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Awareness Regarding Importance of Fluoridated Toothpaste among 12–14 Years Old Children

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Abstract

Introduction: Brushing with fluoride dentifrice is a critical element of our defence against dental caries. Optimal caries protection from the fluoride in a dentifrice will only be provided if brushing delivers fluoride effectively and specifically to the teeth.

Aim and Objectives: Aim was to assess the knowledge regarding use of fluoridated toothpaste in prevention of dental caries among 12–14 years old children. Objectives were to know whether the children in the age group of 12–14 years know the advantages of using fluoridated toothpaste over non-fluoridated toothpaste in prevention of dental caries and to create awareness about advantages of fluoridated toothpaste.

Materials and Methods: 100 Children in the age group of 12–14 years were selected. The questionnaire proforma of multiple-choice questions regarding the knowledge and awareness of fluoridated toothpaste was given to the subjects to mark. The data was evaluated using chi square test and t-test.

Result: Regarding the awareness of fluoride in toothpaste, only 26% children had the knowledge regarding fluoride content in toothpaste while only 12% children had knowledge regarding actual importance of fluoride in toothpaste.

Conclusion: Based upon the findings of present study the awareness, knowledge and attitude of 12–14 years school going children regarding various oral hygiene measures and use of fluoridated toothpaste and its role in caries prevention was very poor.

Keywords: Fluoridated toothpaste, fluoride, caries, oral hygiene practice, brushing

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