



AWARENESS ON BLOOD TRANSFUSION AMONG DENTAL OUTPATIENTS

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ABSTRACT

Aim: To improve awareness of blood transfusion among dental outpatients.

Objective: To measure the level of knowledge regarding blood donation, find out positive and negative attitudes suggest some motivational factors.

Background: Understanding the knowledge and awareness of blood donation among dental outpatients is important as blood is important resource of life and blood donation is life saving.

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INTRODUCTION

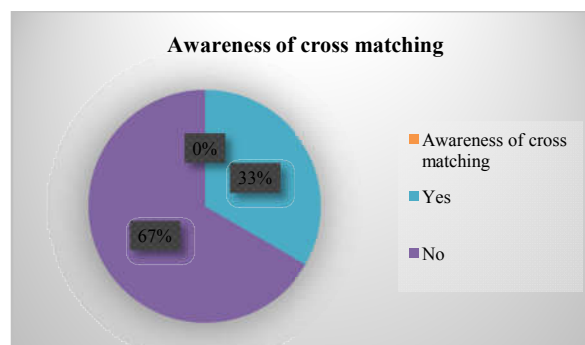
“More blood, more life” this was the theme for World Donor Day 2011 on the 14th of June to emphasise the critical need for more people all over the world to become lifesavers by donating blood regularly(1). Donating blood can be lifesaving for persons who have lost large amounts of blood because of serious accidents, new medical and surgical procedures, civil conflicts and military wars as well as for patients who have become severely anemic because of serious haematological diseases on treatments such as cancer therapy(2). Therefore availability of blood is an important concern to the society(3). Increase in the level of awareness and positive attitude towards blood donation is the highest priority of all blood transfusion centres(4). The most prominent reason on why people give blood is altruism beside community needs and support, family assurances and social pressure(5). On the other hand fear, lack of knowledge and inconvenience have been described to be the primary obstacles to donation(6).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

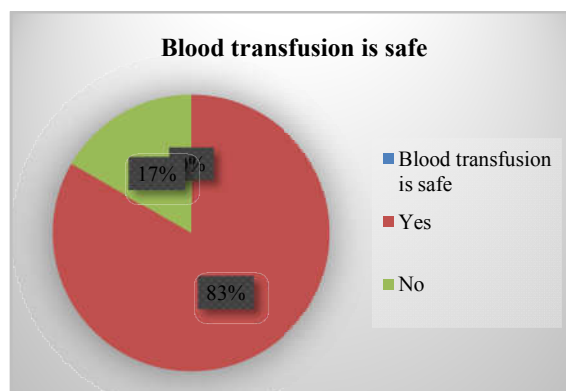
A self created questionnaire was given to 30 participants. The questionnaire contained knowledge based (5 questions), practice (5 questions) and few motivational questions. Questionnaires needed 10 minutes to be completed. Filled questionnaires were collected at the same time and the responses are analysed statistically.

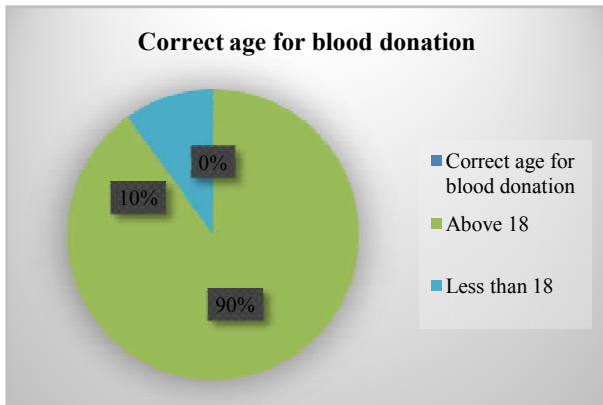
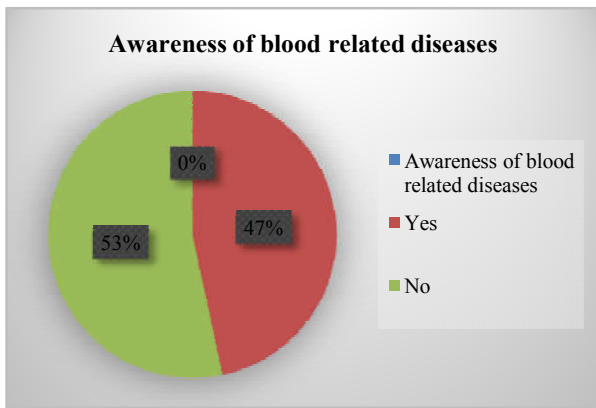
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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION



From the results obtained, it is observed that 83% of participants believe that blood transfusion is safe. 47% are aware of blood related diseases such as HIV. 90% knew the correct age for blood donation. 33% are aware of cross matching.





CONCLUSION

The knowledge and awareness of blood transfusion is adequate among the participants. It may be concluded that regular awareness programmes on various aspects of blood donation should be conducted so that needy people gets the blood at the appropriate time.

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