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Questionnaire Survey to Evaluate Social Implications On Prosthodontic Practice During Covid -19 Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: COVID 19 pandemic has changed the world in a lot of ways. As far as dental practice especially prosthodontics practice has also changed subsequent to the crisis. This survey is an attempt to understand and to know the adaptations which has occurred in the social, psychological and practical implications in prosthodontic practice


Objectives: The objective of this study was to analyze the clinical, psychological as well as financial impact of COVID -19 on prosthodontic practice.

Materials & methods: A total of 100 dental students and practitioners were selected and a structured questionnaire was sent electronically to them. It enquired about the social, psychological and financial effects of COVID -19 pandemic on prosthodontic practice. There was a complete response for the survey and the results were tabulated.

Results: 100 dentists responded to the questionnaire regarding the social, financial as well as psychological implications on prosthodontic practice during COVID -19 pandemic with 66% females and 44% males that is 100% response. Knowledge regarding COVID-19 was 59%.63% of the respondents felt that vaccination protocol was absolutely necessary. Regarding good practice protocols 7% double gloved,33% used double mask and 57% used PPE kit. The response to prevention protocols 68% of the practitioners requested RTPCR before treatment and 88% of the practitioners checked on vaccination certification of the patients.

With reference to history of COVID infections 55% of the dentists elicited the history. When enquired regarding prosthodontic disinfection procedures, the order of priority was 51% of the practitioners disinfected the impressions and in addition performed other disinfection procedures. Regarding financial implications only 12% were unaffected by the pandemic. Psychological effects of the pandemic were graded as extremely negative 22% and extremely positive was only 1%. behaviour adaptation was up to 4% only.

Conclusion: The present study shows a considerable clinical, financial as well as psychological impact of COVID -19 on the dentists practicing in India. Working with patients during the COVID -19 period has increased the insecurity about own infection status as well as infecting the people close to them. They isolated themselves and are more likely to develop post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, and other symptoms of distress. A safe working environment, adequate infection control measures as well as proper counseling are associated with less fear of infection and less feeling of instability

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