

DMFT (Decayed, Missing, Filled, Teeth) Oral Health Index in Sweets and Cable Industry Workers

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Abstract

The most important factor in evaluating dental health is DMFT (Decayed, Missing, Filled, Teeth). This research was conducted to compare DMFT index in the workers of sweets and cable factories of Shahrood (Moghan), a small city near 300 km east of Tehran. All the 127 production line workers of cable factory and 124 workers of sweets factory who had the pre-determined criteria were selected. A questionnaire was filled out and dental status was recorded for each one. After analyzing the data by SPSS soft ware the results were as follows: Mean and SD of DMFT in sweets factory: 12.59± 6.5; in cable factory: 9.7± 5.4; and Caries free in both factories was less than 1% which was neglectable. Mean and SD of DMFT in 35-44 yr age group in sweet and cable factory was 11.6± 6.05, and 10.8± 6.5, respectively. With Anova two-way analysis in two groups and with $P < 0/000$, there was a significant correlation between type of work and DMFT which proved the hypothesis. Accordingly, consumption of sweets and neglecting oral hygiene can be considered of great importance in increasing DMFT in the workers of sweets factory compared to the cable factory.

Keywords: *DMFT, Workers, Sweets industry, Cable Factory, Iran*

Introduction

People health and consequently the health of society have great influence on development and abilities of the community. Long living accompanied by health is not possible without cooperation of different organs. The function of each part has some effects on others. Oral cavity is one of the main organs of the body, which has great effect on people health and as a consequence, the health of the society. As a result, dental health indexes are not only indicators of health status but also can be hallmarks of socio-economic condition. One of these indexes is DMFT (Decayed, Missing, Filled, Teeth) which is used as oral health evaluation criteria in most researches (1-3).

The association between type of work and dental findings and the relevance of sugar dust as

an occupational hazard to dental health has been studied by many researchers (4- 9).

The level and effect of sweets consumption by the population and different groups of the society have been investigated in some studies. High prevalence of dental caries among workers who had easy access to sugar cane (sugar cane cutters) has been shown in some researches (10, 11).

Consequently, for recognizing and evaluating the major risk factors associated with dental caries, this research was conducted to compare DMFT in workers of sweets and cable factories of Shadrood (Moghan).

Materials and Methods

All of the 124 workers of Shahrood sweets factory (located near 300 km east of Tehran) who