

Causes of Root canal treatment in patients examined at RAKCODS Dental Clinic and the impact of oral health care education on their knowledge

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The purpose of this study is to identify various causes and factors necessitating root canal therapy (RCT) in people examined at RAK College of dental sciences hospital and to understand the impact of dental education on the people lacking proper knowledge about adequate oral hygiene. The aim of endodontic treatment is to treat or prevent apical periodontitis. Today, many pulpless teeth, once condemned to extraction, are saved by root canal therapy. The study was carried out on 382 patients who reported to RAK College of Dental Sciences hospital from September, 2011 to June, 2012. Majority of patients belonged to low socio-economic status. Diagnostic criteria used were complete dental history, thorough clinical examination and other investigative procedures such as radiographs and thermal tests. Pretested questionnaire was administered to the examined patients to check their awareness about oral health. Following which 3 minutes dental education was given to them and the same questionnaire was administered again. The difference in knowledge was noted and analyzed. The results showed Irreversible pulpitis (43.5 % "n = 166) was the most common indication for conventional root canal therapy followed by Necrosis (28.5%, "n= 109), Fractured tooth (20.2%, "n=77), Intentional/Prosthodontic reasons (4.7%, "n=18) and post conventional root canal therapy failure (3.2%, n=12). People who smoked had higher percentage irreversible pulpitis (24%, n=90) and necrotic tooth (19%, n=73) as indication of conventional RCT than those who did not. The most common post endodontic failures were seen in maxillary first molars (50%, n=6). Only 50.94% of the people were aware about the maintenance of adequate oral health. Following the oral health education this number increased to 81.13%. After conducting the study it is clear that dental care should be expanded towards people with low socioeconomic status and adequate treatment should be provided. Caries preventive program strategies should also be strengthened and more frequent dental education should be reinforced.

Biography

Ebadullah Shafi has completed his BDS at the age of 22 years from RAK Medical and Health Sciences University and is constantly involved in active researches in the oral health and restorative dentistry. He is an ambassador for International student research journal, foreign exchange officer for Dental wing of Indian Medical Student associated and Language and Reference editor for International Journal of Medical Science and Public Health. He has conducted 4 researches and published more than one scientific paper in reputed journal.

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