Awareness and motivation for orthodontic treatment investigated with Q-methodology

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Objectives: The aim of this investigation is to evaluate patient's attitudes and demand for orthodontic treatment with Q-methodology.

Study Design: Prospective cohort study.

Materials and methods: The two-phase method of Stein has been used in order to calculate the number of parents. At the first stage, we have used a sample of 50 children, set the standard deviation (SD) based on age and standard error (SE) with quality variables. At the second stage, a formula has been applied to calculate the number of observations, \( P(u) = 0.95, S_x=3.45 \) and \( \Delta=0.5 \). The study was conducted on 259 children.

Results: By the adolescents opinion, the most important reason is aesthetics and here their expectations from the outcomes are very high, \( r_{xy}=0.93 \) (P=0.000). The subjective factors as "I want to have upright teeth" \( r_{xy}=0.90 \) and "I want to look perfect by growing up" \( r_{xy}=0.82 \) show high correlation coefficients. These correlation coefficients are a reason for a summary that highly sophisticated and motivated patients who are aware of the successful social realization and thanks to the beauty of the smile and the perfect vision are involved to the sample.

Conclusions: The following four factors have been outlined by Q-methodology to determine the motivation of the children:

- "Aesthetics and Conscious Need"
- "Aesthetics and social realization"
- "Striving for perfection"
- "Aesthetics and importance of foreign opinion"

Biography


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