

Original Research

Assessment of parents' awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries

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ABSTRACT:

Background: Dental trauma in children is a significant oral health issue worldwide. The present study was conducted to assess parents' awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries. **Materials & Methods:** 150 parents who accompanied their children age ranged 6- 14 years of both genders were selected. A questionnaire was prepared and submitted to all parents and their response about awareness of on- site dental trauma was recorded. **Results:** Out of 150 parents, males were 80 and females were 70. 46 parents had their child dental trauma in past. In response to if your child fell and broke an upper front tooth, the broken piece of the tooth should be saved, 80 replied yes, 45 no and 25 don't know. 72 parents replied a tooth can be completely knocked out. 90 parents thought primary teeth should be put back in, after they were knocked out. In response to how urgent it is necessary to seek professional help, 62 replied immediately, 50 later and 38 only if any pain or other symptoms are noticed. 96 think use of mouth guard is appropriate for child during sport activity. 88 replied the follow-up of the child by dentist important. 46 received any information regarding traumatic dental injuries previously. 72 parents replied that put the tooth back into the socket, if the tooth was completely out of the socket, but still in the child's mouth, 40 replied leave the tooth inside the mouth and 38 replied remove the tooth from the mouth. The difference was significant ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion:** Parents had sufficient awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries.

Keywords: children, Dental trauma, parents

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INTRODUCTION

Dental trauma in children is a significant oral health issue worldwide. They range from minor enamel chipping to extensive maxillofacial damage involving the supporting structures and displacement or avulsion of teeth.¹

The most common causes of dentoalveolar injuries are car crashes, disputes, falls at home, and sports. The inability to maintain a good mental state, trouble masticating food, and embarrassment when smiling or laughing have all been linked to these severe tooth injuries.² As a result, it is believed that traumatic dental injuries lower one's quality of life. Dental injuries are likewise regarded as an emergency requiring prompt medical attention.³ These kinds of injuries are upsetting experiences that have an impact on kids as well as parents or other caregivers. Managing these kinds of issues calls for sufficient knowledge, quick decision-making, and decisive

action. In order to restore dental and emotional health, both the child's pediatric dentist and parents or other caregivers are crucial.⁴

Given that the majority of dental injuries happen at home, with schools following suit, parents must act promptly and appropriately.⁵ If parents are aware of what to do in the event of an accident and know what first aid measures to take, they can significantly improve their child's prognosis for traumatic dental damage to permanent teeth. The parents' awareness and expertise in managing these emergency situations may have an impact on the teeth's prognosis.⁶ The present study was conducted to assess parents' awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries.

MATERIALS & METHODS

The present study consisted of 150 parents who accompanied their children age ranged 6- 14 years of

both genders. All gave their written consent to participate in the study.

Data such as name, age, gender etc. was recorded. A questionnaire was prepared and submitted to all

parents and their response about awareness of on- site dental trauma was recorded. Data thus obtained were subjected to statistical analysis. P value < 0.05 was considered significant.

RESULTS

Table I Distribution of patients

Total- 150		
Gender	Male	Female
Number	80	70

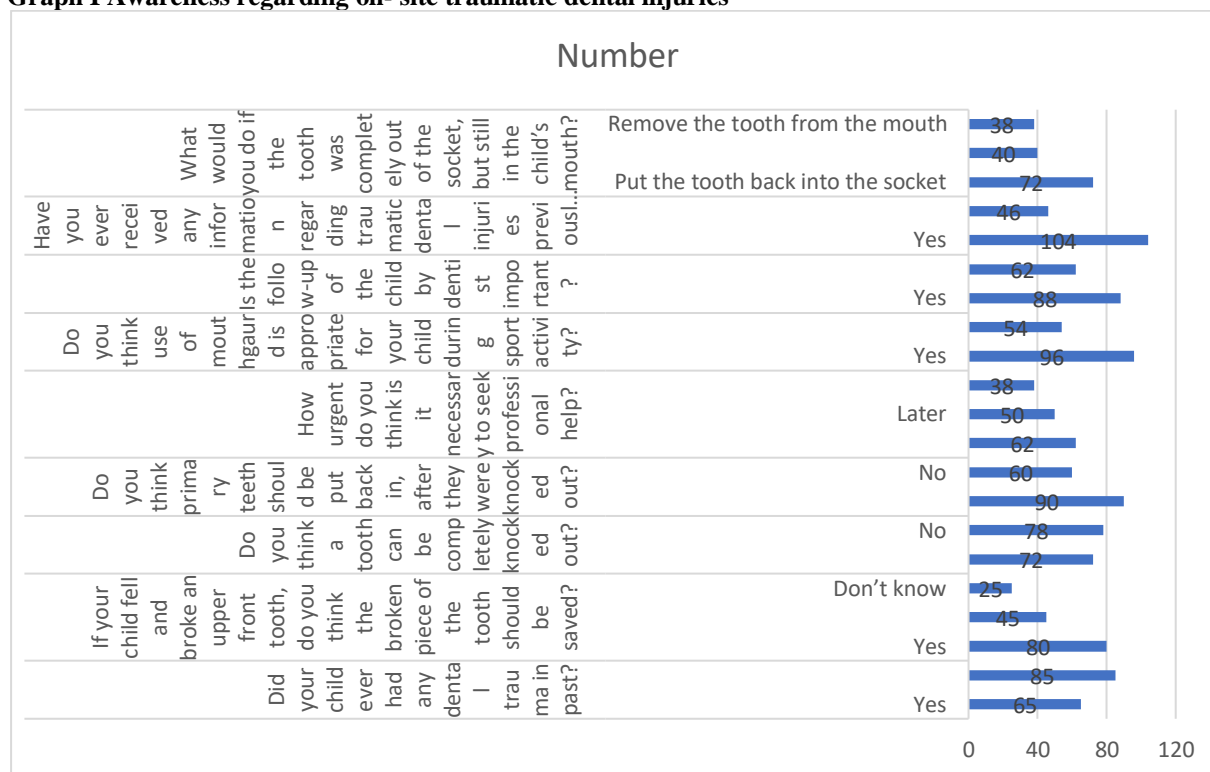
Table I shows that out of 150 parents, males were 80 and females were 70.

Table II Awareness regarding on- site traumatic dental injuries

Questionnaire	Response	Number	P value
Did your child ever have any dental trauma in past?	Yes	65	0.05
	No	85	
If your child fell and broke an upper front tooth, do you think the broken piece of the tooth should be saved?	Yes	80	0.81
	No	45	
	Don't know	25	
Do you think a tooth can be completely knocked out?	Yes	72	0.92
	No	78	
Do you think primary teeth should be put back in, after they were knocked out?	Yes	90	0.04
	No	60	
How urgent do you think it is necessary to seek professional help?	Immediately	62	0.17
	Later	50	
	Only if any pain or other symptoms are noticed	38	
Do you think use of mouthguard is appropriate for your child during sport activity?	Yes	96	0.05
	No	54	
Is the follow-up of the child by dentist important?	Yes	88	0.11
	No	62	
Have you ever received any information regarding traumatic dental injuries previously?	Yes	104	0.02
	No	46	
What would you do if the tooth was completely out of the socket, but still in the child's mouth?	Put the tooth back into the socket	72	0.04
	Leave the tooth inside the mouth	40	
	Remove the tooth from the mouth	38	

Table II, graph I shows that 46 parents had their child dental trauma in past. In response to if your child fell and broke an upper front tooth, the broken piece of the tooth should be saved, 80 replied yes, 45 no and 25 don't know. 72 parents replied a tooth can be completely knocked out. 90 parents thought primary teeth should be put back in, after they were knocked out. In response to how urgent it is necessary to seek professional help, 62 replied immediately, 50 later and 38 only if any pain or other symptoms are noticed. 96

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Graph I Awareness regarding on- site traumatic dental injuries

DISCUSSION

Dental trauma can be extremely painful and distressing, and it is still one of the major issues with oral health in children. It can range in severity from a small chip in the enamel to severe maxillofacial injury that affects the supporting tissues and causes teeth to shift or avulse.^{7,8} The loss or fracturing of a kid's anterior teeth is arguably the dental disorder that affects the youngster and parents more psychologically. In addition to being vital for mastication, phonetics, psychological and mental health, and the integrity of supporting tissues, primary and permanent anterior teeth are also crucial for aesthetics.^{9,10} The present study was conducted to assess parents' awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries.

We found that out of 150 parents, males were 80 and females were 70. Rani et al¹¹ assessed the knowledge, attitude and awareness of parents regarding dental trauma and its management. This study suggested that there is a lack of proper knowledge on emergency management of traumatic dental injuries first-aid among the study participants. The results of this study indicated low level of knowledge regarding tooth avulsion and replantation procedures to be followed in emergency. The residing area and age of parents did not affect the knowledge and awareness of parents. A well- educated parents had lack of proper knowledge about emergency management of dental trauma first aid

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The limitation of the study is the small sample size.

CONCLUSION

Authors found that parents had sufficient awareness regarding management of on- site traumatic dental injuries.

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