



**“ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ORAL HEALTH STATUS AND
DENTAL VISIT AMONG ADULT POPULATION OF DHARWAD” -
A CASE CONTROL STUDY**

By

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: oral health is a part of overall health. Many studies show that oral illness and conditions have an adverse effect on diverse aspects of the quality of life. Dental visit plays a major role in affecting the oral health status of the population. Furthermore few researches have been directed towards oral health status and dental visit among adult population. **Aim:** The present study was conducted to find the association and strength of association between oral health status and dental visit among adult population of Dharwad. **Methodology:** This case control study was conducted among adult population of Dharwad, who had dental caries and periodontal disease (cases) and who did not have these two diseases (control). A total of 404 (202 cases and 202 controls) aged above 18 years participated in the study. The selection of cases and controls were done using DMFT index and CPI index. DMFT score other than 0 and CPI score other than 0 and 1 were considered as case and DMFT score 0 and CPI score 0 and 1 were considered as control. Age and gender related matching was done. For this study pair matching procedure was adopted and there was one control for each case. Data collection regarding dental visit (Exposure measurement) was done using a standardized structured questionnaire. **Results:** the results reveal that subjects with dental caries (DMFT) were 3.27 times more likely to visit to the dentist than the subjects who did not have the disease. Whereas subjects with periodontal diseases were 1.73 times more likely to visit to the dentist than their respective matched controls. **Conclusion:** people with dental

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caries and periodontal disease were more likely to visit the dentist than their respective matched controls.

Key words: case control study, dental visit, dental caries, periodontal diseases

Abstract and Objectives

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