TAGORE DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL



DEPARTMENT OF PEDODONTICS AND PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY

CELEBRATES "TEACHERS DAY WEEK"

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

INDIAN SOCIETY OF PEDODONTICS AND PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY



Schools are the most valuable platform for promoting oral health through oral health education. Good oral cleanliness habits, proper chewing habits, less repeated sugar ingestion and timely consultation with dentist may ensure good health of teeth and other parts of their mouth. It is important to impart oral health education along with traditional curricular education. The role of a teacher in this aspect becomes very eminent as they influence thousands of students and their parents in making compliance with the importance of health and well being. Teachers can educate students about prevention of oral diseases through dental health education. However they should be trained sufficiently to deliver such messages; this lack of training on aspects of oral health has shown to prevent teacher from participating in teaching children effectively. In order to instill a positive approach to oral habits, the teachers themselves need to have good knowledge, attitudes, and practices toward oral hygiene.

In this regard the Indian Society of Pedodontics and Preventive dentistry have invited department of pediatric dentistry of all Indian dental colleges to celebrate "Teachers day (week)" by organizing various activities for school teachers at their respective areas.

We from the Department of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry, Tagore dental college, Chennai, have organized a teacher's awareness program with an aim to inculcate Knowledge, good attitude among teachers and to cultivate the same among school children. A total of six government and private schools

were selected around the district of Rathinamangalam, which were accessible from Tagore dental college. Information regarding the awareness program was delivered prior to the visit, and permissions were granted from respective authorities. During the first visit a questionnaire form was delivered to the teachers to evaluate their knowledge, attitude and practice towards importance and practice of oral hygiene & management of traumatic injuries. In the second visit an interactive session was conducted with awareness videos and power-point presentation, implying the importance of daily dental needs, managing traumatic injuries and how to incorporate knowledge among the students. Followed by a discussion session and a dental screening camp organized for the teachers.

The awareness program was conducted between 6th to 11th of September 2019. A total of 45 interns accompanied the awareness and screening sessions, (9 interns per day) accompanied by the department staffs. A total of 180 teachers participated in the Teachers awareness program and gave a positive feedback. They also requested us to conduct more of such awareness sessions and screening camps in future.

Descriptive data analysis was performed on the questionnaire provided to school teachers. About 60% of teachers co-related the importance of brushing and decay, 48% between brushing and gum problems & 66 % perceived importance of diet in dental health. Though the teachers knew the importance of brushing with 59% of them aware of brushing techniques, only 55% brushed twice daily, 58% rinsed after every meal & only 18% used mouth washes or other aids. When asked about fluoride toothpaste 51% answered yes for its importance and were aware of other treatment options to prevent dental caries (55%). The most important influence from the result was that almost 65 % of the teachers instilled oral health educations to the students.

The analysis also revealed that more than 55% of the teachers did not have any knowledge on management of dental trauma. On questioning about management of avulsed teeth, only 30% answered milk / tender coconut, 14% answered water as storage media, and 5 % suggested discarding the tooth, while 16% had no idea on management. Over 40% of the total population considered their knowledge on oral health as sufficient, but 40% as insufficient knowledge in managing dental injuries. Overall 60% of them were willing to attend more awareness programs to improve their knowledge and to attend progress on emergency dental management for school children.

So we conclude that.

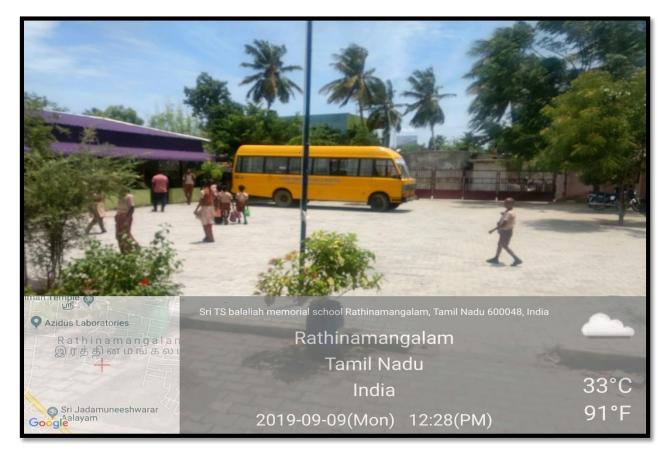
- Even though most of the teachers show satisfactory knowledge in some aspects of preventive oral health, they still lag behind in knowledge in some crucial parts of oral health. There is a definite and immediate need for teacher training programs on basic oral health knowledge. Further workshops are recommended to improve their existing knowledge.
- All the teachers should be trained at regular intervals, comprehensively regarding importance of
 oral health and creating awareness on oral health promotion for their students with the help of
 health care personnel or organizations.
- As pedodontists our main objective is to improve the oral health of children, this progress has
 facilitated the same. Our heartfelt thanks to the teachers who cooperated to make this program a
 grand success and are make thankful to the INDIAN SOCIETY OF PEDODONTICS AND
 PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY for their initiative of Teachers day week.























TAGORE DENTAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL

SURVEY ON ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS AMONG SCHOOL TEACHERS

Teacher's age: Sex:

School Name:

- 1. Is there any relationship between brushing and tooth decay (dental caries)? Yes / No
- 2. Is there any relationship between brushing and gum problems? Yes / No
- 3. Do food habits influence dental caries? Yes / No
- 4. How many times will u brush a day? Once / Twice/ Thrice
- 5. Do you rinse your mouth after every meal? Yes / No
- 6. Do you use mouth wash or any other oral hygiene aid? Yes / No
- 7. Are you aware of the brushing techniques for children and adults? Yes/ No
- 8. Are you aware of the treatment options available to prevent dental caries? Yes / No
- 9. Do you know the importance of fluoride/ fluoridated toothpaste in dentistry? Yes / No
- 10.Do you provide oral health education to your students? Yes / No
- 11. Have you received any first aid training in management of dental trauma?Yes/ No
- 12. What will you do if the student if the tooth comes out of the tooth socket due to injury?
 - i. Roll the tooth in cotton/cloth and take the student to dentist immediately
 - ii. Place the tooth in water and take the student to dentist immediately
 - iii. Place the tooth in milk / tender coconut and take the student to dentist immediately
 - iv. Discard the tooth
 - v. No idea

i.	Yes
ii.	No
. Do you	think your knowledge on management of traumatic dental injuries in school
ildren is	sufficient?
i.	Yes
ii.	No
. Are you	u willing to attend oral health education camps to increase the awareness on the
portance	of oral health and management of traumatic dental injuries in school children?
i.	Yes
ii.	No

TAGORE DENTAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL

DEPARTMENT OF PEDODONTICS AND PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY SURVEY ON ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS AMONG SCHOOL TEACHERS

Teacher's age: 57 Sex: FEMALE

School Name: HILTON MAT. HR. SEC. Handling subject: TAMIL

- 1. Is there any relationship between brushing and tooth decay (dental caries)?
- 2. Is there any relationship between brushing and gum problems? Yes / No
- 3. Do food habits influence dental caries? Yes / No
- 4. How many times will u brush a day? Once / Twice/ Thrice
- 5. Do you rinse your mouth after every meal? Yes / No
- 6. Do you use mouth wash or any other oral hygiene aid? Yes / No
- 7. Are you aware of the brushing techniques for children and adults? Yes/No
- 8. Are you aware of the treatment options available to prevent dental caries? Yes / No
- 9. Do you know the importance of fluoride/ fluoridated toothpaste in dentistry? Yes / No
- 10. Do you provide oral health education to your students? Yes / No
- 11. Have you received any first aid training in management of dental trauma? Yes/No
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 - v. No idea