

**ORAL HEALTH STATUS  
OF DENTAL COLLEGE STUDENTS  
IN DHARWAD**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Aim of the study is to assess the oral health status of dental college students in Dharwad. The total study population included 313 subjects both males(158) and females (155) with age ranging from 18-23 years. Oral health status was assessed by using dentitional status for caries by WHO criteria, oral hygiene status by (OHI-S) index, periodontal status by (CPITN), and malocclusion by WHO criteria. The results showed that prevalence of dental caries was 70.6 % and the caries experience was 2.9. Good oral hygiene status (76.42%) was noticed by final years, followed by second years(75%), third years(68.23%), and first years(65.59%). The results showed that 43.13% of students have healthy periodontium, followed by 28.11% subjects each with bleeding gums and presence of calculus, and only 0.63% have shallow pockets. Study population showed that 77% had normal occlusion, 15.9% with slight malocclusion, and 7.8% subjects showed moderate/severe malocclusion. It is concluded from the study that greater emphasis should be given to dental professional students especially first years students and should continue motivation throughout the curriculum. So that, we would not notice so much of so much of oral health problems in professional students.

## **INTRODUCTION**