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## Initial 'well-baby' checkup for oral health: A cross-sectional study in Aljouf province, Saudi Arabia

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Child's first dental visit at an early age is a "well-baby checkup" for the teeth. According to American Dental Association and American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the first dental visit should occur within six months after the eruption of first tooth, but no later than the child's first birthday. The main goal of well-baby oral checkup is to observe the development and teething, prevent ECC and to detect and prevent progression of incipient caries. Besides checking soft tissues such as gums, cheeks and for cavities, the dentist should educate parents about cleaning of teeth, oral habits, diet counseling, methods to prevent trauma to teeth and what to expect as the child grows and develops in the coming months. The previous data demonstrate that parents' in Saudi Arabia considers the first dental visit before the age of one was inappropriate. According to a study, only 37% of the parents in Aljouf province agreed that it was necessary to take their baby for a dental checkup after the teeth erupted. So a descriptive cross-sectional study has been undertaken in Aljouf province, Saudi Arabia to know the age and the main reason for first dental visit of the child. The well-baby oral checkup will have a huge impact on how a child feels about the dentist, so it's important for the dentist to take the necessary steps to have a successful first appointment with the child in non-threatening and friendly way. One dental visit when there's one tooth can equal zero cavities.

### Biography

Josna Vinutha Yadiki has completed her BDS at Narayana Dental College and MDS in Pediatric Dentistry at Government Dental College and Hospital, Hyderabad, India. She is currently working as a Lecturer in Pediatric Dentistry at College of Dentistry, AlJouf University, Saudi Arabia.

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