

Evaluation of the relationship between age and the cause of the first dental visit of children from birth to 10 years old in patients referred to medical centers in 1400

Abstract

Introduction: Sometimes parents think that there is no need to visit a dentist until the eruption of the permanent teeth. While the first dental visit at the appropriate age and before the onset of caries will enable dental professionals to recognize the signs of early childhood caries and evaluate the growth and development of teeth. Also guide and encourage the parent or caregiver in maintaining oral hygiene. Due to the importance of the subject, this study evaluated the mean age of the first dental visit of children and the cause of that.

Materials and Methods: In this study, the children who visit the dentist for the first time from birth to 10 years old were interviewed. Information including the age and gender of these children, as well as the age and the level of education of the parents, the child's ranking in terms of the number of children and the reason for their referral were recorded. Causes of child referral to dentist were categorized as: pain, tooth decay, abscess and swelling, trauma, soft tissue lesions, examination, discoloration and tooth staining, residual deciduous teeth, oral habits, dental irregularities, dental anomalies, loose teeth. Data were entered into SPSS software version 21 for analysis. Mean and mean statistics were used to analyze the descriptive data and Chi-square and Fisher's exact test were used to analyze the relationship between variables. Significance level was considered less than 0.05 ($P < 0.05$).

Results: The mean age of children at the first dental visit was $6,268 \pm 1.07$ years. The proportion of girls and boys was similar among the clients. The most common causes of the first visit were pain (51.3%), dental caries (22.2%), visit (12.9%), abscess and swelling (9.2%), residual deciduous teeth (7 5.5%), tooth discoloration (4.7%), dental irregularity (4.5%), looseness (2.8%), trauma (1.5%), oral habits (0.3%), lesions soft tissue (0.2%). 38% of mothers and 34.4% of fathers had a bachelor's degree and the average age of mothers was 35.06 and fathers 39.84. Also, 58.7% of the children referred were the first child of the family.

Conclusion: According to the results of the study, most children have their first dental visit later than the time recommended by dentists (between 6 and 12 months). The main reason for the child's first dental visit is pain and caries. It is necessary to raise awareness among parents / caregivers about the importance of a child's deciduous teeth and dental visit in a timely manner.

Keywords: Dental caries, First dental visit, early childhood caries