

MOST COMMON CHIEF COMPLAINT FOR SEEKING DENTAL TREATMENT: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY CARRIED OUT IN VARIOUS HOSPITALS IN JORDAN

¹MOHAMMAD ABDEL HAMEED AL QUDAH, ²MOHAMED MAHMOUD AL-BATAINEH,
³AHMAD IZZEDDIN ALDALALAH, ⁴FADI KAMEL OBEIDAT,
⁵ALA'A ABDUL AL KARIM AL RAWASHDEH

ABSTRACT

This cross-sectional study was carried out to determine the most common chief complaints for which people visited various dental care hospitals in Jordan.

After obtaining the ethical approval, five hundred patients who visited the public sector dental hospitals in Jordan formed the study group, 50% of them were males. The data were collected through self-designated questionnaire which included demographics and chief complaints of the patients. Statistical analysis was conducted using (SPSS), Chi-square test, and one-way ANOVA test.

The main finding was that the dental pain was the most common reason for seeking dental treatment (43.2%), followed by restorative treatment (15.6%), dental caries (14.0%), dental implant (7.4%), orthodontics treatment (7.0%), dental trauma (4.6%), periodontal treatment (4.4%), routine checkup (2.6%), and other reasons (1.2%) respectively.

Key words: Dental pain, Chief complaint, Royal Medical Services.

This article may be cited as: Al-Qudah MAH, Al-Bataineh MM, Aldalalah AI, Obeidat FK, Al-Rawashdeh AAA. Most Common Chief Complaint for Seeking Dental Treatment: A Cross Sectional Study Carried Out in Various Hospitals in Jordan. Pak Oral Dent J 2021; 41(2):70-72.

INTRODUCTION

One of the important things in patient history is the chief complaint. The patients explain their chief complaint which helps the clinicians to diagnose and treat the patient.¹⁻⁶ After documenting the complaint, the clinicians proceed with the detailed examination, and take appropriate radiographics.⁷⁻⁸ It was concluded that pain was the most compelling reason to seek dental treatment.

METHODOLOGY

This cross-sectional study was conducted at various public dental care centers in Jordan, after obtaining an Ethical Approval by the ethics committee of the Royal Medical Services, Jordan. A self-reported questionnaire was distributed among the participants in different

clinics and collected later. A total of five hundred patients who visited the public sector dental centers formed the study group. The questionnaire included demographics (age and gender) and chief complaints, as shown in figure -1: Chief complaint was noted. If there were several complaints, the most important one was recorded.

The statistical analyses were conducted using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. Chi-square test was used to test variances in variables and for comparisons of the magnitudes of patients according to different limitations (gender, dental visits, chief complaints, age variables, etc.). One Way ANOVA was used for age by reasons to dental care variable.

RESULTS

A total of 500 patients formed the study group. The mean age of the participants was 32.38, SD 13.478. Details of the results can be seen from tables 1 and 2 and figure 1.

DISCUSSION

According to The American Dental Association (ADA), the chief complaint of the patient is considered

¹ **Correspondence:** Dr Mohammad Abdel Hameed Al Qudah, BDS, JDB, Periodontics* Prince Hashem bin Abdullah Military Hospital, Aqaba, Jordan. Tel: +962796482510

² Dr Mohamed Mahmoud Al-Bataineh BDS, JDB, Endodontics, Prince Rashid Military Hospital, Irbid, Jordan

³ Dr Ahmad Izzeddin Aldalalah, BDS, JDB, Conservative Dentistry

⁴ Dr Fadi kamel Obeidat, BDS, JDB, prosthodontics

⁵ Dr Ala'a Abdul Al karim Al Rawashdeh, BDS, JDB, Orthodontics

Received for Publication: Feb 6, 2021

Revised: Mar 24, 2021

Approved: Mar 25, 2021

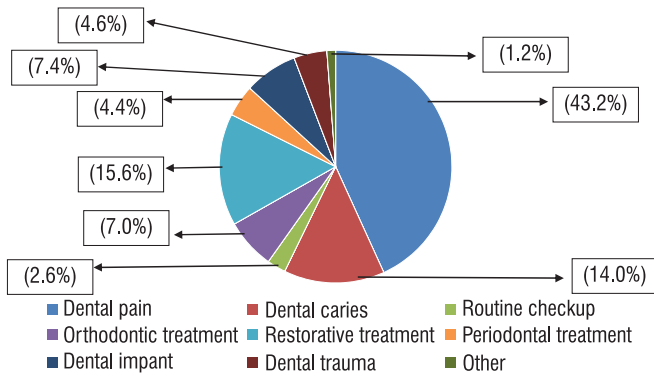


Fig 1: Reasons for seeking dental treatment

TABLE 1: NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN EACH CATEGORY

Gender	N	%
Males	250	50%
Females	250	50%
Total	500	100%

TABLE 2: NUMBER AND GENDER OF PATIENTS WHO SOUGHT TREATMENT FOR VARIOUS REASONS

Reasons	Gender		
	Males	Females	Total
Dental pain	106	110	216
Dental caries	37	33	70
Routine checkup	5	8	13
Orthodontic treatment	12	23	35
Restorative treatment	46	32	78
Periodontal treatment	9	13	22
Dental implant	22	15	37
Dental trauma	12	11	23
Others	3	3	6
Total	252	248	500
Chi-Square		9.03	
P.		.340	

essential for the quality of oral health care.⁷⁻⁹ The present study was conducted to evaluate and assess why patients were seeking dental treatment in various public dental clinics in Jordan. The main findings was that the dental pain was the most common reason for seeking dental treatment (43.2%), followed by restorative treatment (15.6%), dental caries (14.0%), dental implant (7.4%), orthodontic treatment (7.0%), dental trauma (4.6%), periodontal treatment (4.4%), routine checkup (2.6%), and other reasons (1.2%) respectively.

According to a study conducted in Chitwan Medical College for pediatrics aged 3 to 14 years, the age group with the majority of visiting was 7-11 years, and the most common chief complaint was pain followed by dental caries.¹⁰⁻¹³ In comparison to a study at the Faculty of Dentistry in Umm Al-Qura University in Makkah city, Saudi Arabia, the most common chief complaint was dental pain (35.4%), followed by routine check-up (13%), and dental decay (6.9%).¹⁴⁻²⁰ These findings are consistent with the results of this study as the pain was the most common chief complaint for the patients.

CONCLUSION

This study showed that dental pain was the most common reason for seeking dental treatment in various dental centres of Jordan.

REFERENCES

- 1 Abdullah BA, Al-Tuhafi AA. Chief complaints of patients attending college of Dentistry at Mosul University. *Al-Rafidain Dental Journal*. 2007 Jun 1;7(2):201-5.
- 2 Hook CR, Comer RW, Trombly RM, Guinn III JW, ShROUT MK. Treatment planning processes in dental schools. *J of dent edu*. 2002; 66(1):68-74.
- 3 Glick M. *Burket's oral medicine*. PMPH USA; 2015.
- 4 Hovliaras CA. *Savvy Success: Achieving Professional Excellence and Career Satisfaction in the Dental Hygiene Profession Volume II: Patient Care*. AuthorHouse; 2012.
- 5 Maheswaran T, Ramesh V, Krishnan A, Joseph J. Common chief complaints of patients seeking treatment in the government dental institution of Puducherry, India. *J Indian Acad Dent Spec Res*. 2015;2:55-8.
- 6 American Dental Education Association. Competencies for Entry into the Profession of Dental Hygiene. *J of Dent Edu*. 2005; 69: 803-809.
- 7 Dhaimade PA, Banga KS. Evaluation of chief complaints of patients and prevalence of self-medication for dental problems: an institutional study. *Int J Com Med Pub Health*. 2018;5(2):674.
- 8 Ogbemor OG, Azodo CC. Reasons for seeking dental health-care services in a Nigerian missionary hospital. *Sahel Med J*. 2016;19(1):38.
- 9 Ghimire N, Kayastha B, Nepal P. The first dental visit. *J of Chitwan Med Coll*. 2013;3(4):30-33.
- 10 Okundigie Ea, Ogbemor Og. Concerns and Care Seeking Behaviour for Dental Caries among Dental Outpatients in Central Hospital, Benin City. *Nigerian Journal of Dental Sciences*. 2018;1(1&2):8-13.
- 11 Jaafar A, Nasir WM, Ab Mumin N, Elias NN, Sabri MA. Reasons for seeking dental care among adults at an academic dental centre and the associated factors. *Archives of Orofacial Sciences*. 2018;13(2):104-11.
- 12 Nwoke N. Utilization Of Dental Health Care Service: A case. *Innovat Int J Med Pharm Sci*. 2017;2(1).
- 13 Al-Johani K, Lamfon H, Abed H, Beyari M. Common chief complaints of dental patients at Umm Al-Qura University, Makkah city, Saudi Arab. *Oral H Dent*. 2017;16:1-4.
- 14 Ali WM. Chief complaint, treatment need and factors affect late attendance to dental clinic in a sample collected from Iraqi patients. *Marietta Daily J*. 2009;6:65-68.

- 15 Greenwell H. Position paper: Guidelines for periodontal therapy. *J of periodo.* 2001;72(11):1624-28.
- 16 Jain M, Thomas MS, Shenoy R. Dental treatment demands, needs and utilization among geriatric patients: A tertiary health Care-Based retrospective study. *Indian Journal of Public Health Research and Development.* 2018;9(9):59-64.
- 17 Calley KH. Dental Hygiene Process of Care, in Darby M.L., ed.: *Mosby's Comprehensive Review of Dental Hygiene*, 5th edn. St. Louis, Mosby, 2002; 577-78.
- 18 Dogar Fm, Munshi MS, Haroon F, Zakir A. Dental Anxiety Among General Population Of Sheikhpura. *Pak Oral & Dent J.* 2020; 40(3):171
- 19 Ikpefan DO, Erhabor P, Azodo CC. Oral Health Awareness and Care Seeking Behaviours among Public and Private Dental Clinics Attendees: Oral Health Awareness and Care Seeking Behaviours among Dental Clinics Attendees. *Nig J Dent Sci.* 2020;3(1):9-15.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY AUTHORS
All authors contributed substantially