POSTER NO: 21
Correlation of Oral Health Perception and Oral Care Practice with Caries Experience among Schoolchildren
Sia J.Y., Kalsom I., Norhaizah M.H.
Jerantut Dental Clinic, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Introduction: Oral health means more than good teeth; it is integral to general health and essential for well-being. The key challenges of dental health in rural or remote areas are ensuring access for people in need and providing people, wherever they live, with options which suit their particular circumstances.

Aim: To correlate oral health perception and oral care practices with caries experience among primary schoolchildren in Ulu Tembeling, Jerantut and to correlate interest of profession with caries experience.

Methods: Cross-sectional survey using guided questionnaire was conducted. Universal sampling of 5 schools in Ulu Tembeling with 70 study subjects and their respective annual dental record (LP8 card) were retrieved to assess dental caries.

Results: Around half of the study subjects (49%) have good oral health perception, 37% with good oral care practices. 96% of them have DMFT and dfl less than 3. 70% of them were unsure whether they are interested in dental profession.

Conclusion: No statistically significant correlations between oral health perception, oral care practices and interest with caries experience were found. Collaborative efforts involving all parties to improve oral health for the community in rural areas were recommended.

POSTER NO: 23
Parental Kap towards Prevention of Early Childhood Caries in Kota Bharu, Malaysia
Mani S.A.1, Wei Y.P.2, John J.2, Ismail N.M.1
1School of Dental Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 16150 Kota Bharu, Kelantan, 2Faculty of Dentistry, Universiti Malaya.50603 Kuala Lumpur

Introduction: The caries prevalence in Malaysia has been found to be 74.5% among 6-year-olds, the highest prevalence being in Kelantan (95.6%). While the creation of a dental home is being encouraged in developed countries, prevention is still the key to achieving optimal dental health in other countries. The aim of this study is to assess parental knowledge, attitude and practice towards prevention of early childhood caries in Kota Bharu, Malaysia.

Method: In this cross sectional study, 120 parents of infants and toddlers aged 6 months-2 years attending four Maternal and child health clinics in the state of Kelantan, Malaysia were randomly selected and invited to participate in the study. Parents were asked to complete a 30-item questionnaire encompassing all aspects of prevention of ECC.

Results: Out of 120 parents, 102 completed questionnaires were analysed. About half of them (52%) knew that they should start using toothpaste with fluoride for cleaning their child’s teeth when the child learns to spit. Most parents (73%) thought that tooth decay is not caused by bacteria that are transmitted by sharing feeding utensils and 49% of them thought that night time bottle/breast feeding cannot cause tooth decay. A considerable number of parents (67.6%) practiced biting food into small pieces before giving the child.

Conclusion: We concluded that parents showed relatively better knowledge, but poorer attitude and practice towards the oral health of their children. Consequently, more effort is required to improve knowledge, attitude and practice of oral health among parents and caretakers. Health education should focus on parental responsibilities for oral health and mothers should be encouraged to give practical and emotional support to their children with regard to oral hygiene habits.

POSTER NO: 22
A Comparison of Sugar Consumption among Dental Staff and School Teachers in Kemaman District
Zakaria N. A., Zakaria S.
Oral Health Division, Terengganu Health Department, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Introduction: There is considerable scientific evidence of the relationship between dental caries and sugar consumption. However, data on the pattern of sugar consumption is limited and not much has been documented regarding the frequency, quantity and types of sugar consumption among population in Kemaman District. This study investigates the frequency, quantity and types of sugar consumption among dental staff and school teachers in the district.

Method: This was a comparative cross-sectional study involving dental staff and school teachers, aged 25 years and above. Oral examination and followed by questionnaire interview on the subjects was carried out by a trained dental officer. Only subjects who consented to the oral examination and interview were included.

Results: In all, 148 subjects, involving 55 dental staff and 93 school teachers participated in this study. Subject’s mean age was 35.2 ± 6.3 years and the age range was 25-56 years. There was no significant different of frequency and quantity of sugar consumption between dental staff and school teachers (p>0.05). The type of sugar consumption between the two groups was significant (p=0.004). There was also statistically significant different between subject’s age group and mean DMFT (p<0.001).

Conclusion: There is perhaps a need to enhance oral health education particularly on diet counseling in the population.

POSTER NO: 24
The Estimation of Fluoride Intake from Tea in Japanese Infants.
Kubota T.,1 Arakawa H.,1 Sakamoto T.2, Ishikawa A.2
1Division of Oral Health, Department of Health Science, Kanagawa Dental College, 2Hamamatsu-city Oral Health and Care Center, Japan

Introduction: Japanese people like tea, especially green tea, and start to drink it comparatively early in their childhood. When systemic fluoride application is introduced in Japan in the near future, it will be necessary to consider the fluoride intake from daily tea-drinking in the childhood period.

Method: In 2009, we carried out a survey through questionnaire on three-year-old children in a city where a lot of tea is produced. 237 people (114 boys and 123 girls) participated in the survey. The amounts of fluoride intake from drinking tea were estimated by a method developed by Uematsu.

Results: When we asked the subjects whether or not they liked Japanese green tea, 157 children (66.2%) said that they liked it. The average months of children beginning to drink Japanese green tea was 13.8 months after birth. The average fluoride intake from daily tea-drinking was 111.1 µg F. The adequate daily fluoride intake is considered to be 0.05mg F / kg b.w. The adequate daily fluoride intake is estimated to be 0.725 mg because the average weight of subject in this study was 14.5kg. The average fluoride intake from daily drinking tea was 111.1 µg F, so it is equivalent to 15.3% of 0.725 mg. In addition, there is an individual who is taking 1.15mg F every day from drinking tea, therefore, it is necessary to consider the amount of fluoride from tea-drinking that when systemic fluoride application is introduced in Japan.