

Awareness of implants as an option in dental treatment. A study held in college of dentistry, Tikrit University

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ABSTRACT--Loss of teeth is a condition that affects the patient functionally, esthetically and psychologically. The use of dental implants in complete and partial edentulism is an effective choice for prosthetic replacement. However, patient's awareness concerning this choice is still very little, and there is no survey held in Tikrit University to estimate the degree of Knowledge regarding this subject. To estimate the degree of awareness of the need for implants in dental treatment among the staff and students of Tikrit university. A questionnaire has been prepared and given randomly to 100 teachers and students in Tikrit university and information gathered from it. Then using IBM SPSS 23 statistical program to manage the data. A sample of 100 patients were randomly selected for this survey. Most participants were aware of using implant as an option in teeth replacement 78.3%. According to the results it was found that the main source of participants knowledge of implants was from friends and relatives as was shown in the percentage of answers (45.4 %). The highest percentage (72 %) answered that an implant lasts less than 5 years, the greatest percentage (46%) answered that the fear of surgery is the main reason preventing them from having an implant.

1. There is a good awareness among participants of the use of implants.
2. Most of the information about implants came from friends and relatives. There is also a great impact of media on this subject. So there should be more efforts from dentists to educate people.
3. Educational programs must be made to explain the materials, surgical operation, benefits and risks of implants as a choice in teeth replacement.

Key words--implant, implant knowledge, dental awareness, patient awareness, teeth replacement.

I INTRODUCTION

Today's objective of dentistry is to restore normal function, esthetic and oral health of the patient as well as improving self-esteem.¹ Loss of natural teeth is a debilitating and irreversible condition and is described as the "final marker for disease burden of oral health".²

Substitution of missing teeth utilizing dental implants for artful and anatomic rehabilitation has become an accustomed and broadly acclimated analysis access in dentistry.³

Currently, dental implants are broadly accustomed as a prosthetic management of absolutely or partially edentulous patients. Dental implants accept better denture retention, stability, anatomic efficiency and well-being of the patient. Implants are constituent action in a lot of the cases so complete advice on implant therapy and added other therapies have to be provided to assist the patients for accommodating in best of a lot of management option.⁴

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Minimal information is accessible to patients regarding the procedural details of implant therapy and its success rate. There is abridgement of apprenticeship and acquaintance amidst general population about dental implants as a treatment option for replacing missing teeth.^{5, 6}

Awareness about dental implants is increasing among dental patients, which demands a higher level of competence for dental students. There is limited literature regarding status of knowledge and awareness of dental implant in Tikrit University.

II METHODS

This study was conducted at College of Dentistry, Tikrit University. The information was collected using a self-explanatory questionnaire which included the questions assessing the patient's knowledge and awareness about dental implant therapy. The questionnaire was given and explained to all participants. All statistic calculations were performed using SPSS 23 (Statistical Package for Social Sciences). Data descriptive statistics were used for the analysis. A p value <0.05 was considered as statistically significant. Results are presented as numbers (n) and percent (%).

Statistics:

A sample of 100 patients were randomly selected for this survey. Using IBM SPSS 23 statistical analysis it was found that male participant's percentage was (64 %) while female participant's percentage was (36%). Most participants were aware of using implant as an option in teeth replacement 78.3%. Also a percentage of (61.7%) known of using implants for a fixed prosthesis, and (54.6 %) had knowledge for using implants with removable prosthesis (Table 1).

Table 1: Using implant with removable and fixed prosthesis	
Type	Percentage%
Fixed prosthesis	61.7%
Removable partial denture	54.6%

According to the results it was found that the main source of participants knowledge of implants was from friends and relatives as was shown in the percentage of answers (45.4 %), while a percent of (25.8 %) had their information from the internet, (20.6 %) from TV, while the lowest percentage (8.2 %) had their information from their dentists. (Fig. 1)

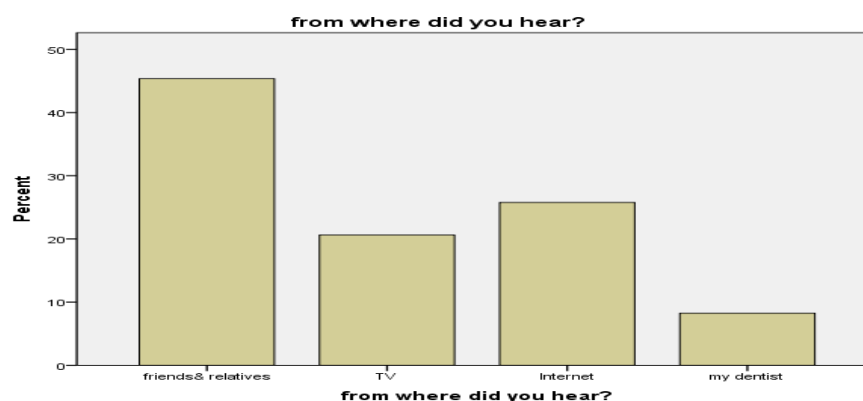


Figure 1: Where did you hear?

The questionnaire included asking about the material from which the implant is made, the highest percentage answered that it's made of ceramic (72 %), (17 %) answered that the material is Titanium, (10 %) said it's stainless steel and (1%) said it's made from porcelain. And when the participants were asked (For how long you think an implant could last?) the highest percentage (72 %) answered that it lasts less than 5 years, (25 %) of answers were that an implant could last from (5-10) years while the lowest percent (4 %) said that it could last for (15-20 years).

As for the care for implants when the participants were asked (should we care for implants in the same amount for caring for a natural tooth?), 89% answered positively while only 11% said (No, we don't have to).

There are many reasons that might prevent a patient from choosing to have an implant, when putting this question in our inquiry the greatest percentage (46%) answered that the fear of surgery is the main reason, (33%) said that cost prevented them from choosing this treatment. (18%) mentioned the medical condition and the lowest percentage (3%) said that they are unwilling to put a foreign object in their body. (Fig. 2)

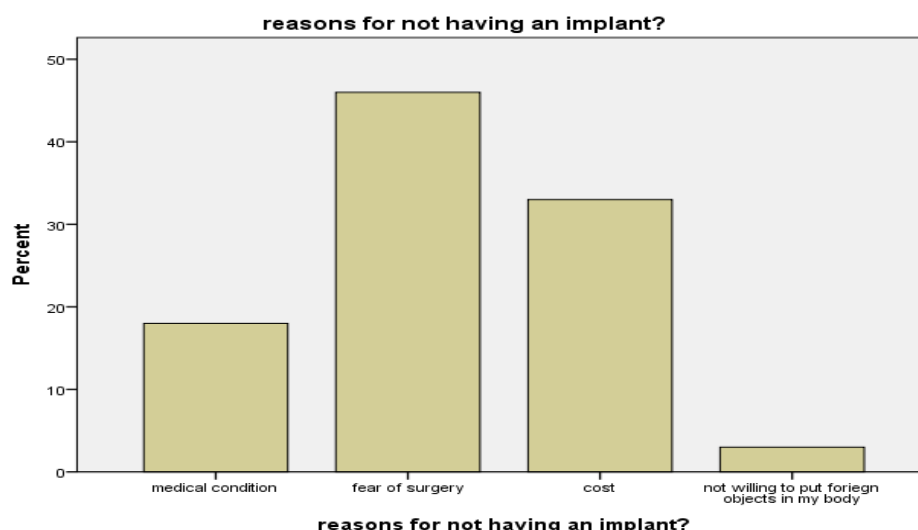


Figure 2: Reasons for having an implant

III DISCUSSION

The statistical results of our study showed that 78.3% of participants had knowledge of using implants as teeth replacement. This is a good result compared with a previous similar studies.^{5,7,8} On the other hand 61.7% of the participants had knowledge of the use of implants with fixed prosthesis, and 54.6% mentioned using it with removable prosthesis. This percentage is low compared with a similar study by (Abouonq, et al. 2017) who found that 68.28% had knowledge of using implants with removable prosthesis, while 64.92% known of using it with fixed prosthesis.

In this study the main source of information for the participants were friends and relatives this agrees with (Al Johany et al.2010) but disagrees with (Abouonq, et al. 2017)⁵, (Kohli et al.,2015)⁹, (Tomruk et al, 2014)¹⁰ who all found that the dentist was the main source of information.

As for the life span of an implant in this study it was found that the largest percent (4%) said it lasts it could last for (15-20 years) which is very low compared withwith (Maharjan A, et al. 2018)¹¹ who mentioned that 34.2%

said it could last lifelong .on the other hand our study found that the main reason preventing participants from having an implant is fear from surgery (46%) this somewhat similar to the studies done by Kholi et al⁹, Chhabra et al.¹²

IV CONCLUSION

With the limitation of this study, it was found that:

1. There is a good awareness among participants of the use of implants.
2. Most of the information about implants came from friends and relatives. There is also a great impact of media on this subject. So there should be more efforts from dentists to educate people.
3. Educational programs must be made to explain the materials, surgical operation, benefits and risks of implants as a choice in teeth replacement.
4. Further surveys regarding this subject must be performed.

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