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Oral health beliefs, knowledge, and behavioral attitudes of Egyptian mothers resident in Giza city towards early childhood caries

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The objective of this study is the evaluation of the oral health beliefs, knowledge and behavior related to the early childhood caries and the barriers may be facing mothers to obtain proper health care in a sample representing Egyptian mothers living in Giza city. A cross sectional questionnaire based study was carried out in Giza city, Egypt, including 440 mothers who do have a child with age of 6 years or younger. This questionnaire was designed to evaluate the participant characteristics and to assess their oral health beliefs and knowledge score (22 questions) and oral health behavior score (10 questions), the scores were calculated by summing the correctly answered questions. And also to determine the possible barriers to obtain proper oral health care (7 questions). The analysis of the data did reveal that 48.4% of the participants answered 16 to 22 questions correctly in the oral health beliefs and knowledge sector, while 49.3% of the participant answered 4-6 questions correctly in the oral health behavior sector, while the answers in the barrier section did reveal that 94.3% of the participants were facing 3 to 7 barriers to obtain oral health care. The oral health beliefs and knowledge showed a statistically significant positive correlation with oral health behavior and the barriers to obtain proper oral health care (P value = 0.000). Although the participants were confronted with some barriers to reach proper oral health care, they revealed an internal proper oral health knowledge associated with accepted oral health behavior.



Figure 2: A: Distribution scores regarding level of oral health beliefs and knowledge questions.
B: Distribution scores regarding level of oral health behavior questions.

Recent Publications

1. Rai NK, Tiwari T. Parental factors influencing the development of early childhood caries in developing nations : A Systematic Review. Front Public Health 2018; 6:1-8.
2. Heaton B, Crawford A, Garcia RI, Henshaw M, Riedy CA, Barker JC, et al. Oral health beliefs , knowledge , and behaviors in Northern California American Indian and Alaska Native mothers regarding early childhood caries. J Public Health Dent 2017; 77(4):350-359.
3. Alya N, Abu F, Mamat Z. Parental knowledge and practices on preschool children oral healthcare in Nibong Tebal Penang Malaysia. JOJ Nurse Health Care 2018; 7(4):1-5.
4. Gurunathan D, Moses J, Arunachalam SK. Knowledge , attitude , and practice of mothers regarding oral hygiene of primary school children in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. Int J Clin Pediatr Dent 2018; 11(4):338-343.
5. Alzaidi SS, Alanazi IA, Mohammed O, Nawas A, Mulla MA. Childhood oral health : maternal knowledge and practice in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia. Egypt J Hosp Med 2018; 70(1):1544-1551.

Biography

Naglaa Ibrahim Ezzeldin Soliman, Lecturer of Pediatric Dentistry Department, Faculty of Dentistry, October University for Modern Sciences & Arts (MSA). She graduated in May 2003 from Faculty of Oral & Dental Medicine, Cairo University, in September 2009, she was awarded master degree and in May 2014, she got her degree in pediatric dentistry. During her scientific career she did gain some experience in essentials of medical research methodology, oral traumatology and a long experience in presentation and communication skills.

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