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## Research Article

### KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS OF THE DENTAL IMPLANT AMONG THE RURAL POPULATION

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#### ABSTRACT

**Background And Reason:** The survey was conducted to evaluate about the knowledge of dental implant as a treatment option among the rural population of the south Indian population.

**Result:** The result showed that there is not enough knowledge about dental implant therapy among the rural population of south India.

**Conclusion:** The survey concludes that effective steps must be taken to spread knowledge and awareness among the rural population of south India.

#### Key Words:

Complete denture, awareness, dental implant therapy, expectation.

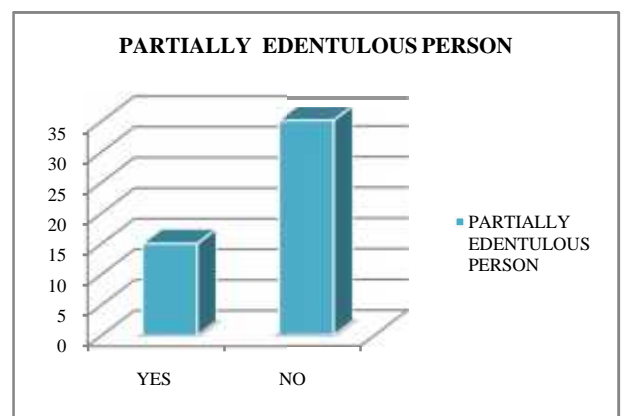
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#### INTRODUCTION

Dental implants are artificial teeth replacement done to rehabilitated partially edentulous patient. The advantage of dental implant is improved stability, retention and esthetics. A dental implant (also known as an endosseous implant or fixture) is a surgical component that interfaces with the bone of the jaw or the skull to support a dental prosthesis such as a crown, bridge, denture, or to act as an orthodontic anchor. The basis for modern dental implant is a biological process called osseointegration where material, such as titanium, form an intimate bond to bone. The implant fixture is first placed, so that it is likely to get attached with the alveolar bone by osseointegration process, then a dental prosthetic is added. A variable amount of healing time is required for osseointegration before either the dental prosthetic (a tooth, bridge or denture) is attached to the implant or an abutment is placed which will hold a dental prosthetic. The final prosthetic can be either fixed, where a person cannot remove the denture or teeth from their mouth, or removable, where they can remove the prosthetic. In each case an abutment is attached to the implant fixture. Many rural area of the south India are still unaware of the dental implant therapy as they do not have the access to the dentist, thus a survey on evaluating their knowledge was important on dental implant therapy. People were enquired and the bar graph were used for the comparing the set of information gained by the questioner survey.

#### METHOD

Information on the demographic characteristics, knowledge and awareness about dental implant was evaluated. The information was obtained from about 50 people among the rural population. The survey was conducted in the rural place of the south India. It was a questioner survey done on their knowledge on dental implant. All the people were randomly evaluated including the age group from 16 to 55. There is improvement in the dental implant therapy and thus were few among the population had knowledge about it and so many does not choose it as option because of the lack of the knowledge about it.



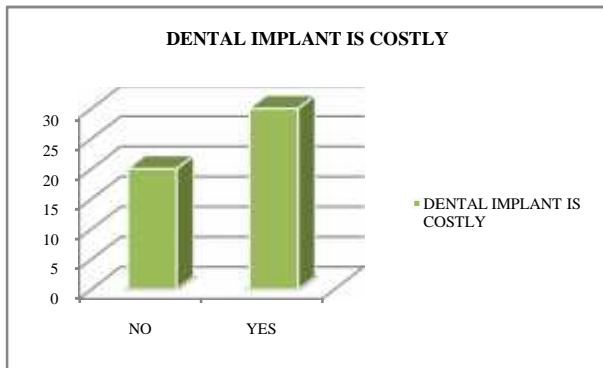
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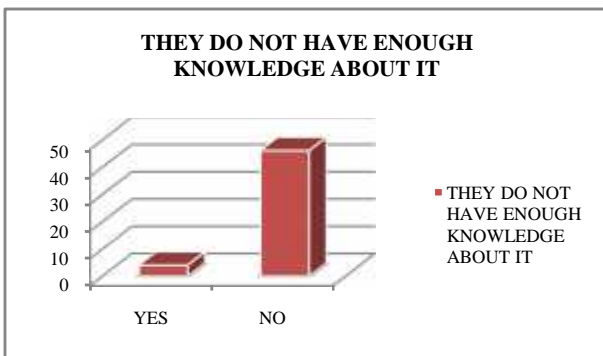
The main aim of the study was to assess the awareness of the people regarding implant-retained prosthesis as an option for tooth replacement and the knowledge about tooth replacement as a whole include information and attitude towards it in among the rural population.

## RESULT

The graph represents ratio between people with partially edentulous and the normal one



The graph represents the ratio between number of people feeling it to be costly and the other saying it to be cheap



The graph represents ratio between people who had enough knowledge and others who did not

## DISCUSSION

The survey had people of the age group between 16 to 55 and they were enquired about their knowledge on dental implant therapy. Among the 100 people 50% included females and 50% were male. Various questions were asked about their attitude towards dental implant therapy. Among the population about 90% were unaware and 10% were aware of the dental implant therapy either by a dentist during their visit to the clinic, or by their friends and other sources like television. In about 100 people 30% of the population includes partially edentulous patient and 70% were with normal dentition, about 60% of the population thinks that dental implant are costly and thus are not interested in undergoing this process even if they were partially edentulous patient. 40% of the population thinks dental implant to be affordable and thus were interested in dental Implant therapy. As it can be seen people do not take dental implant therapy as the option for their tooth replacement either because they lack knowledge or because they assumed it to be much costly for them to afford it. Much of the population

lacked information because they were from the rural area where they don't get access to the dentist easily.

## CONCLUSION

Thus we can conclude that though people had heard about dental implant therapy but still they are not interested in dental implant therapy as an option for their teeth alternatives because they think it too costly and they don't have enough knowledge about it. The same was observed in many of the reference article where the subjects did not have enough knowledge on dental implant therapy either because of their illiteracy or because of the poor access to the dentist in the rural area, thus efforts must be made for giving knowledge as well as creating awareness specially among the rural population on dental implant therapy.

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