



Knowledge & Awareness Of Dental Implants Among Undergraduate Dental Students In Nadiad

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Abstract:

Introduction: Since dental graduates will inevitably become dentists, it is imperative that they possess a comprehensive understanding of the most recent advancements in dental technology, particularly in relation to tooth replacement. These aspiring dentists have a duty to inform the public about emerging dental technologies. In order to determine how many dental students are aware of dental implants, this study was conducted.

Materials and Methods: In order to determine how many dental students in their first and second years at a Faculty of Dental Science in Nadiad, were aware of dental implants, we conducted a cross-sectional study. The study comprised 200 dentistry students in total. Five questions about implants were included in self-explanatory questionnaire forms that were utilized for evaluation. The results were displayed as a percentage of various responses.

Results: This study provides data on the knowledge and awareness of first- and second-year dental undergraduates regarding dental implants as a means of treating missing teeth. 187 of the 200 students who took part in the survey returned it fully completed. Of these, just 11 (5.88%) were ignorant of implants, while the remaining 176 (94.12%) were. The remaining questions were asked of these 176 subjects, and the percentage was computed.

Conclusion: This study suggests that in order to ensure that future dentists are well-informed and self-assured when it comes to dental implant therapy, there should be more instruction on dental implants taught to first- and second-year dental students.

Keywords: Dental Implants, Undergraduate students, Dentist

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Introduction:

There are numerous methods of therapy available to replace lost teeth. Maintaining the patient's normal function, speech, appearance, and health is of utmost importance. Due to the increasing use of dental implants in the rehabilitation of patients who are partially or completely edentulous, the treatment of missing teeth has undergone significant change in the last few years.¹ These days, implants are an essential component of dentistry due to their success and consistency in long-term successful outcomes, cosmetic, and functional rehabilitation.¹⁻³ Patients who favored dental implants over alternative treatment modalities for replacing lost teeth have shown a significant improvement in their oral health-related quality of life.

Currently, dental implants are frequently used to replace lost teeth in dentistry, however dental professionals still don't have a complete understanding of dental implants. Despite the remarkable clinical outcomes of dental implants, first and second year dentistry students still lack basic understanding and information on the principles of dental implants.

While dental implants are an elective treatment option for missing teeth, patients must be fully informed about the technology and its applications before they may consent to the procedure. Contemporary healthcare providers educate the general public about the most recent dental and medical treatment procedures. The aforementioned goal will be augmented by undergraduate dental and medical students being aware of any new developments in their fields. The general public's anxiety of dental implants stemming from inadequate information can be allayed by undergraduate dental students becoming aware of this treatment.

These undergraduate dental students should be well-versed in the most recent dental technologies, such as implant treatment since they will eventually become dentists. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to ascertain the first- and second-year dental students' knowledge and awareness of dental implants at the Faculty of Dental Science, Nadiad.

Materials & Methods:

A cross-sectional study was conducted for the first and second year undergraduate dental students of Faculty of Dental Science, Nadiad, to determine the number of dental students who knew about dental implants. For this study, two hundred first- and second year BDS students were chosen at random. Students were given 200 self-explanatory questionnaire forms, five of which dealt with implants. Of those, 187 students returned the completed forms. Thus, the information gathered from 187 students was used to determine the findings.

Results:

Information regarding first- and second-year dentistry undergraduate students knowledge and awareness of dental implants for the treatment of missing teeth in the prosthodontic department is provided by this study. 187 of the 200 students that took part returned the questionnaire fully completed. The table displays these pupils' answers to the various questions posed.

Table 1: Survey Data

Questionnaire	Categories	Response: n (%)
Are you aware of dental implants as an alternative for missing teeth?	Yes	176 (94.22)
	No	11 (5.88)
If yes, do you have the knowledge of implant placement procedure?	Yes	142 (80.68)
	No	34 (19.31)
Lifespan of implants?	<10 years	98 (55.68)
	10-20 years	33 (18.75)
	No Idea/Don't Know	47 (26.70)
What should be the minimum amount payable for implant treatment?	5000	46 (26.13)
	10000	103 (58.52)
	>15000	27 (15.34)
Source of information of implants?	Dentists	53 (30.11)
	TV/Newspaper	81 (46.02)
	Others	42 (23.86)

Discussion:

Dental implants are now widely used to replace lost or missing teeth, thanks to the development of the osseointegration concept in dentistry.⁵ With the aid of numerous educational and health-related initiatives, dental implant therapy is growing in popularity among patients and dentists in wealthy nations like the United States, but the situation is very different in developing nations like India. Dental students lack understanding regarding dental implants because, despite the efficacy of implant therapy, implant operations are not given much attention in undergraduate dental curricula.

Finding out how much knowledge undergraduate dental students had regarding dental implants was the aim of this study. Two hundred students in all were involved in the poll, and they were given questionnaires. Out of 200, only 187 returned the completed forms.

When asked if they were aware of implant therapy as a means of replacing lost teeth, 176 people (94%) indicated they were, while 11 people (5.68%) said they had no idea. When asked if they knew anything about the process of placing implants, 142 people (80.68%) indicated they did, while 34 people (19.31%) said they didn't know anything.

While Kaurani et al. reported that dentists were the primary source of information about dental implants, direct comparisons could not be made because this study was patient-based. In response to a question about where they learned about dental implants, 81 (46%) students said they learned about them from television, newspapers, or the internet. Students are using the internet more frequently, as seen by the majority of them choosing print and electronic media as their primary information sources.

In contrast to Saxena et al.'s observation that 14.37% of students believed that implants would not last more than ten years, 98 students, or 55.68%, said that they would not last longer than ten years. Although 47 students (26.70%) stated they had no idea how long implants last, 33 students (18.75%) stated implants last between 10 and 20 years.

When using this kind of treatment approach, the price of implants is a significant determining factor. Of the students surveyed, 46 (26.13%) thought the typical cost of implant therapy should be approximately 5000 INR, 103 (58.52%) thought the approximate cost for dental implants would be 10,000 INR, and only 27 (15.34%) thought the cost should be higher than 15000 INR.

Conclusion:

The current study's findings indicate that if we want aspiring dentists to be knowledgeable and self-assured about dental implant therapy, then more information on dental implants has to be taught in undergraduate dentistry programs. According to this study, dental implants require a more structured educational program in order to replace lost teeth.

Conflict of Interest: Nil.

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