Level of Public Awareness about Dental Implants: A Cross sectional Study

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Introduction: Implant dentistry has recently become a highly viable treatment option for replacement of missing teeth. The number of implants being placed worldwide has increased exponentially in the past decades. Implant dentistry has opened new options in wide variety of cases. However in the certain parts of the country acceptance of implants as a treatment modality is still low due to lack of awareness or high treatment costs as compared to other available treatment options. The aim of the study was to determine the level of awareness of implants as a dental treatment modality. The objective of the study was to evaluate whether there is further need to improve awareness in the general population regarding implants.

Material and Method: A validated printed questionnaire was used to conduct a survey to evaluate the awareness about implants in 200 dental patients visiting the department of Prosthodontics and private dental clinics in and around Nagpur. Information was gathered regarding knowledge and attitude of patients regarding Implant treatment.

Results: Out of the 200 patients, approximately 30% mostly in the age group of 20-50 years (35.5%) knew about dental implants as a treatment modality, with no statistical significance difference between males and females. It was also found that they had received the information regarding implants from their dentists or from social media. All the patients who had a negative attitude towards dental implants were due to the high cost being the first reason (43%) and need for surgical intervention (38%) being the second reason.

Conclusion: The survey concluded that further awareness should be provided to patients regarding dental implants. There should be efforts taken to reduce the treatment costs by initiating implant manufacturing or use of cost-effective technologies.

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