

Evaluation of caries experience with oral health practices in Lucknow children

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Abstract: The aim of this study was to investigate the relationship of oral health practices with dental caries in 6-12 age groups of children in Lucknow city, India. 100 cases in 6-12 year old age group (DMFT/deft >0) and equal number of controls i.e. 100 (DMFT/deft =0). Cases matched with the control on age, sex and religion. Clinical examination (DMFT/deft index) was done in accordance with W.H.O. criteria for epidemiological studies. Respondents were interviewed in depth on a meticulously self prepared questionnaire. Starting the teeth cleaning at late age, frequency of brushing twice a day, day and night brushing and parent's perception of their own as well as their children's oral health status were significant risk factors for dental caries. Based on the findings of the result of our study we would like to conclude with the need and importance of a national dental health programme which would be able to bring out substantial and qualitative change in the present oral health practices.

Key words: Dental caries, DMFT, Oral health practices

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