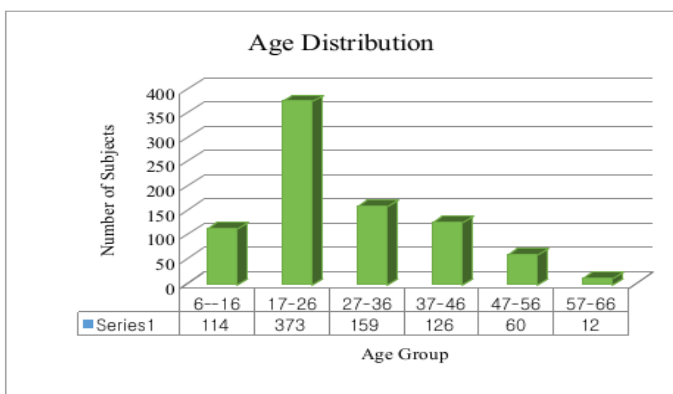
Exclusion Criteria

Patients undergoing extraction due to any reason other than dental caries.

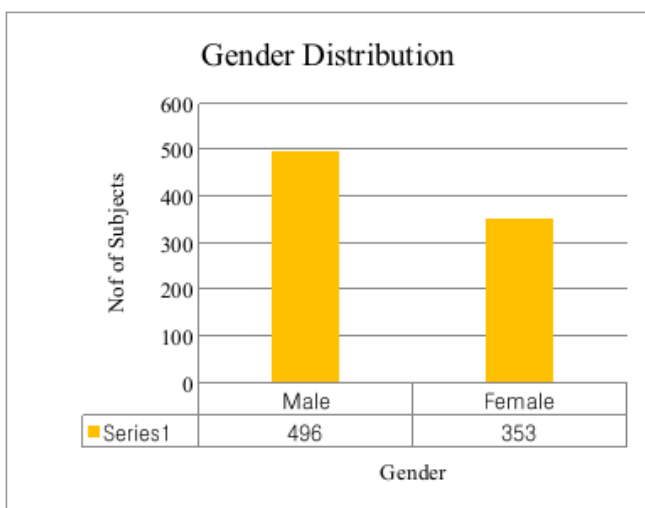
Patients below 6 years of age

Caries involving deciduous tooth

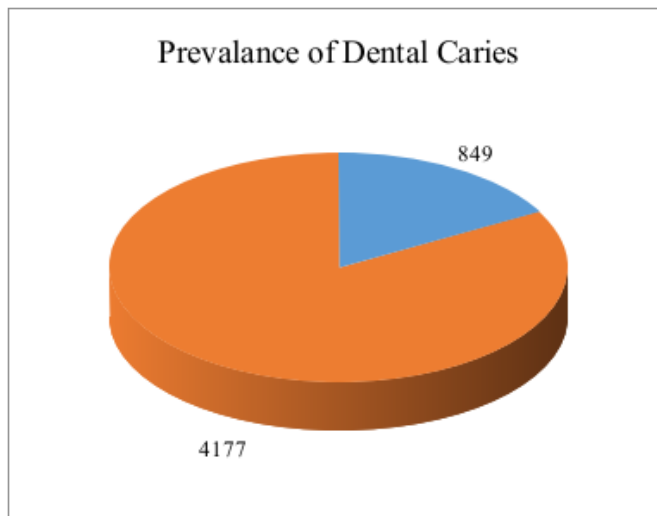
Result



Out of 849 patients in whom dental caries was present , maximum number of patients, i.e, 373 patients belonged to age group 17-26 whereas lowest number of subjects belonged to age group 57-66 years/



if we talk about gender distribution, a male predominance was noticed,496 subjects included in the study were male whereas the remaining 353 subjects were female.



Out of the 4177 new subjects who reported to the Department of Dentistry in 6 months, 849 subjects had dental caries.

Discussion

The aim of the study was to evaluate the prevalence of dental caries at a tertiary care centre. In our study, 4177 subjects reported to the department of dentistry in a period of 6 months. Out of these 4177 subjects, 849 subjects had dental caries. This accounts for approximately 20% of the total subjects. In a study conducted by JK Dast⁸ et al according to which 64.3% was the prevalence of dental caries among children in Cuttack. 496 subjects included in the study were male whereas the remaining 353 subjects were female. This could be due to the fact that females are still hesitant to see a doctor or to get their treatment done and dental treatment is not given a lot of importance for which people seek immediate or urgent treatment and tend to delay visit to a dentist till the pain becomes unbearable. 373 patients belonged to age group 17-26 whereas lowest number of subjects belonged to age group 57-66

years. The reason for this could be due to the fact the subjects belonging to the age group 17-26 are more aware and educated and understand the importance of oral hygiene and care and seek dental consultation for treatment and maintenance of good oral hygiene.

Conclusion

Data collected is of great value at local level because, they provide a reliable basis to estimate manpower requirement, cost of oral health care programme under prevailing condition and type of treatment necessary. However, a more extensive study conducted over a longer period of time is required.

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