

# A Survey About Knowledge And Awareness Of Tooth Jewellery Among Dental Students

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Tooth jewellery is one of the forms of self expression and when done properly, it really can add a special sparkle to one's smile. In fact, this results in increased self confidence of the person. Most commonly tooth jewellery worn by 18 to 35 year old hip-hop artists and disc jockeys to add on to their performance. It is becoming very popular now-a-days, like any other kind of fashion trend. This study aimed to study the awareness of tooth jewellery among dental students.

**Materials and methods:** The sample size used for the study is 100. A self structured questionnaire was prepared and uploaded in google form. This standard questionnaire was circulated among the study population and at the end of the survey all the data was collected and analysed with chi square analysis the chi square analysis was done using software ibm spss version 23. P value was set at < 0.05

**Result: (**27.87%) reported that they have no prior knowledge of the terminology, (5.74%) reported they are not aware of the terminology. (66.39%) reported they are aware of the terminology.

**Conclusion:** There is fair awareness about tooth jewellery among dental students. More awareness can be brought about by dental personnels.

#### INTRODUCTION

Esthetics have become an important part of dentistry in recent years(1). It has paved the way for the growth of modern materials and techniques. Tooth jewellery being the latest trend has become a way of increasing one's order in society. Tooth jewellery is a non invasive procedure with quite less side effects(1,2)

A case report in vazhi yodan et al in the year 2013 describes that tooth jewellery is not a new concept as native american also added bling to their teeth as far as 2500 years ago(3)

Tooth gems and dazzlers are the different types of tooth jewellery available in the market. Tooth gems are made of sky and sapphire crystals, both are high quality tooth jewellery.(3,4) However skyce adds an extra sparkle to the teeth as its a clear crystal Twinkles are pure gold with precious stones like diamond, sapphire and rubes(3–5). People belonging to all age groups are being attracted to this of body art but most commonly it is worn by 18-35 year old hip hop artists and disc jockeys in order to add on to the extravagance of their performance and to get an extra sparkle to their smile vehicle interactive with their audience (3–6). Moreover, tooth sensitivity, plaque accumulation, aspiration allergy or chronic injury to the adjacent teeth mucosa. Tooth injury and gum recession are a few complaints faced by patients who have gotten tooth jewellery This can then lead to loss of the tooth in patients.

However if proper oral hygiene has been maintained by the individual their complaints can be minimised and the tooth jewel should remain on the tooth for a longer duration All body piercings present a risk of infection and cause pain(4,7,8). Complications that most commonly occur related to the jewellery include aspiration, allergy or permanent injury to adjacent teeth/mucosa, tooth fracture, and recession of the gingiva, which can lead to tooth loss or to the piercing procedure include local bleeding, swelling, damage to the nerve, toxic shock,Permanent drooling and defective sense of taste and tongue and lip piercings also causes disturbances in speech, taste, and mastication..(9) (10) Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that has translated into high quality publications

(10),(11),(12),(13),(14),(15),(16),(17),(18),(19),(20),(21),(22),(23),(24),(25),(26),(27),(28),(29)

Aim of the study is to find out the awareness of tooth jewellery among dental students

# MATERIALS AND METHODS

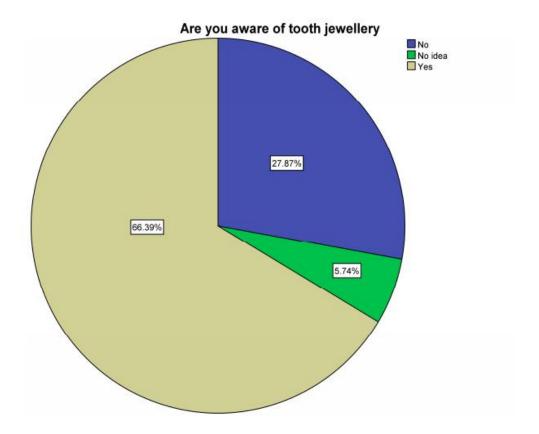
The sample size used for the study is 100. A self structured questionnaire was prepared and uploaded in google form. This standard questionnaire was circulated among the study population and at the end of the survey all the data was collected and then analysed with chi square analysis using software ibm spss version 23. The study was approved by SRB Saveetha Dental College.

# QUESTIONNAIRES

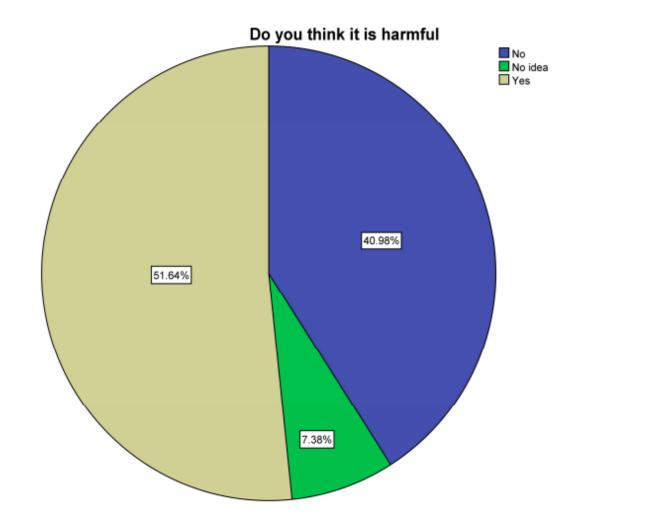
The questionnaire comprised a series of questions including their demographic characteristics like age and gender. The other questions are as follows:

- Are you aware of tooth jewellery ?
- Do you think it's harmful ?
- Do you think it is an expensive procedure ?
- Do you think common people are developing an interest in tooth jewellery ?
- Do you think this procedure is painful?
- Do you think this procedure involves any kind of surgery ?
- Do you think it is useful for enhancing aesthetics?
- Do you think this procedure takes a long time to perform ?
- Do you think the procedure actually adds an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging your teeth ?

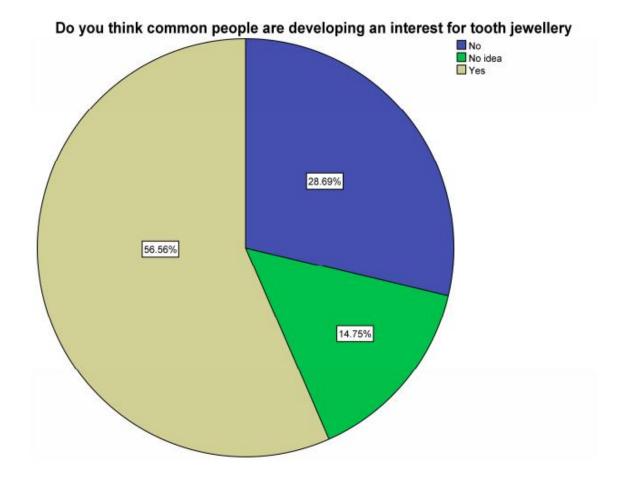
# RESULT



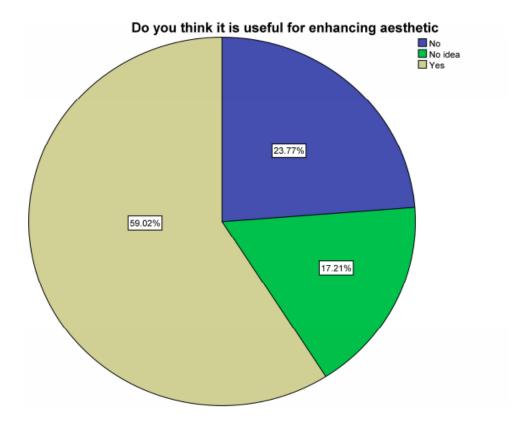
**Figure 1:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of awareness of tooth jewellery. Wherein 27.87% (blue) reported they are not aware, 5.74% (green) reported they are not aware of the terminology. 66.39%) (beige) reported they are aware implying that majority of the participants are aware of tooth jewellery



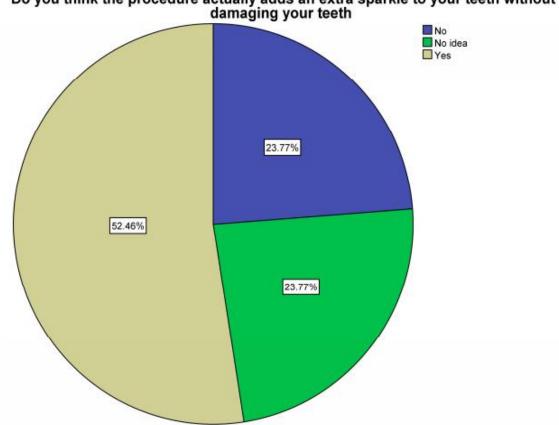
**Figure 2:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of harmfulness of tooth jewellery.Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes respectively. 40.98% (blue) reported they are harmful, 7.38% (green) reported they are not aware whether tooth jewellery is harmful or not. 51.64% (beige) reported they are harmful implying that the majority of the participants think the procedure is harmful.



**Figure 3:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether common people are developing an interest for tooth jewellery .Blue,green and beige represent no, no idea and yes respectively. 28.69% (blue) reported common people are not developing an interest in tooth jewellery. 56.56% (beige) reported common people are developing an interest in tooth jewellery. 14.75% (green) reported they are not aware whether common people are developing an interest in tooth jewellery implying that the majority of the participants think that common people are developing an interest in this procedure.

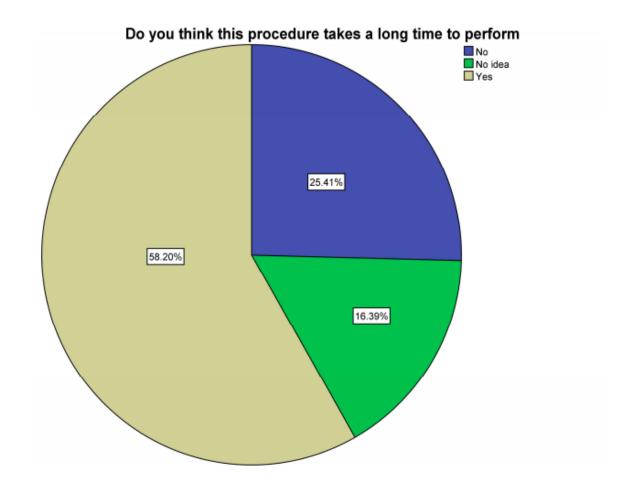


**Figure 4:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether tooth jewellery enhanced aesthetic. Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes respectively. 23.77% (blue) reported tooth jewellery does enhance aesthetics. 59.02% (beige) reported tooth jewellery does not enhance aesthetics. 17.21% (green) reported they are not aware of tooth jewellery enhanced aesthetics implying that the majority of the participants think the procedure is useful for enhancing aesthetics .

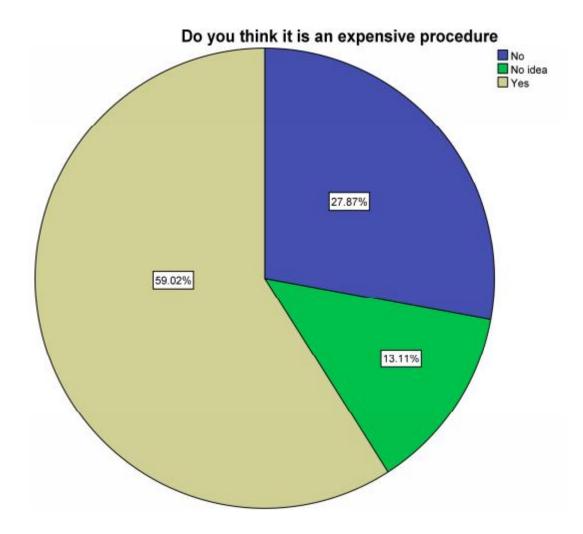


Do you think the procedure actually adds an extra sparkle to your teeth without

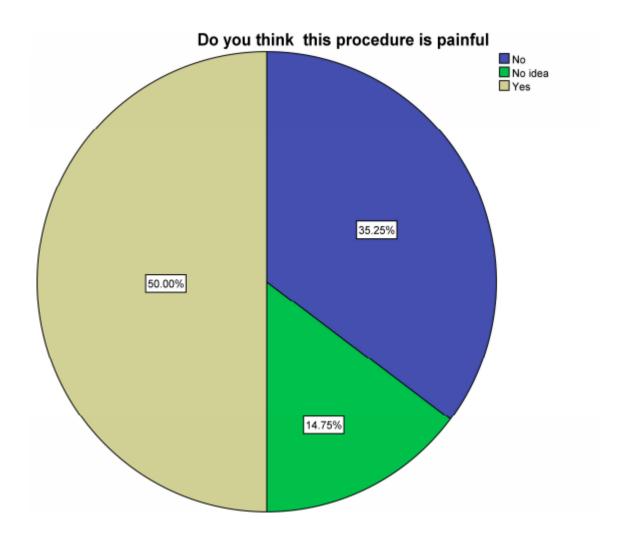
Figure 5: Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether the procedure actually adds an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging it.Blue, green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes respectively. 52.46% (beige) reported procedure actually adds an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging it. 23.77% (blue) reported procedure does not actually add an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging it. 23.77% (green) reported they are not aware of whether the procedure adds an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging it, implying that the majority of the participants think the procedure will actually add an extra sparkle to your teeth without damaging it.



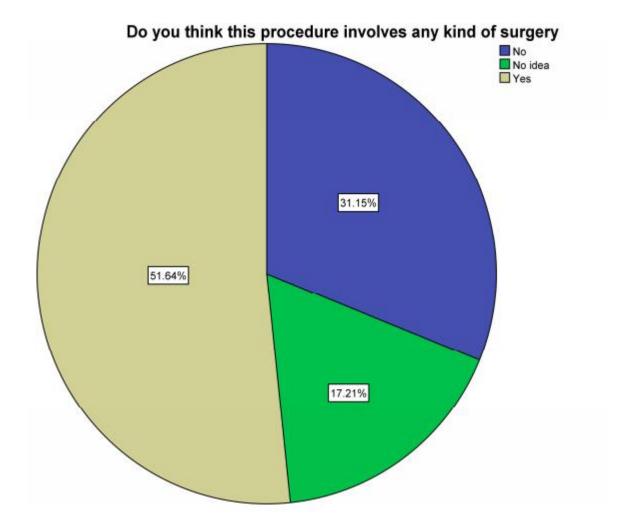
**Figure 6:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether the procedure takes a long time to perform. Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes. 25.41% (blue) reported the procedure does not take a long time to perform. 16.39% (green) reported they do not know whether the procedure takes a long time to perform. 58.20% (beige) reported the procedure takes a long time to perform implying that majority of the participants think the procedure takes a long time to perform



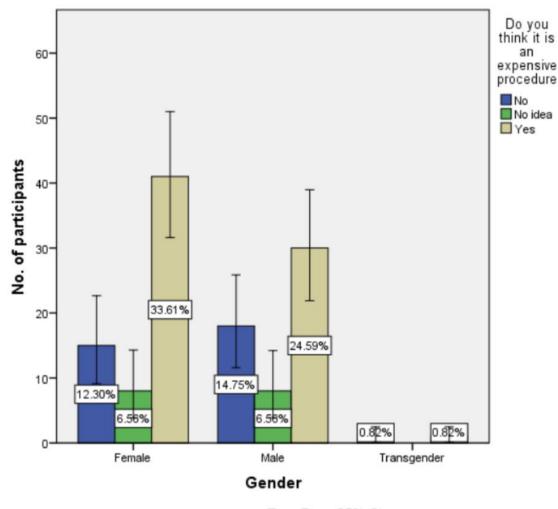
**Figure 7:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether participants think it is an expensive procedure.Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes respectively. 27.87% (blue) do not think it is an expensive procedure.13.11% (green) are not aware of the cost of the procedure. 59.02% (beige) do think it is an expensive procedure implying that majority of the participants think the procedure is expensive



**Figure 8:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether tooth jewellery is painful or not.Blue,green and biege represent no, no idea and yes respectively.35.25% (blue) said the procedure is not painful. 50.00% (beige) said the procedure is not painful.14.75% (green) reported they are not aware of the pain level implying that majority of the participants think the procedure is painful

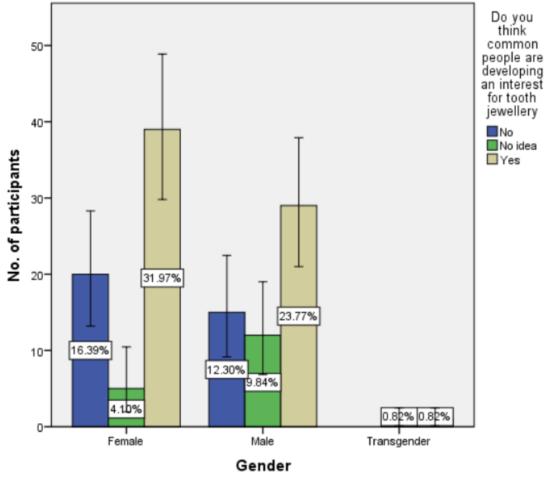


**Figure 9:** Pie chart showing the percentage distribution of whether the procedure involves any kind of surgery.Blue,green and biege represent no, no idea and yes. 31.15% (blue) said the procedure does not involve any kind of surgery.17.21% (green) said they are not aware of whether the procedure involves surgery or not. 51.64% (beige) the procedure does involve surgery implying that majority of the participants think the procedure does involve surgery



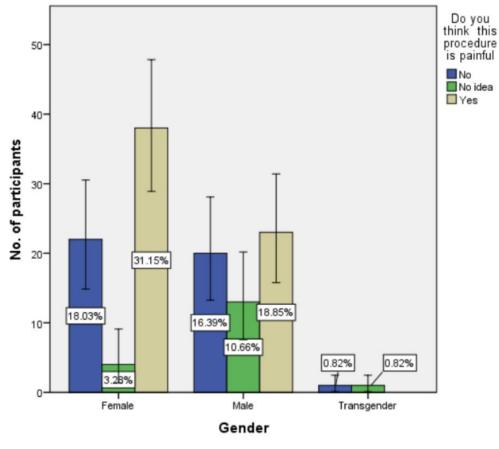
Error Bars: 95% CI

**Figure 10:** Bar graph showing association between gender and percentage of responses . Y-axis represents percentage of response and X-axis represents gender.Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes. 33.61% of females reported yes and 24.59% of males reported yes. Chi square test was done and association was found to be statistically not significant. The p value found to be 0.222 (P > 0.05), hence proving the study is not statistically significant.



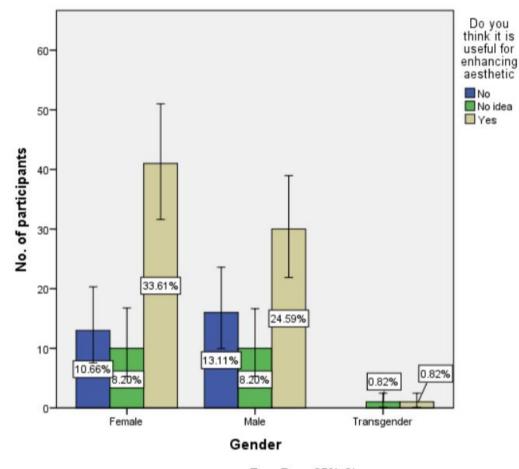
Error Bars: 95% CI

**Figure 11:** Bar graph showing association between gender and percentage of responses. Y-axis represents Percentage of response and X-axis represents gender.Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes. 31.97% of females reported yes and 23.77% of males reported yes. Chi square test was done and association was found to be statistically not significant. The p value found to be 0.362 (P > 0.05), hence proving the study is not statistically significant.



Error Bars: 95% CI

**Figure 12:** Bar graph showing association between gender and percentage of responses. Y-axis represents percentage of response and X-axis represents gender.Blue,green and light brown represents no, no idea and yes. 33.15% of females reported yes and 18.85% of males reported yes. Chi square test was done and association was found to be statistically not significant. The p value found to be 0.642 (P > 0.05), hence proving the study is not statistically significant.



Error Bars: 95% CI

**Figure 13:** Bar graph showing association between gender and percentage of responses . Y-axis represents percentage of responses and X-axis represents gender. Blue,green and light brown represent no, no idea and yes. 33.61% (beige) of females reported yes the procedure is useful for enhancing aesthetic and 24.59% (beige) of males reported yes the procedure is useful for enhancing aesthetic. Chi square test was done and association was found to be statistically not significant. The p value found to be 0.139 (P > 0.05), hence proving the study is not statistically significant.

(Figure 1) Majority, (66.39%) reported they are aware of tooth jewellery. Figure 2 Majority of the participants (51.64%) reported tooth jewellery is harmful. Figure 3 Majority of the participants 56.56% (beige) reported common people are developing an interest in tooth jewellery. Figure 4, Majority of the participants 59.02% (beige) reported tooth jewellery does not enhance aesthetics. Figure 5 Majority of the participants 52.46% (beige) reported procedure actually adds an extra

sparkle to your teeth without damaging it. Figure 6 Majority (58.20%) of the participants reported the procedure takes a long time to perform. Figure 7 Majority of the participants 59.02% (beige) do you think it is an expensive procedure. Figure 8, Majority 50.00% (beige) of the participants said the procedure is not painful. Figure 9 Majority 51.64% (beige) of the participants think the procedure does involve surgery. Figure 10 (33.61% ) majority of the female participants think tooth jewellery is an expensive procedure. Figure 11 (31.97%) majority of the female participants think common people are developing an interest towards this procedure. Figure 12 (33.15%) majority of the female participants think it is a painful procedure. Figure 13 (33.61%) majority of the female participants think it is a painful procedure.

# DISCUSSION

In the present study a higher number of dentists revealed that tooth jewellery is a harmless, painless, non surgical and not very time consuming procedure as similar results were shown in the studies done. Similarly a review by peter et al showed that being so simple tooth jewellery is not a very costly procedure. (30)Due to their advantages, tooth jewellery has become one of the most popular and latest trends these days. (8)Tooth jewellery has emerged as a current fashion trend. Today, dentistry is not only defined to treat dental problems or diseases only but also to achieve ample concern when matter comes on looking dazzling or beautiful.(31) Tooth jewellery is believed to adorn the presence of a person and add more allure and gleam to the smile. (31,32) only individuals with good oral health (11,13,14)(11,13,14) should be advised the need of these jewels thus dentist should make patients familiar of the of the complications of piercing Tooth jewellery is believed to beautify the appearance of an individual, and thereby enhance their confidence making them feel good(31–33). Only individuals with proper oral hygiene maintenance should be advised the use of these accessories. Jewels which are removable and do not require any tooth preparation are much better to wear and have reduced complications. (34) Dentists should make patients aware of the potential complications of piercings and should explain to them the importance of proper hygiene. By doing so, damage to the teeth is reduced and complications can also be minimized.

## CONCLUSION

The results of the study showed fair knowledge and practice of tooth jewellery. The general lack of awareness of complications related to tooth jewellery needs to be addressed by the dentists.

Therefore, more studies are required so that detailed information about knowledge and practice about tooth jewellery among dentists are gathered.

#### **AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION**

Joshitha Subramaniam: Literature search, data collection analysis, manuscript drafting.

Dr. Palati Sinduja : Aided in conception of the topic, has participated in the study design, statistical

analysis and has supervised the preparation and final corrections of the manuscript.

Dr. Lakshmi.T.A: Data verification, manuscript drafting, preparation of the manuscript.

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## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The author declares that there was no conflict of interest in the present study.

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