

## Maternal Awareness of Early Orthodontic Consultation for their Children with Malocclusion: A Cross-Sectional Study

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### ABSTRACT

**Study Design:** Cross-sectional

**Aim:** This study aimed to assess maternal awareness of maternal awareness of early orthodontic consultation for their children with malocclusion in Saudi Arabia.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study was carried out on the sample size of 300 mothers' along with children attending outpatient pediatric dental clinics in Female College of Dentistry King Khalid University, Abha, Saudi Arabia. Written informed consent was obtained from the participants after explaining them the purpose of the study. The questionnaire was formulated and given and data was collected from mothers. The data were entered and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS 20). A P-value of less than 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.

**Results:** A total of 300 dentists responded to the questionnaire. 42% were of 18-25 years, 38% were of 40-50 years and 20% of study subjects were of >50 years [Table. 1]. Mother's knowledge about Early Orthodontic Consultation for their children with malocclusion were shown in Table. 2. The majority of participants, 195(65%) were said that they know the irregular teeth can be aligned. Majority of participants 155(52%) said that heredity can influence the occurrence of malalignment of teeth.

**Conclusions:** Mothers had a modest level of awareness and knowledge regarding their children's early orthodontic treatment. Increased socioeconomic and educational status has a substantial influence on mothers' awareness and knowledge.

**Keywords:** Knowledge, Malocclusion, Mother, Early orthodontic consultation, Saudi Arabia.

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