

“Perception of Dental Students Regarding the Role of Dentist in Smoking Cessation Counselling”

1. PURPOSE :

- Tobacco use is one of the leading causes of premature death, disease and disability around the world
- Surveys have found that 58% of smokers made regular appointments with the dentist. Cessation rates of upto 18% have been seen when dental professionals counselled their patients to quit tobacco.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

The study evaluated dental student's views about tobacco cessation counselling and their skills as counsellors

3. METHODOLOGY

A cross-sectional study was conducted using a pretested questionnaire about role of dentist in smoking cessation and counselling. The questionnaire seeks to determine dental student's views about tobacco cessation counselling and their skills as counsellors.

4. RESULTS

In the survey, 27% of participants asked the patient about tobacco use (Asking), 31% of participants have helped a patient to quit tobacco use (Advise), 5% counseled patients about the effects of tobacco on oral health (Assess), 3% suggested NRT (Assist) and only 2% arranged follow up visits (Assist).

5. CONCLUSION

Dental students does not show much confidence in providing tobacco cessation counselling . This is despite the fact that they felt most of the tobacco users look forward to them for tobacco cessation counselling and will follow their advice.