

"FACTORS AFFECTING EXTRINSIC TOOTH STAINS AMONG ADULT POPULATION IN DHARWAD DISTRICT" - A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY.

By

Dr. Shreyas Tikare

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Extrinsic tooth stains are stains which are present superficially on tooth surfaces and is a frequent dental finding associated with clinical and aesthetic problems. Understanding the prevalence and distribution of extrinsic tooth stains and affecting factors can help us develop strategies for intervention to prevent tooth discoloration. AIM: To determine factors affecting extrinsic tooth stains among adult population in Dharwad district. METHODOLOGY: A cross-sectional survey of 1584 subjects residing in Dharwad district was conducted. A proforma was used to collect information about subjects' socio-demographic characteristics, oral hygiene practices, adverse oral habits, some other habits like chewing gum, tea and coffee consumption, frequency of dental visits and professional cleaning. Extrinsic tooth stains of study subjects were assessed using Lobene's stain index. RESULTS: Prevalence extrinsic tooth stains was 94.88%. A total of 14 out of the 30 variables included in the model were found statistically significant in stepwise regression model $(R=.7307024, R^2=.53392602, Adjusted R^2=.53006435, F (13,1569) = 138.26,$ p<0.0000 Standard Error of estimate: 3.6216) and the model was found to be significant (138.26, p<0.000). CONCLUSIONS: Frequency of tobacco chewing habit, smoking habit and the location were the most prominent factors associated with extrinsic teeth stains. Results suggest that there is potential demand for teeth whitening treatment among adults in Dharwad district. Further studies are necessary for a more detailed understanding of factors leading to extrinsic teeth stains.

Keywords: Tobacco chewing habit; Teeth discoloration; Lobene's index