



MAHATMA GANDHI MISSION'S DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL

Accredited by NAAC with "A++" Grade
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LINK BETWEEN MATERNAL ORAL HEALTH AND INFANT HEALTH AT ANC CAMP MGM MEDICAL HOSPITAL, KAMOTHE

Date: 01ST June 2026

Venue: MGM Medical Hospital, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai

Faculty: Dr. Sujata Hirave , Dr. Pankaj Londhe

Organizing Agency: Department of Public Health Dentistry; MGMDCH, NSS Unit of MGMDCH; Department of Preventive and Social Medicine, MGM Medical Hospital, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai

Number of students attended: 4

Maternal oral health is an essential component of maternal and child health, yet it is often overlooked during pregnancy. A mother's oral health status has a direct and indirect influence on the health and well-being of her infant. Pregnancy is associated with significant hormonal changes that increase the risk of oral conditions such as pregnancy gingivitis, periodontal disease, dental caries, and oral infections. If these conditions are left untreated, they may adversely affect both the mother and the developing fetus. MGM Dental College constantly takes efforts of extending the oral health care to the community. The oral care initiative was also extended to the patients at ANC Camp at MGM Medical Hospital, Kamothe with the intention of creating awareness about use of Eco-Friendly Oral Hygiene Products and providing oral health care to the patients. Good maternal oral hygiene, regular dental check-ups, a balanced diet rich in calcium, phosphorus, vitamin D, and fluoride (where appropriate), along with healthy lifestyle practices, contribute to proper fetal growth and the normal development of primary teeth. Educating expectant mothers about oral hygiene practices, safe dental treatment during pregnancy, infant feeding habits, and the importance of the child's first dental visit by the age of one year can significantly improve both maternal and infant oral health outcomes.

Therefore, promoting maternal oral health is not only important for preventing oral diseases in mothers but is also a key preventive strategy for ensuring healthy pregnancies, healthy infants, and lifelong oral health.

Aim and objective:

1. To educate expectant mothers about proper infant feeding practices.
2. To create awareness about the importance of oral health during pregnancy.

3. To provide guidance on maintaining oral hygiene for both mothers and infants.
4. To identify and record common oral health conditions among attending patients.
5. To encourage early preventive dental care and regular dental check-ups.

Method:

Patients were explained about the infant Feeding Practices and oral health. Raising awareness about Correct Infant Feeding Practice can be achieved through a combination of strategies such as:

- Education content.
- Retail display & signage.
- Collaborations with dentists in different localities.
- Sustainability certifications and labels.
- Workshops and events

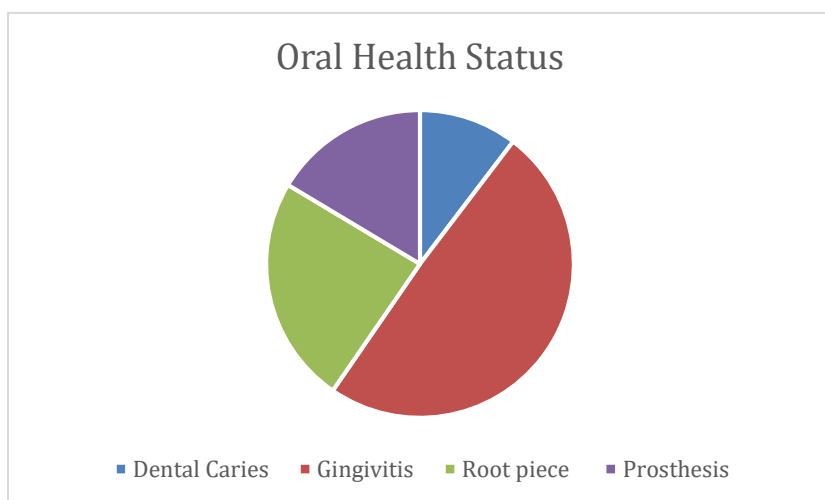
After the awareness program, oral examination was conducted using Tongue Depressors for the patient's. All the patients were assessed for oral health status and were explained the need to get the problems corrected. The patients were made aware of the existing dental problems and preventive measures were explained.

Observations:

1. Increasing awareness about the negative effects of incorrect Infant Feeding Practice, combined with a growing concern for Oral Health.
2. A total of 31 patients were examined for various dental problems. Those requiring extensive treatment were referred to MGM Dental College and Hospital, Kamothe.

Oral Health Status

Condition	No. of individuals	Percentage %
Dental caries	9	29
Gingivitis	12	39
Root piece	6	19
Prosthesis	4	13



A total of 31 patients were examined at the Antenatal Care (ANC) clinic for various dental conditions. Upon evaluation, the clinical findings were as follows: eight patients were diagnosed with dental caries, six presented with gingivitis, and one patient was found to have a root fragment. No patients presented with or required dental prostheses.

Interpretation and conclusion:

Maternal oral health and infant health are closely interconnected, making oral healthcare an integral part of prenatal and postnatal care. Maintaining healthy teeth and gums during pregnancy reduces the risk of oral infections, supports overall maternal well-being, and contributes to favorable pregnancy outcomes. Furthermore, healthy mothers are less likely to transmit disease-causing bacteria to their infants, thereby reducing the risk of early childhood caries and promoting healthy oral development.

Regular dental examinations, timely treatment of dental problems, effective plaque control, proper nutrition, and awareness about infant oral care should be encouraged throughout pregnancy. Dental treatment, including preventive and restorative procedures, is generally safe during pregnancy when provided with appropriate precautions, particularly during the second trimester.

Healthcare professionals, including dentists, obstetricians, pediatricians, nurses, and community health workers, should work together to educate expectant mothers about the importance of oral health. Early intervention, preventive education, and routine dental care can help establish a strong foundation for a child's lifelong oral and general health.

In conclusion, a healthy mother is the first step toward a healthy child. By prioritizing maternal oral health, we can improve pregnancy outcomes, prevent early childhood oral diseases, and contribute to the overall health and quality of life of both mother and infant.



INVESTIGATION BEING DONE BY THE TEAM MEMBER

List of Attendees

Sr. No.	Name of Staff
1.	Dr. Swati Singh
2.	Dr. Pankaj Londhe
Name of Interns and students	
3.	Mrunmai Gaikwad
4.	Rahul Lavate
5.	Sakshi Gupta
6.	Sneha Gupta