

Interlink between clinical and preclinical zones - An original research (Interlink between clinical and preclinical zones - An original research)

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Abstract (english)

Oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS) is a unique dental speciality that brings together all other dental specialities and medicine. The role of an oral surgeon extends beyond performing exodontia. This fact is not aware by many especially the dental Compulsory Rotatory Residential Interns (CRRI) who are the future. Therefore, awareness and management of the patient is a liability. This study focuses on the knowledge and awareness about Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery speciality among dental compulsory rotatory residential interns.

Keywords(english)

Oral and maxillofacial surgery, Compulsory Rotatory Residential Interns.

Resumen(español)

La cirugía oral y maxilofacial (COMF) es una especialidad odontológica única que integra todas las demás especialidades odontológicas y la medicina. El rol del cirujano oral va más allá de la extracción de órganos. Este hecho es desconocido para muchos, especialmente para los internos rotatorios obligatorios de odontología (IRRO), quienes representan el futuro. Por lo tanto, la falta de conocimiento y la atención adecuada del paciente constituyen un riesgo. Este estudio se centra en el conocimiento y la comprensión de la especialidad de cirugía oral y maxilofacial entre los internos rotatorios obligatorios de odontología.

Palabras clave(español)

Cirugía oral y maxilofacial, Internos rotatorios obligatorios de odontología.

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Table. 1. Questionnaire. Awareness about oral and maxillofacial surgery speciality among dental compulsory rotatory residential interns.

QUESTION	YES	NO	I DON'T KNOW
1.Do you have interest in oral and maxillofacial surgery?			
2. Will you take up Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as a speciality?			
3.Do u think that Oral and Maxillofacial minor surgical procedures are easy to perform?			
4. With proper training and exposure, is it possible to perform all or most minor surgical procedures with confidence?			
5.In case of medical emergencies, is it possible for you to handle it on your own?			
6.Do you think that impaction and exodontia are the most commonly performed minor surgical procedures?			
7. Do you feel that your current level of experience in minor surgical procedures is satisfactory?			

Introduction

Oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS) is a dental specialty, which can be considered to be a borderline between medicine and dentistry (1,2). Oral and maxillofacial surgeons are involved in the management of dentoalveolar surgeries and facial fractures, treatment for patients with craniofacial injuries, salivary gland diseases, and temporomandibular joint (3). Little is known regarding the perception of oral and maxillofacial surgery speciality among dental compulsory rotatory residential interns who are the future graduates (4). The main objective of this study was to assess the knowledge and awareness of oral and maxillofacial

surgery speciality among dental compulsory rotatory residential interns..

Materials and Methods

A cross-sectional study was performed among dental compulsory rotatory residential interns . A questionnaire (Table 1) was designed that comprised of seven questions pertaining to the awareness of the speciality Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the perception about the procedures performed in the above speciality. The questionnaire was then distributed among 100 dental compulsory rotatory

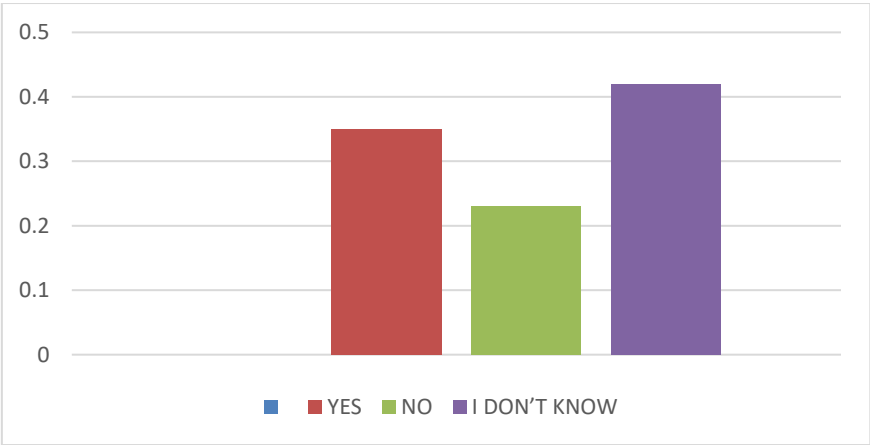


Figure 1. Career pathway

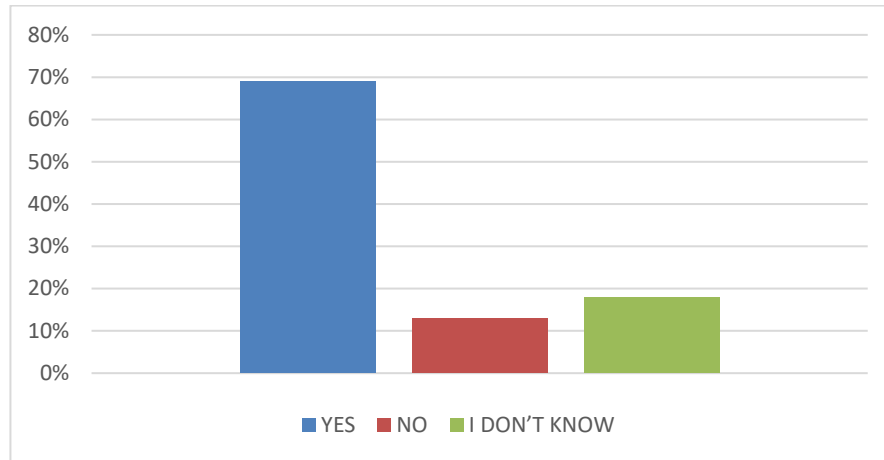


Figure 2. Training and exposure

residential interns. Respondent were asked to indicate either one of the following options- Yes/ No/ I don't know. The results were collected and analysed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

Results

Demographics. The gender distribution was 45% (45) male and 55% (55) female among the respondents.

Attitude of OMFS as a career pathway. Among the 100 respondents, 35% were interested in pursuing Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as a post

graduate speciality, 23% showed no interest while 42% of the interns were unsure (Figure 1).

Understanding and awareness of the specialty. When asked about the perception of minor surgical procedures, 36% responded that they were easy to perform, 41% did not agree that the procedures were easy to carry out, the rest 23% did not know.

With proper training and exposure, 69% of the interns agreed that it is possible to perform all or most minor surgical procedures with confidence, 13% did not agree, 18% of the interns did not know if training could improve performing minor oral surgical procedures with confidence (Figure 2).

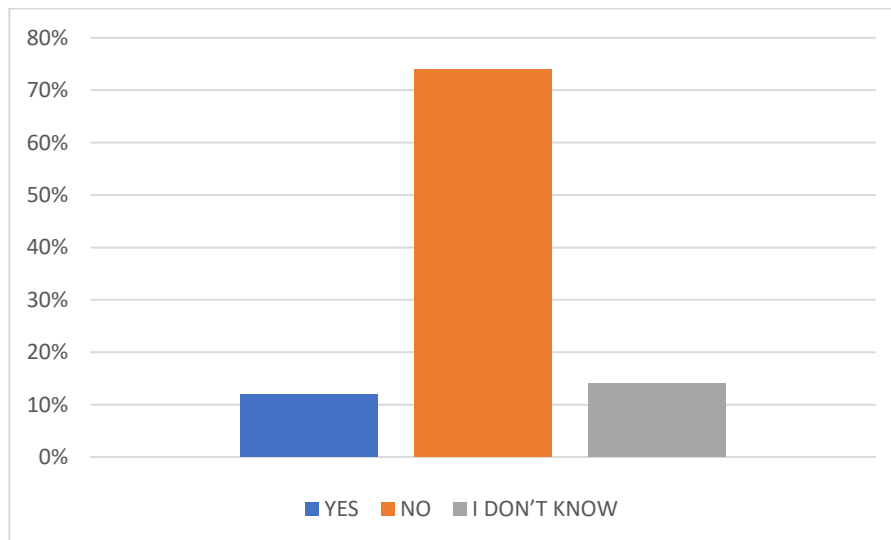


Figure 3. Handle medical emergencies

In case of medical emergencies, only 12% of the interns agreed that it was possible for them to handle management of the emergency on their own, a majority of 74% did not agree while the rest 14% of the interns did not know if they could handle the management of medical emergencies on their own (Figure 3).

71% of the interns thought that impaction and exodontia were the most commonly performed minor surgical procedures, 24% did not agree, while the remaining 5 % of the interns didn't not know.

Satisfaction in their current level of experience in minor surgical procedures was agreed by only 16% of the interns, majority, 81%, experienced lack of experience while 3% did not know whether their current level of experience in minor surgical procedure was satisfactory.

Discussion

There was considerable variability amongst the interns in their exposure and/or previous experience in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. This could be a reason why a majority of the sample population were unsure of their career pathway in the speciality. Local differences in hospital services appeared to

influence student's perceptions of the role of an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon. Most of the dental compulsory rotatory residential interns thought that impaction and exodontia were the most commonly performed minor surgical procedures. The majority of students felt that they were incapable in handling medical emergencies on their own. However, a majority felt that with proper training and clinical exposure, they could perform oral minor surgeries better. A limitation of this study is the interviewer bias that could have affected the interviewee's answers. Convenience sampling is also a limitation to this study. The data for the purpose of the study was collected from respondents .

In conclusion, while Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as a career pathway remains unclear to most, those with greater exposure have an increased recognition of the scope of OMFS. Awareness of the scope of OMFS can lead to improved access and have better knowledge on patient's management.

Conflict of interest

None to declare.

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