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**Awareness Of Impacted Third Molar among undergraduate Dental, Homeopathy, Paramedical
 and Nursing students in Garhwa district of Jharkhand: An Original article**

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ABSTRACT:

Background:

According to Archer, impacted tooth as a tooth that is partially or completely unerupted and is positioned against another tooth or bone or soft tissue so that its further eruption is unlikely^[2]. The term 'Impaction' originated from Latin word 'Impactus', which means failure of tooth in reaching its normal anatomical position due to any abnormal mechanical condition.^[2]

Tooth impaction especially mandibular third molar is encountered commonly by the dentists in the Indian population and worldwide mainly due to complaint by the patients or during regular checkup.^[1] Patients commonly complaint of pain, swelling, difficulty in mouth opening and bleeding from the involved area.^[1] Various studies have reported about poor awareness and knowledge about dentistry among the Indian youth despite of having career in medical, homeopathy, nursing, and dentistry itself. Since the importance to the oral health should be given as much as overall health, students from dental, medical and other health care fraternity must be aware of impaction. Hence the objective of this study was to find out knowledge and experience about impacted teeth among undergraduate dental, paramedical, homeopathy, nursing students studying in institutions in Garhwa district, Jharkhand.

Aim:

To analyze the knowledge and steps taken by undergraduate students (related to dental, paramedical, nursing and homeopathy fraternity) for management of their own impacted teeth.

Method:

A cross sectional study with a sample size of 500 conducted for a period of 2 months (14.06.2022~14.08.2022). The sample included undergraduate students of dental, paramedical, nursing and homeopathy fraternity in the Garhwa district of Jharkhand, between the age group of 17-25 years. A questionnaire was formulated in Google forms and circulated through personal interaction with the class representatives of respective batches. The result was analyzed and demonstrated in pie-charts.

Result:

Most of the students know about the term of 'impaction'; these are the students of dentistry and they came to know about the term after joining the BDS course. Students of other courses know about their impacted teeth because they are dealing with problems related to impaction. 48.1% students decided to for extraction. Very few students already extracted their one or more impacted teeth from nearby dental clinics. Rest of the students are not aware of impaction and complications of not removing the tooth. The result will be discussed later with the help of pie charts.

KEYWORDS: Third molar, Impaction, Awareness, Knowledge, dental students, pericoronitis

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