Original Article

Knowledge and Attitudes of Elementary Schoolteachers on Dental Trauma and its Management in Yazd, Iran

Hajar Attarzadeh ¹, Fatemeh Kebriaei ¹, Leyli Sadri ², Elnaz Foroughi ³, Mehdi Taghian ⁴

- ¹ Dept. of Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, Shahid Sadoughi University of Medical Sciences, Yazd, Iran.
- ² Postgraduate Student, Dept. of Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran.
- ³ Dept. of Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, Arak University of Medical Sciences, Arak, Iran.
- ⁴ Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, School of Dentistry, Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, Sari, Mazandaran, Iran.

KEY WORDS

Dental Trauma;

Avulsion;

Child;

School teachers;

Attitude:

Knowledge;

Received July 2016; Received in revised form November 2016; Accepted January 2017;

ABSTRACT

Statement of the Problem: School is one of the places with the greatest prevalence of occurrence of traumatic dental injuries.

Purpose: The aim of this study was to assess the knowledge levels and attitudes of elementary school teachers towards dental trauma and its management.

Materials and Method: In this cross-sectional study, 281 elementary school teachers were selected through cluster sampling to answer the prepared questionnaire. The data obtained from the questionnaires were analyzed in SPSS software by using ANOVA test and t-test. *p* Value<0.05 was considered to be significant.

Results: The total knowledge and attitude were low and normal, respectively. No previous exposure to or close observation of a dental trauma was reported by 61.2% of teachers; while, 12.5% were trained on dental traumas first aid management. There was statistically significant relationship between the teacher's knowledge and previous first aids training.

Conclusion: The knowledge of schoolteachers on emergency management of dental trauma is poor. Therefore, it seems to be helpful to consider the management of dental injuries especially avulsed teeth as a part of teachers' education.

Corresponding Author: Sadri L., Dept. of Pediatric Dentistry, School of Dentistry, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran. Email: sadri.leyli@yahoo.com Tel: +98-31-37925539

Cite this article as: Attarzadeh H., Kebriaei F., Sadri L., Foroughi E., Taghian M. Knowledge and Attitudes of Elementary Schoolteachers on Dental Trauma and its Management in Yazd, Iran. J Dent Shiraz Univ Med Sci., 2017 September; 18(3): 212-218.

Introduction

Dental trauma is very common in childhood. Based on epidemiologic studies, 50% of children experience dental trauma [1-4] and about 35% of children and adults experience trauma to permanent teeth. [5-7] Accordingly, the prevalence of dental trauma ranges from 4.9% to 37% in different countries. [8-9] Progressive increase of prevalence of dental trauma necessitates comprehensive education about such injuries. [5, 10-11] Dental trauma usually accompanies injuries of lips, gingiva, tongue, and jaws which may lead to serious physiological, psychological, and financial adverse outcomes that negatively influence the quality of life. It is also estimated that 16% of dental traumas negatively alter the facial development and appearance of children. [12]

Regardless of age and gender, dental injuries are one of the most painful injuries due to the highly sensitive orodental tissues. [1-2, 13] According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), one of the most prevalent dental injuries is tooth avulsion, which is accounted for 0.5-16% of all traumatic dental injuries in childhood. The maxillary anterior teeth are the most common avulsed teeth, especially those that are protruded. [14] Falling is the main reason of such trauma. [15] Dental trauma usually occurs at home or at school. It is shown that trauma in school account for half of total dental trauma. [16-20] Furthermore, according to Marcense *et al.* [10] one fifth of schoolchildren experiences dental trauma. Therefore, teachers' awareness in management of such situations including the storage

media, tetanus vaccine, and other first aid measures can be of vital significance for both saving the teeth and maintaining the child's general health.

Many studies assessed the teachers' knowledge of first aid measures. However, it has not been well investigated in developing countries including Iran. Judy et al. [17] found that awareness of teachers was 1%. Moreover, Chan et al., [18] Sae-Lim and Lim [19] reported the awareness of 17.5% and 71%, respectively. Many similar studies showed the lack of sufficient awareness and the need for further education in teachers. [21-25] Two comparable studies were conducted in Iran, reporting the awareness of Iranian teachers in an Iranian urban area, [20] and lack of enough awareness of teachers in Tehran. [26] However, no Iranian study demonstrated whether teachers in Yazd are knowledgeable enough to manage an emergency case of dental trauma. Therefore, the aim of this study was to assess the knowledge level and attitudes of elementary schoolteachers towards dental trauma and its management in Yazd, Iran.

Materials and Method

In this descriptive cross-sectional study, cluster sampling was used to recruit 281 elementary school teachers from 22 schools (11 girls' school and 11 boys' school) in Yazd, Iran. The informed consent was obtained at enrollment. The ethical approval was obtained from the Ethics Committee of the Dental Research Center at Shahid Sadoughi University of Medical Sciences (Yazd, Iran).

Validity of the questionnaire was approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB). In order to confirm the reliability of the questionnaire, a pilot study was carried out on 20 subjects who were not included in the study. The data collected from the pilot study was analyzed by using SPSS software. The reliability coefficient (Cronbach alpha) was 0.83, indicating an acceptable reliability. The standardized questionnaire was completed by teachers in schools. All the present teachers at the time of the study were included. Those reluctant to participate, and incomplete questionnaires were excluded from the study. Part 1 included demographic questions. (Table 1)

Part 2 contained nine questions on teachers' attitude. (Table 2) In part three, trauma cases were present-

ed with nine related questions. (Table 3) Part 4 contained three questions on self-assessment of teachers about their ability of emergency management of dental trauma. (Table 4) The questions were partially obtained from Caglar *et al.*'s study. [24]

 Table 1: Part 1- Demographic characteristics of respondents

Demographic Information	N (%)
Gender	
Female	176(62.6%)
Male	105(37.4%)
Age	
24-34	117(41.6%)
35-39	81(28.8%)
40-59	83(29.6%)
Education	
High school diploma	56(19%)
Bachelor's degree	217(77.2%)
Master's degree	8(2%)
Field of education	
Experimental sciences	98(34.9%)
Mathematics	55(19.6%)
Human sciences	114(40.6%)
Arts	14(5%)
Received first aid education	
Yes	144(51.2%)
No	137(48.8%)
Received dental traumas education	
Yes	35(12.5%)
No	246(87.6%)
Dental trauma experience around	
Yes	172(61.2%)

In order to calculate the knowledge score, the correct answers and incorrect answers counted 1 and 0 point, respectively. Therefore, the score range was between 0 and 15. The knowledge scores more than 10.5 was considered as good, between 7.5 and 10.5 as medium, and less than seven as low. The same was applied to calculate the attitude score; and the range was between 9 and 45. The scores >36 was considered as good, 27-36 as normal, and lower than 28 as low level of attitude.

The data were analyzed by using SPSS software, version 17 (SPSS® Inc.) T-test and ANOVA were employed as appropriated. p< 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.

Results

This study was done on 281 teachers including 176 females and 105 males. Table 1 represents the results of the first part of the questionnaire (demographic data). Nearly half of the participants had passed first aid training courses. However, only 35 teachers were trained in first aids of dental trauma. Moreover, 61.2% of participants had not encountered any dental trauma case previ-

Table 2: Part 2- teachers' attitude		
Question		n(%)
	Strongly disagree	61(21.7%)
	Disagree	110(39.1%)
Teachers are not responsible for dental traumas in school.	Neutral	65(23.1%)
	Agree	35(12.5%)
	Strongly agree	10(3.6)
	Strongly disagree	2(0.7%)
	Disagree	22(7.8%)
Having knowledge of dental trauma emergency management can improve the prognosis of treatment.	Neutral	31(11%)
	Agree	139(49.5%)
	Strongly agree	87(31%)
	Strongly disagree	93(33.1%)
	Disagree	106(37.7%)
The avulsed tooth will surely be missed. Therefore, no treatment is necessary.	Neutral	3(18.9%)
	Agree	24(8.5%)
	Strongly agree	5(1.8%)
	Strongly disagree	11(3.9%)
	Disagree	14(5%)
Emergency management of dental trauma should be emphasized in training of teachers.	Neutral	42(14.9%)
	Agree	14(54.8%)
	Strongly agree	60(21.4%)
	Strongly disagree	88(31.3%)
Dental trauma is not an emergency.	Disagree	115(40.9%)
	Neutral	36(12.8%)
	Agree	38(13.5%)
	Strongly agree	4(1.4%)
	Strongly disagree	6(2.1%)
Teachers' intervention in dental injuries occurred in school may have a crucial role in survival of	Disagree	13(4.6%)
teeth.	Neutral	40(14.2%)
	Agree	140(49.8%)
	Strongly agree	82(29.2%)
	Strongly disagree	5(1.8%)
	Disagree	22(7.8%)
Treatment of dental trauma is a professional job and therefore needs special training.	Neutral	34(12.1%)
	Agree	124(44.1%)
	Strongly agree	96(34.2%)
	Strongly disagree	3(1.1%)
	Disagree	15(5.3%)
Regarding the legal considerations, it would be better that teachers help children in case of trauma.	Neutral	44(15.7%)
	Agree	157(55.9%)
	Strongly agree	62(22.1%)
	Strongly disagree	2(0.7%)
If teachers receive a practical training course in emergency management of dental trauma, they can	Disagree	3(1.1%)
do the necessary treatments more properly.	Neutral	27(9.6%)
	Agree	140(49.8%)
	Strongly agree	109(38.8%)

ously. Table 2 shows the results obtained from the second part of the questionnaire (teachers' attitude). More than 60% of teachers believed themselves to be responsible for dental injuries in school. About 70% stated that being knowledgeable in emergency management of dental trauma could improve the prognosis of traumatized teeth.

According to the results of T-test and ANOVA statistical tests, there was no significant relationship between knowledge as well as attitude and demographic data, education, and the field of study (p< 0.05). (Tables

5-8) However, the relationship between teachers' Knowledge and first aid/dental emergencies education was observed to be statistically significant. (Tables 9 and 10) Furthermore, the mean knowledge score of teachers in boys' school was significantly more than girls' school. (Table 11)

No significant relationship existed between the attitude scores and teachers' education, gender, first aid training, and being in a boys or girls school (p> 0.05). (Tables 6, 8, and 11) Table 3 shows the teachers' assessment of their dental trauma management abilities.

c. Do not know 6824.2%) a. Aappeasing the child and continue the class. 14(5%)	Table 3: Part 3- teachers' knowledge (correct answers are italicized).			
Decidious Deci		Questions	n(%)	
Department		ne face while playing soccer during school hours. His upper front tooth was broken	n. However,	
1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.	O1 What kind of tooth is the damaged	a. Deciduous	55(19.6%)	
2. Do not know 6824.2% Q2. Which action is the best solution 2. Aappeasing the child and continue the class. 14(5%) b. Calling parents and ask them to visit a dentist. 123(43.8%) c. Searching for the tooth fragment and send the child to the dentist. 123(43.8%) d. Would not know how to act. 30(10.7%) Gase 2: During school hours, a 12 year-old girl fell from stairs and hit in the mouth. The upper teeth are not visible, and there is bleeding it the mouth.	_		158(56.2%)	
December of the best solution; b. Calling parents and ask them to visit a dentist. c. Searching for the tooth fragment and send the child to the dentist. 108(38.4%) d. Would not know how to act. 30(10.7%) Case 2: During school hours, a 12 year-old girl fell from stairs and hit in the mouth. The upper teeth are not visible, and there is bleeding in the mouth. a. Stop bleeding by getting her to bit on a handkerchief. b. Look for the tooth, wash it, and replace it. 21(7.5%) b. Look for the tooth, wash it, and replace it. 21(7.5%) d. Put the tooth in an envelope and take her immediately to the dentist. 30(10.7%) d. Put the tooth in an envelope and take the girl to the dentist after school. a. General physician b. Pediatric physician c. Hospital d. Dental school d			6824.2%)	
C. Searching for the tooth fragment and send the child to the dentist. 108(38.4%)			` ′	
C. Searching for the both ragment and send the child to the dentist. 106(8.84%)	O2. Which action is the best solution?		123(43.8%)	
Case 2: During school hours, a 12 year-old girl fell from stairs and hit in the mouth. The upper teeth are not visible, and there is bleeding in the mouth. Case 2: During school hours, a 12 year-old girl fell from stairs and hit in the mouth. The upper teeth are not visible, and there is bleeding in the mouth.	Q2. Whiteh decion is the cost solution.			
the mouth. A. Stop bleeding by getting her to bit on a handkerchief. S9(31.7%) D. Look for the tooth, wash it, and replace it. 21(7.5%) C. Ask her to hold the tooth in mouth and take her immediately to the dentist. 78(27.8%) D. Look for the tooth in an envelope and take the girl to the dentist after school. 63(22.4%) D. Would not know how to act. 63(22.4%) D. Pediatric physician 7(2.5%) D. Pediatric physician 9(3.2%) D. Pediatric physician 9(3.2%) D. Pediatric Dentist 10 central dentist 10			. ,	
December 2017 Company	=			
Q3. What should you do? c. Ask her to hold the tooth in mouth and take her immediately to the dentist. d. Put the tooth in an envelope and take the girl to the dentist after school. e. Would not know how to act. 30(10.7%) Q4. Where is the first place that you would seek treatment? a. General physician b. Pediatric physician c. Hospital c. Hospital d. Dental school d. Dental school e. General dentist f. Pediatric Dentist g. Endodontist f. Pediatric Dentist g. Endodontist f. Would not know how to act. 35(12.5%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received teanus vaccine? a. Yes 189(67.3%) Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. c. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. d. Discard the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? a. Ice b. Al Iquid c. The child's mouth d. The child's mouth d. The child's mouth how how to act. 27(9.6%) b. Al Iquid c. The child's mouth how how to know how to act. 27(9.6%) b. Al Iquid c. The child's mouth how how how how how how how how how ho				
d. Put the tooth in an envelope and take the girl to the dentist after school. e. Would not know how to act. 63(22.4%) a. General physician 7(2.5%) b. Pediatric physician 9(3.2%) c. Hospital 41(14.6%) d. Dental school 35(12.5%) e. General dentist 61(21.7%) f. Pediatric Dentist 92(32.7%) g. Endodontist 26(9.3%) h. Would not know 10(3.6%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? b. No 92(32.7%) a. Yes 189(67.3%) d. Discard the tooth fell on the dirty ground? b. No 92(32.7%) a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) b. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. 62(22.1%) c. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. d. Discard the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? A liquid 75(6.7%) C. The child's mouth 19(6.8%) C. The shild's mouth 19(6.8%) C. The shild's mouth 19(6.8%) C. The shild's hand 2(0.7%) C. Would not know 74(26.3) C. The shild's mouth 19(6.8%) C. The shild's mouth 19(6.8%)				
e. Would not know how to act. a. General physician b. Pediatric physician c. Hospital Q4. Where is the first place that you would seek treatment? e. General dentist f. Pediatric Dentist g. Endodontist b. Would not know you ask if the child had received teanus vaccine? Q5. Do you ask if the child had received teanus vaccine? Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? Q8. What liquid would you use to e. Would not know c. Saliva of the child e. Paper tissue f. Would not know c. Saliva of the child e. Paper tissue b. Fresh milk c. Saliva of the child e. Saliva of the child	Q3. What should you do?	·		
a. General physician b. Pediatric physician c. Hospital 41(14.6%) Q4. Where is the first place that you would seek treatment? e. General dentist d. Dental school 35(12.5%) f. Pediatric Dentist g. Endodontist h. Would not know 10(3.6%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? D5. No 05. No 05. No 06. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. D6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth. D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth. D7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth. D8. A liquid D9. A liquid				
Department Dep				
C. Hospital 41(14.6%) 35(12.5%) C. Hospital 41(14.6%) 35(12.5%) C. General dentist 61(21.7%) F. Pedidartic Dentist 92(32.7%) G. Edidartic Dentist 92(32.7%) G. Edidartic Dentist 92(32.7%) G. Edidartic Dentist 92(32.7%) G. Endodontist 26(9.3%) D. Would not know 10(3.6%)				
Q4. Where is the first place that you would seek treatment? d. Dental school 35(12.5%) e. General dentist place that you would seek treatment? e. General dentist place that you follow the place that you get and the place that you get and the place that you do not know that would not know the dirty ground? 61(21.7%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? a. Yes 189(67.3%) Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) D. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) C. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 62(22.1%) d. Discard the tooth. 29(10.3%) d. Discard the tooth. 29(10.3%) e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%) Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? a. Ice 27(9.6%) D. A liquid 75(26.7%) 75(26.7%) c. The child's mouth 19(6.8%) d. The child's hand 20.7%) e. Paper tissue 84(29.9%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid w		• •		
would seek treatment? e. General dentist 61(21.7%) f. Pediatric Dentist 92(32.7%) g. Endodontist 26(9.3%) h. Would not know 10(3.6%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? a. Yes 189(67.3%) Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) Ce. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 62(22.1%) Ce. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 29(10.3%) d. Discard the tooth. 29(10.3%) e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%) Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? b. A liquid 75(26.7%) C. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know 20.7%) 20.7%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) 3. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
F. Pediatric Dentist 92(32.7%) g. Endodontist 26(9.3%) h. Would not know 10(3.6%)				
g. Endodontist h. Would not know 10(3.6%) Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? a. Yes b. No 92(32.7%) a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) b. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. c. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. d. Discard the tooth. e. Would not know how to act. Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? Q8. What liquid would you use to g. Aliquid c. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know f. Would not know c. Saliva of the child g. Saliva of the child	would seek treatment?			
h. Would not know 10(3.6%)				
Q5. Do you ask if the child had received tetanus vaccine? a. Yes 189(67.3%) Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? b. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. 62(22.1%) c. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 29(10.3%) d. Discard the tooth. 29(10.3%) e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%) a. Ice 27(9.6%) b. A liquid 75(26.7%) c. The child's mouth 19(6.8%) d. The child's hand 2(0.7%) e. Paper tissue 84(29.9%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
tetanus vaccine? A color	05.5			
a. Rinse the tooth under tap water and replace it into the socket. 47(16.7%) b. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. c. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. d. Discard the tooth. e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%) 27(9.6%) b. A liquid c. The child's mouth d. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know f. Wou				
Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell on the dirty ground? b. Remove the dirt by soap and sponge and then replace it into the socket. 62(22.1%) C. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 8(2.8%) d. Discard the tooth. 29(10.3%) e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%) a. Ice 27(9.6%) b. A liquid 75(26.7%) c. The child's mouth 19(6.8%) d. The child's hand 2(0.7%) e. Paper tissue 84(29.9%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)	tetanus vaccine:			
C. Replace it into the socket without cleaning it. 8(2.8%)				
d. Discard the tooth. e. Would not know how to act. 135(48%)	Q6. What would you do if the tooth fell			
e. Would not know how to act. a. Ice property and the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? 27. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? b. A liquid c. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water b. Fresh milk property and the child 33(11.7%)	on the dirty ground?			
Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? a. Ice 27(9.6%) b. A liquid c. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know 19(6.8%) a. Tap water b. Fresh milk 56(19.9%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? By A liquid C. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know Tap water b. Fresh milk Q8. What liquid would you use to b. A liquid C. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue f. Would not know T4(26.3) a. Tap water b. Fresh milk C. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
Q7. How would you transport the tooth to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? c. The child's mouth d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue 2(0.7%) he void not know the tooth? 84(29.9%) f. Would not know the could not know			` '	
to the dentist, if you could not replant the tooth? d. The child's hand e. Paper tissue 84(29.9%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)		•		
e. Paper tissue 84(29.9%) f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
f. Would not know 74(26.3) a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)	the tooth?	e. Paper tissue		
a. Tap water 56(19.9%) b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)				
b. Fresh milk 50(17.8%) Q8. What liquid would you use to c. Saliva of the child 33(11.7%)		a. Tap water		
		c. Saliva of the child	33(11.7%)	
		d. Alcohol	17(6%)	
e. Normal saline 58(20.6%)		e. Normal saline	58(20.6%)	
f. Antiseptic solution 67(23.8%)			67(23.8%)	
a. Immediately 95(33.8%)			95(33.8%)	
Q9. When is the best time to replant the b. Within 30 minutes after stopping the bleeding 47(16.7%)	OQ When is the best time to replant the	b. Within 30 minutes after stopping the bleeding	47(16.7%)	
tooth if the tooth is avulsed?			18(6.4%	
d. Time is not important 12(4.3%)	i die todii is avaisea:			
e. Would not know 109(38.8%)		e. Would not know	109(38.8%)	

Table 4: Part 4- The teachers' self-assessment Question n(%) Answer 15 Q1. Do you think your knowledge Yes (5.3%) on dental emergencies and its 266 treatments is enough? No (94.7%) 266 Q2. Do you need more education on Yes (94.7%) dental emergencies and its 15 treatments? No (5.3%) 97 Q3. Can you react properly in the Yes (34.5%)limited time if you encounter dental 184 injuries in a student? No (65.5%)

Table 5: Comparison of knowledge and attitude score of different age groups (p= 0.453 and 0.631, respectively).

Age (years)	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)	Mean Attitude Score (SD)
24-34	117	4.67 (1.82)	30.58
			(2.91)
25-39	81	4.40 (1.78)	30.86
			(2.68)
40-59	83	4.38 (1.9)	30.44
			(2.89)
Total	281	4.51 (1.83)	30.62
			(2.83)

Table 6: Comparison of different educational levels regarding their knowledge and attitude scores (p= 0.243 and 0.457, respectively).

Educational level	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)	Mean attitude score (SD)
High school diploma	56	4.075(2.04)	30.75(2.91)
Bachelor's degree	217	4.64(1.8)	30.76(2.99)
Master's degree and higher	8	4.25(2.12)	30.12(2.23)
Total	281	4.1(1.83)	30.62(2.83)

Table 7: Comparison of the knowledge score among different fields of education (p= 0.546).

Field of education	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)
Experimental sciences	98	4.68 (1.75)
Mathematics	55	4.23 (2.02)
Human sciences	114	4.50 (1.85)
Arts	14	4.42 (1.45)
Total	281	4.51 (1.83)

Table 8: Comparison of knowledge scores between males and females (p=0.082).

Gender	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)
Female	176	4.65 (1.51)
Male	105	4.26 (1.67)
Total	281	4.51 (1.83)

Table 9: Comparison of knowledge scores between teachers with and without previous first aid education (p= 0.032).

Previous first aid education	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)
Yes	137	4.75 (1.87)
No	144	4.28 (1.76)
Total	281	4.51 (1.83)

Table 10: The relationship between the teachers' knowledge scores and previous dental emergencies management education (p= 0.005).

Previous dental emergencies management education	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)
Yes	35	5.31 (1.84)
No	246	4.39 (1.80)
Total	281	4.51 (1.83)

Table 11: Comparison of teachers' knowledge score and attitude in boys' and girls' school (p= 0.008 and p= 0.161, respectively).

Previous dental emergencies management education	Number	Mean knowledge score (SD)	Mean attitude score (SD)
Yes	35	4.22(1.67)	30.86(2.62)
No	246	4.80(1.95)	30.39(3.03)
Total	281	4.51(1.83)	30.62(2.83)

Discussion

Dental trauma requires immediate appropriate actions in order to minimize further complications. According to the International Association of Traumatology, in cases of permanent tooth avulsion which is one of the most serious dental injuries, the best treatment in the field of accident is to replant the tooth immediately; if not possible, it should be saved in a suitable liquid medium as milk. However, deciduous teeth should not be replanted. [2]

The results of the current study revealed that nearly half of participants felt responsible for dental trauma occurring in their schools, and they thought the prognosis of the injured tooth would be better if they properly intervene. Furthermore, more than 70% of participants agreed that they should get dental emergencies training.

In this study, the total knowledge score of teachers on management of dental trauma was relatively low, which was consistent with those of the previously published studies by Mohandas and Chandan, [16] Blakytny *et al.*, [22] and Al-jundi *et al.*, [27] who reported the knowledge level of teachers to be 30%. Comparable findings were announced by Iranian studies, as well. [26, 28]

Based on the present findings, 61% of teachers had experienced dental trauma in their students, showing the high prevalence of such accidents. It was noted that the teachers' knowledge level was significantly related to their previous training of dental emergency management. Although this was supported by Sae-Lim *et al.*, [19] some studies found no statistically significant relationship between the previous training and the present knowledge. [16, 18, 22, 26] This is suggestive of the necessity of continuous education of teachers on dental emergency management.

The current investigation detected no significant relationship between the demographic characteristics and teachers' knowledge, which was in line with the findings of previous studies. [18, 27]

In the case of a fractured tooth, only 38% of participants stated that they would look for the tooth fragment and would send the child to the dentist; this indicates the need for more teachers' training. Moreover, only 7.5% of teacher claimed that they would replant the avulsed tooth by themselves. Similarly, Raoof *et al.* [28] reported that about 23% of teachers in their study thought that they could do the replantation.

When immediate replantation is not possible, an appropriate storage medium is needed to save the vitality of periodontal ligament cells, since drying leads

to loss of normal morphology and metabolism of these cells. [29-32] Despite the fact that the best option as the transportation media is simply milk, [1] only 18% of teachers were aware of that; showing the necessity of further education. The insufficiency of Iranian teachers' knowledge about the proper storage media was also reported by Raoof *et al.* [28] It is noteworthy that only 33.8% of teachers stated the correct timing for replantation.

The best way to clean the avulsed tooth is washing it by tap water; yet, this question received relatively low rate of correct answer (17%). While this was consistent with the results of Mohandas *et al.*, [16] it contrasted other previous reports which mentioned that almost half of teachers knew about the necessity of washing the teeth. [20, 22, 33]

More than 94% of participants thought that their knowledge was insufficient, and they were interested in learning more. Current results also revealed the teachers' knowledge in boys' school to be significantly higher than that in girls' school, which might be indicative of higher prevalence of accidents and trauma in boys' school.

Conclusion

This study showed that the total present knowledge of Yazd school teachers on dental emergency management is low, and their attitude to these situations is relatively normal. Since, a noticeable count of dental trauma occurs in the school environment, the reaction of teachers would be of considerable importance in children health. Therefore, there is an urgent need to improve the dental awareness of school teachers.

Acknowledgements

This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors. There was no particular conflict of interest with any organization.

Conflict of Interest

Authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

References

[1] Andreasen JO, Andreasen FM. Textbook and Color Atlas of Traumatic Injuries to the Teeth. 4th ed. Oxford:

- Blackwell Publishing; 2007. p. 444-480.
- [2] Ingle NA, Baratam N, Charania Z. Prevalence and factors associated with traumatic dental injuries (TDI) to anterior teeth of 11–13 year old school going children of Maduravoyal, Chennai. J Oral Health Comm Dent. 2010; 4: 55–60.
- [3] Pine CM, Harris R. Community oral health. 2nd ed. Quintessence Book Publishing Co.: UK; 1997. p. 203-211
- [4] McDonald RE, Avery DR. Dentistry for the child and adolescent. 8th ed. Mosby Co.: St Louis; 2009: p. 370-470.
- [5] Traebert J, Peres MA, Blank V, Böell Rda S, Pietruza JA. Prevalence of traumatic dental injury and associated factors among 12-year-old school children in Florianópolis, Brazil. Dent Traumatol. 2003; 19: 15-18.
- [6] Rajab LD. Traumatic dental injuries in children presenting for treatment at the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Jordan, 1997-2000. Dent Traumatol. 2003; 19: 6-11.
- [7] Eyuboglu O, Yilmaz Y, Zehir C, Sahin H. A 6-year investigation into types of dental trauma treated in a paediatric dentistry clinic in Eastern Anatolia region, Turkey. Dent Traumatol. 2009; 25: 110-114.
- [8] Traebert J, Peres MA, Blank V, Böell Rda S, Pietruza JA. Prevalence of traumatic dental injury and associated factors among 12-year-old school children in Florianópolis, Brazil. Dent Traumatol. 2003; 19: 15-8.
- [9] Marcenes W, al Beiruti N, Tayfour D, Issa S. Epidemiology of traumatic injuries to the permanent incisors of 9-12-year-old schoolchildren in Damascus, Syria. Endod Dent Traumatol. 1999; 15: 117-123.
- [10] Marcenes W, Murray S. Changes in prevalence and treatment need for traumatic dental injuries among 14year-old children in Newham, London: a deprived area. Community Dent Health. 2002; 19: 104-108.
- [11] Gift HC, Bhat M. Dental Visits for Orofacial Injury: Defining the Dentist's Role. The Journal of the American Dental Association. 1993; 124: 92-96.
- [12] Wilson S, Smith GA, Preisch J, Casamassimo PS. Epidemiology of dental trauma treated in an urban pediatric emergency department. Pediatr Emerg Care. 1997: 13: 12-15.
- [13] Santos ME, Habecost AP, Gomes FV, Weber JB, de Oliveira MG. Parent and caretaker knowledge about avulsion of permanent teeth. Dent Traumatol. 2009; 25:

- 203-208.
- [14] Werder P, von Arx T, Chappuis V. Treatment outcome of 42 replanted permanent incisors with a median follow-up of 2.8 years. Schweiz Monatsschr Zahnmed. 2011; 121: 312-320.
- [15] Ozen B, Cakmak T, Altun C, Bagis B, Senel FC, Baltacioglu E, Koskan O. Prevalence of dental trauma among children age 2-15 years in the Eastern Black Sea Region of Turkey. J Int Dent Med Res. 2010; 3: 126-132.
- [16] Mohandas U, Chandan GD. Knowledge, attitude and practice in emergency management of dental injury among physical education teachers: a survey in Bangalore urban schools. J Indian Soc Pedod Prev Dent. 2009; 27: 242-248.
- [17] McIntyre JD, Lee JY, Trope M, Vann WF Jr. Permanent tooth replantation following avulsion: using a decisiontree to achieve the best outcome. Pediatr Dent. 2009; 31: 137-144.
- [18] Chan AW, Wong TK, Cheung GS. Lay knowledge of physical education teachers about the emergency management of dental trauma in Hong Kong. Dent Traumatol. 2001; 17: 77-85.
- [19] Sae-Lim V, Lim LP. Dental trauma management awareness of Singapore pre-schoolteachers. Dent Traumatol. 2001; 17: 71-76.
- [20] Mesgarzadeh AH, Shahamfar M, Hefzollesan A. Evaluating knowledge and attitudes of elementary school teachers on emergency management of traumatic dental injuries: a study in an Iranian urban area. Oral Health Prev Dent. 2009; 7: 297-308.
- [21] Newman LJ, Crawford PJ. Dental injuries: "first aid" knowledge of Southampton teachers of physical education. Endod Dent Traumatol. 1991; 7: 255-258.
- [22] Blakytny C, Surbuts C, Thomas A, Hunter ML. Avulsed permanent incisors: knowledge and attitudes of primary school teachers with regard to emergency management. Int J Paediatr Dent. 2001; 11: 327-332.
- [23] Pacheco LF, Filho PF, Letra A, Menezes R, Villoria GE, Ferreira SM. Evaluation of the knowledge of the treatment of avulsions in elementary school teachers in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Dent Traumatol. 2003; 19: 76-78.

- [24] Caglar E, Ferreira LP, Kargul B. Dental trauma management knowledge among a group of teachers in two south European cities. Dent Traumatol. 2005; 21: 258-262.
- [25] Zakirulla M, Togoo RA, Yaseen SM, Al-Shehri DA, Al-Ghamdi AS, Al-Hafed MS, et al. Knowledge and attitude of Saudi Arabian school teachers with regards to emergency management of dental trauma. Int J Clin Dent Sci. 2011; 2: 25-29.
- [26] Fallahinejad M, Haghighatdoost E. Evaluation of primary school teachers' knowledge of dental traumas in students, Tehran-2003. J Dent Sch. 2005; 22: 21-25.
- [27] Al-Jundi SH, Al-Waeili H, Khairalah K. Knowledge and attitude of Jordanian school health teachers with regards to emergency management of dental trauma. Dent Traumatol. 2005; 21: 183-187.
- [28] Raoof M, Zaherara F, Shokouhinejad N, Mohammadalizadeh S. Elementary school staff knowledge and attitude with regard to first-aid management of dental trauma in Iran: a basic premise for developing future intervention. Dent Traumatol. 2012; 28: 441-447.
- [29] Andreasen JO, Borum MK, Jacobsen HL, Andreasen FM. Replantation of 400 avulsed permanent incisors. 4. Factors related to periodontal ligament healing. Endod Dent Traumatol. 1995; 11: 76-89.
- [30] American Association of Endodontists. Treatment of the avulsed permanent tooth. Recommended guidelines of the American Association of Endodontists. Dent Clin North Am. 1995; 39: 221–225.
- [31] Barrett EJ, Kenny DJ. Avulsed permanent teeth: a review of the literature and treatment guidelines. Endod Dent Traumatol. 1997; 13: 153-163.
- [32] Andreasen JO, Andreasen FM, Skeie A, Hjørting-Hansen E, Schwartz O. Effect of treatment delay upon pulp and periodontal healing of traumatic dental injuries -- a review article. Dent Traumatol. 2002; 18: 116-128.
- [33] Abidi SYA, Khan AM, Khan MA, Fazal-Ur-Rehman Q, Ghazali NZ. Knowledge about the management of avulsed tooth among Karachi school teachers. Pakistan Oral & Dental Journal. 2010; 30: 515-520.