

24TH AMERICAN DENTAL RESEARCH & FUTURE DENTISTRY

3rd Annual Meeting on



PEDODONTICS AND GERIATRIC DENTISTRY

May 25-26, 2018 New York, USA

Assessment of first aid knowledge about tooth avulsion in paediatricians of Karnal city, Haryana (India)

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Seventy pediatricians practicing in various Government and private hospitals in Karnal city Haryana, India, were assessed for their first aid knowledge about incisor tooth avulsion in children. The responses of 70 pediatricians on a hypothetical clinical condition about tooth avulsion and its re-plantation in a 10 years old boy, were collected through a questionnaire having seven conceptual questions. The collected data were analyzed as a whole and in four different groups of pediatricians based on experience as G1, < 10 years, G2, 10 to 20 years, G3, 21 to 30 years and G4, > 30 years of experiences. The percentage of pediatricians having different options for all seven questions were calculated and in addition to that knowledge-score of each pediatrician was calculated by assigning one and zero to right and wrong options for each question. The satisfactory knowledge about three questions viz. type of incisor tooth in a ten-year-old boy as permanent answered rightly by 71.43% pediatricians with knowledge score (0.70 ± 0.19), critical extra-alveolar time of the avulsed tooth should be within 15 minutes accurately answered by 67.14 % pediatricians with knowledge score (0.65 ± 0.15), and the avulsed primary tooth need not to be re-planted answered appropriately by 60% pediatricians with knowledge score (0.60 ± 0.16), were observed from this study. Average knowledge about three questions viz. the ideal time for replanting the avulsed permanent tooth for the best possible prognosis is within 10 to 15 minutes accurately responded by 34.29% of pediatricians with knowledge score 0.33 ± 0.06 , Immediate management of permanent avulsed tooth by putting the avulsed tooth in its original socket and then refer to dentist rightly answered by 28.57% of pediatrician with knowledge score 0.28 ± 0.043 , about the optimum storage medium for avulsed permanent teeth to be re-planted after a longer period as (HBSS) answered correctly by 21.42 % of pediatrician with knowledge score 0.22 ± 0.094 , were observed. Very poor knowledge about the proper handling of avulsed permanent tooth and its immediate gentle cleaning with the easily available tap water was answered correctly by 8.57 percent of pediatricians with knowledge score 0.06 ± 0.078 was observed. Average mean knowledge score from all 70 pediatricians for all questions was observed as 0.40 ± 0.24 which does not vary significantly from the mean knowledge score of different groups ($p \geq 0.05$). The present study did not demonstrate a strong association between their first aid knowledge about tooth avulsion and length of experience.

Biography

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