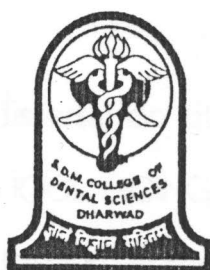


# **STATUS OF PERMANENT FIRST MOLARS AMONG SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN AGED 7-14 YEARS IN HUBLI**

*(An Epidemiological Study)*



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## ABSTRACT

**TITLE: STATUS OF FIRST PERMANENT MOLARS AMONG THE SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN AGED 7-14 YEARS IN HUBLI.**

The purpose of the present study is to assess the status of first permanent molars among the school children in Hubli, Karnataka State, India.

The study population comprised a representative sample of 4345 school children aged 7 to 14 years, with 2312 males and 2033 females. The data about the status of first permanent molar was assessed by clinical examination and findings were recorded on a Proforma.

The results showed that the prevalence of dental caries in first molars for the study population was 38.84%. Out of 17229 first molars examined, 3686 (21.39%) were decayed in the study population and this decay varied in males (23.21%) and females (19.32%). The caries experience for the study population was 0.84, and was found to be higher among males (0.92) than in females (0.76). The mandibular (27.59%) teeth were almost twice affected with caries than maxillary teeth (15.18%) 2:1 ratio. The severity of fluorosis revealed that only 2.48% children showed dental fluorosis. The other status assessed for first molars revealed that 0.12% had Malposition, 0.11% had partially erupted teeth, 1.48% had Hypoplasia and 0.07% had Wear facets. Out of the 38.84% of the children who required treatments, 87.04% first molars needed one surface fillings, 7.12% needed two or more surface fillings, 4.23% needed pulp care, 0.68% needed extraction and 0.63% needed replacement.

It can be concluded from the study that the occurrence of caries of first molars increased with age. Caries was significantly higher in males when compared to females.

It is recommended from the study that emphasis should be given in periodic screening and provision of dental services for initial lesions at an early age.