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Awareness & Knowledge of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics as a Dental Specialist amongst General Population of Jodhpur City, Rajasthan: An Observational Study

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Abstract

Objective: The main objective of this study was to assess the awareness and knowledge of maxillofacial prosthesis among general population of Jodhpur. As a dental specialist, it has been observed that the awareness towards the rehabilitation of facial defects due to trauma or congenitally missing is very stunted. Individuals suffering from maxillofacial deformities may have deleterious effect on their physical and psychological health. Maxillofacial prosthetics enfolds a wide range of treatment of lesions and of defects consisting of the head and the face.


Method: A descriptive, cross-sectional survey was conducted through an offline questionnaire. A total of 250 patients were selected and a self-constructed questionnaire was presented to them. The validated questionnaire contained 10 questions. Responses from the patients were evaluated in terms of numbers and percentages.

Result: The study reveals with significant p value <0.05 resulted in 64% of all the targeted population who had an idea about the defects of eye, ear, nose, cleft lip and cleft palate never heard about the maxillofacial

prosthesis and in addition, among those only 33 individuals out of 250 were aware about the dental professionals being able to fabricate the maxillofacial prosthesis.

Conclusion: Knowledge and awareness among the general population about maxillofacial prosthodontics and whom to approach is not up to the mark. Due to this reason patients in the need for a maxillofacial prosthesis are left untreated. The dentist should educate the patient about different treatment options available in prosthodontic rehabilitation. Awareness camps should be conducted to educate people on the type of defects and their rehabilitation that they can designate.

Keywords: Defects, awareness, trauma, artificial prostheses

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