

Caries prevalence in the primary teeth of Saudi primary school children at Saudi National Guard, Riyadh and their parents oral health attitude

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Background: Dental caries is the most prevalent oral disease among school children. According to World Health Organization school going children are more affected from dental Different risk factors for dental caries have been identified and they are related to change in the lifestyle

Aim: The aim of the present study is to determine the caries prevalence in primary school children, Saudi National Guard, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. and to assess the oral health attitude of parents of children in the National Guard Affairs schools in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Methods: A random sample of 267 children age 7-10 years was taken from six public schools of National Guard. It consisted of three male schools and three female schools with a sample of 135 each from the male and 132 from female school. students were examined for dental caries using the world health organization (WHO) criteria by trained examiners. Survey questionnaire was distributed to children parents to assess the oral health knowledge and attitude. Data analysis was done using SPSS software.

Results: Quantitative variables are given as mean, standard deviation (SD), medians and ranges, while qualitative variables are given as percentage. Having caries compare to use of fluoride and breastfeeding using chi-square test. Out of 267 children examined, 7-10 years old, approximately 81. 3% in 2013 in the schools had caries experience. The mean caries was 4. 2 (SD=3. 7) with rang 0-19 carries. According to the parents, 31. 1 of the children had never had a dental check- up before, 68. 9% they had dental check-up, and 72. 3% of them complain from dental pain, while 27. 7% they never had a complain, also 66. 3% had received breast feeding, while 33. 7% they had never had breast feeding, also most of the children had 61. 4 receive fluoride in their teeth while 35. 6%they never had. . There is no significant different between male and female in the mean number of caries, (P=0. 14). There is no significant difference between fluoride use and caries P=0. 9. There is no significant difference between breast feeding and caries P=0. 5.

Conclusion: The caries prevalence in Saudi National guard primary schoolchildren in Riyadh is very high. The parents attitude regarding oral health is satisfactory.

Biography

Abeer AlSubait got her Master Degree in Public Health, King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Science (College of Public Health and Health Informatics) 2012. She got her Diploma degree in Public Health from Liverpool Tropical Medicine 2012, AEGD certificate from King Abdulaziz Medical City-Dental Center – Jan 2004. She is the Director of School Dental Prevention Program in Ministry of National Guard, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She is Co-Director of the Advanced General Dentistry Program in Dental Service in Ministry of national Guard, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She is the Co-chairman of continuing education committee in dental service in Ministry of national guard, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and Lecturer in Dental College in King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for health science.

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