

TO STUDY THE EFFECT OF IMPLANT EDUCATION ON CHOICE OF THERAPY IN SOUTH INDIAN POPULATION- QUESTIONNAIRE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this survey was to assess the factors influencing decision making for implant therapy and the demographic factors and its role in decision making among a selected sample of dental patients in Sree Balaji dental college and hospital, Chennai, Tamilnadu, India. Patients' knowledge and awareness in using dental implants as an option in replacing missing teeth were evaluated through a standardized self- explanatory questionnaire. The questionnaires were handed to the patients during their regular dental visits. A total of 477 subjects were included in this survey. The results of this study indicate that 77% of the subjects knew about dental implants. For the subject's dentist was the main source of information about dental implants for 23% and from secondary source of information for 22.4%. About 9% of the subjects had information from the internet followed by the private clinician (9%) and media (2%). Only 23% of those surveyed did not know if their regular dentists use dental implants. High cost was the major factor in preventing patients from choosing implants (51.7%) while the surgical procedure and long treatment time was the factor in 17.4% and 14% of the subjects, respectively. Almost 80.5% of subjects refused implant therapy but 51.1% of them showed a positive trend towards implant therapy after knowing the benefits of the therapy and treatment procedure. The results of this survey showed that more patients may choose for implant therapy if the awareness is increased and the cost is covered.

KEYWORDS: Implant, Questionnaire, Awareness, Prosthodontics Options