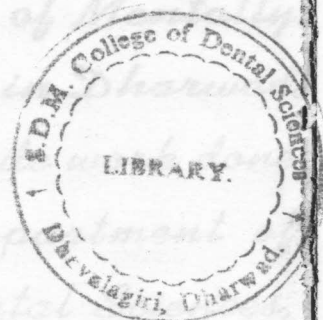


**DENTAL CARIES PREVALENCE AND EXPERIENCE OF
MENTALLY RETARDED, BLIND AND
NORMAL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN
DHARWAD DISTRICT**

- A Descriptive Study



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ABSTRACT

DENTAL CARIES PREVALANCE AND EXPERIENCE OF MENTALLY RETARDED BLIND AND NORMAL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN DHARWAD DISTRICT -A Descriptive Study

A descriptive study was conducted among a group of mentally retarded, blind and normal children aged 6-14 years in Dharwad district to assess the prevalence and experience of dental caries. A total of 701 subjects were examined, of which 188 were mentally retarded, 202 blind and 311 normal. The data about dental caries was collected by direct clinical examination and the findings were recorded on the proforma sheets. The data was analysed and the following results were obtained.

The prevalence of dental caries was 88.30%, 81.19% and 43.73% in mentally retarded, blind and normal children respectively. The Mean dft and Mean DMFT were 5.2875 and 1.7074 in mentally retarded, 2.2189 and 0.9603 in blind and 0.7884 and 0.3247 in normal children. It was concluded that the dental caries prevalence and experience was high in mentally retarded followed by blind and the least was observed in normal children.

Key Words : Dental caries Prevalence; Dental caries experience.