



## ARTICLE CRITIQUE

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# Cross-Cultural Comparison of the Attitudes of Dental Students in Three Countries

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*Abstract:* The aim of this study was to identify and compare the attitudes of dental students toward their career choice and dental education in three different countries. Three hundred thirty-six dental students from the University of British Columbia, Canada; Mahidol University and Chiang Mai University, Thailand; and Nippon Dental University, Japan, participated in this study. Information was derived from a questionnaire consisting of career choice items and dental education items. Significant differences in the responses of the participants from each of the three countries were detected for each of the questionnaire items ( $P < 0.001$ ). Regarding factors that may have served as motivations for career choice, the majority of dental students from each country indicated positive reasons such as interpersonal motives, caring for other people, and academic interest. For future career options, the majority of Japanese and Canadian students planned to work as general dentists. Thai students were more likely than Japanese or Canadian to prefer specialization than practicing general dentistry. Nearly three-quarters of the Canadian and Thai students were satisfied with the teaching faculty of their schools, while only a quarter of the Japanese students indicated satisfaction. The findings from this study enhance our understanding of differences and/or similarities among dental students in three nations; this information may help to define strategies to improve the quality of international student exchange programs.

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*Key words:* students, attitude, education, curriculum, career choice

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<b>Sr no.</b>		<b>Strengths of the study</b>	<b>Weakness of the study</b>
1	Title		The title doesn't clearly states about the attitude towards career choice and dental education
2	Background	The idea of the study was innovative and useful for student exchange programme	
3	Objectives	Objectives were specific and seems to be fulfilling at the end of the study	
4	Method	Questionnaire details mentioned which can be useful in replication of the study by other researchers	The sample size especially for Canadian students is too small to be considered as representative of nation
5	Results	Tables were explained well and include all details	
6	Statistical analysis		Only percentile comparison done without applying any statistical test though name mentioned.
7	Discussion	Discussion was done in detail and to the point	Discussion is too lengthy could have been cut short
8	Conclusion	Conclusion was done nicely and optimum for the study	

Final comment: Since there is wide variations in the sample size, location and academic training, cross cultural comparison can not be done. Also the future prospects vary in each country, which may influence the selection of dentistry as a profession.

विद्या शिक्षण प्रसारक मंडळाचे  
डेंटल कॉलेज व रिसर्च सेंटर  
येथे उपलब्ध असलेल्या सुविधा

दंत शल्य शास्त्र विभाग

- दातांची किड काढून चांदी/सिमेंट भरणे.
- तुटलेल्या दातांचा उपचार.
- आधुनिक पध्दतीने दातांच्या नस चा उपचार (रुट कॅनल ट्रिटमेंट)
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- सळसळणाऱ्या दातांचा उपचार
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दंत व्यंगोपचार शास्त्र विभाग

- वेडेवाकडे दात सरळ करणे
- जबड्याचे व्यंगोपचार
- स्मार्ईल डिझाईन
- घोरण्यावर प्रतिबंधक उपाय
- अंगठा चोखणे ईत्यादी सवयी मोडणे

मुख विकृती शास्त्र

- रक्त तपासणी
- बायोप्सी (Biopsy)
- कोशिकीय तपासणी (Cytology)
- तंबाखु व्यसन मुक्ती केंद्र
- मुख कर्करोग निदान (Oral pre-cancer and cancer detection)

क्ष-किरण चिकित्सा

- मुख पूर्व कर्करोग चिकित्सा व निदान
- कर्करोग चिकित्सा व निदान
- जबड्याचे आजार
- मुखाचे व संलग्नीत अवयवांच्या वेदना

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- स्केलींग व रुट प्लानिंग
- हिरड्यांची शस्त्रक्रिया
- दन्त रोपण
- लेजर उपचार

कृत्रिम दंतशास्त्र विभाग

- दातांची कवळी (संपूर्ण/आंशिक)
- कृत्रिम पक्के दात
- दंतरोपण
- दुभंगलेले ओठ किंवा टाळूचे प्रोस्थेसीस
- मॅक्सिलोफेशियल प्रोस्थेसीस (कृत्रिम नाक, कान, डोळे, चेहरा)

मुखशल्य चिकीत्सा शास्त्र विभाग (इर्मर्जन्सी)

- अॅक्सीडेंट मुळे चेहऱ्याला होणाऱ्या सॉफ्ट व हार्ड टिश्यू इंज्युरी चे उपचार
- दातदुखी व त्यामुळे होणारे संक्रमण
- जबड्याचा सांधा निखळणे

मुखशल्य चिकीत्सा शास्त्र विभाग

- दात काढणे
- तुटलेल्या जबड्याच्या विविध शस्त्रक्रिया
- मुखकर्क रोगावरील उपचार
- दुभंगलेले ओठ/टाळू साठी शस्त्रक्रिया
- चेहऱ्याची ठेवण बदलण्यास लागणारी कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी
- तोंड कमी उघडत असल्यास त्यावर उपचार
- जबड्याच्या जॉईंटची शस्त्रक्रिया
- अक्कल दाढेचा उपचार
- चेहऱ्यावरील ट्युमर्सचा उपचार
- डेंटल इंप्लान्टस्
- चट्टा/गाठीची तपासणी (Biopsy)



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