

Unmet Dental Needs and Behaviour of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Uttar Pradesh, India

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Abstract

Objective: Unmet Dental needs and behaviour of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Uttar Pradesh, India. **Materials and Method:** 81 children with ASD attending special children school in Noida were included. WHO criteria (2013) was utilized to assess def, DMF, Dental Trauma. Oral hygiene was assessed with Plaque index and its modification for primary dentition. The expressed behaviour of the child was noted using Frankl's behaviour rating scale. Data obtained was subjected to statistical analysis. **Results:** Our study assessed the Dental treatment needs that were unmet based on the observed oral health status and behaviour expressed by children towards dental check-up. Majority (69%) of the children required prompt dental treatment, 8% required immediate care. Only 39.74% of children were Caries free; children had fair oral hygiene as the mean plaque index (PI) was 1.74. **Conclusions:** Autistic Children under the sample had significantly more caries, fair oral hygiene and urgent treatment needs. The study highlights the prompt need of establishing measures for efficient oral hygiene practices. Such efforts will the disease the burden of comorbidly occurring oral diseases.