

## Mandibular Third Molar Impactions in South India-A Descriptive Cross-Sectional Study

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### Abstract

**Background:** Mandibular third molars are the most common impacted teeth in human dentition. This is attributed to the evolution and modern dietary habits. Infections and pathologies from third molars are major factors affecting oral health next to dental caries and periodontal diseases. Surgical removal of mandibular third molars is definitely indicated to prevent the risk of odontogenic cyst and tumours. **Materials and Methods:** A descriptive cross-sectional study was undertaken to analyse the patterns and prevalence of mandibular third molars in Govt. Rajaji hospital Madurai, India. Demographic, clinical and radiological data of one hundred patients (N=100) who underwent surgical removal of lower third molars were retrieved tabulated and analyzed using SPSS software version 16. **Results:** The results demonstrated that Females predominantly underwent surgical removal of mandibular third molars. The common age group is 26 to 35 years. The. Distoangular type being the most common impaction type and Pericoronitis is the most common aetiology. **Conclusion:** The study proves that the mandibular third molar impactions are prevalent in the south Indian population in and around Madurai.