

Knowledge and Awareness of Child Oral Health among Resident Doctors in Pediatrics in the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Edo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

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INTRODUCTION

Resident doctors in pediatrics are being trained to become specialists in the diagnosis, treatment and management of children with different medical conditions (Drain et al., 2007). They have close contact with children especially at the early years of life through adolescent. They generally managed diseases of children and give advice to parents and caregivers about general health and oral health. They are the first point of calls for children with ailments including oral complaints (Goyal et al., 2020). It is recommended that children receive preventive and restorative oral care at regular intervals but there is dearth of information regarding these recommendations to resident doctors in pediatrics (Viswanath et al., 2014). Therefore, a need to assess the knowledge and awareness of resident doctors in pediatrics about oral health care practices in children. The objective of the study was to assess the knowledge and awareness of child oral health among Resident doctors in Pediatrics

METHODS

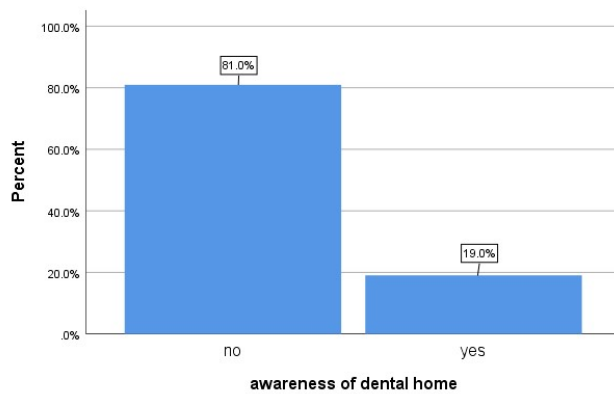
This is a cross-sectional study involved 21 resident doctors in pediatrics in the university Of Benin Teaching hospital. A comprehensive questionnaire was prepared. The questionnaire was divided into demographic characteristics, knowledge towards child oral health, awareness of child oral health and pediatric dentist

RESULTS

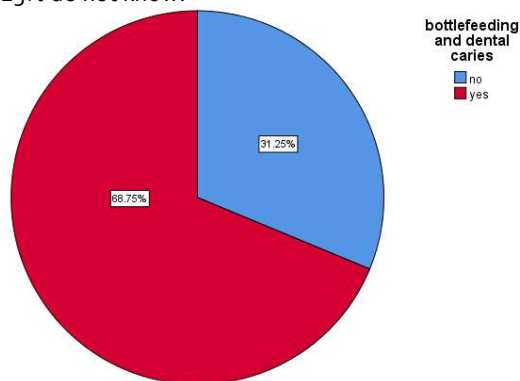
The result shows that 81.0% do not know about the concept of dental home while only 19% are aware of it (see results below).

CONCLUSION

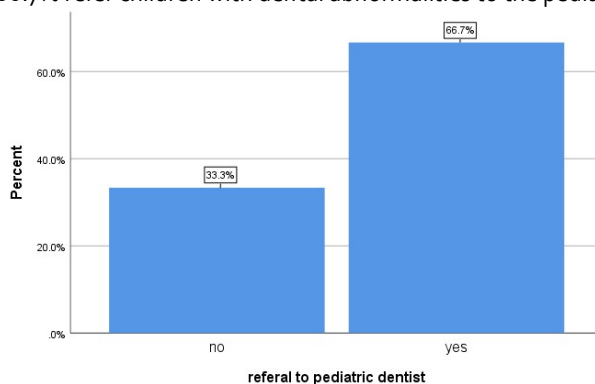
Our study shows that most resident doctors in pediatrics are not aware of the concept of dental home which is inclusive of all oral health for children and our study also shows that routine oral examination is not always carried out.



About 68.75% have the knowledge that night time bottle feeding can predispose a child to dental carie while 31.25% do not know.



66.7% refer children with dental abnormalities to the pediatric dentist.



		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	12	57.1	57.1	57.1
	Yes	9	42.9	42.9	100.0
	Total	21	100.0	100.0	

Routine examination of oral cavity

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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