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D200

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**Dental Hygienists' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Comfort Level in Treating Patients with
Dental Anxiety.**

Introduction

1. What is the author's central purpose? Is it clearly stated?

The author's central purpose was to discover if dental hygienists are knowledgeable enough to identify and treat a patient with anxiety ranging from mild to severe.

2. Write a 150- 200 word summary of the article that accurately conveys the content of the article.

The purpose of this article was to obtain information and analyze if dental hygienist had enough knowledge and experience to treat a patient with anxiety levels ranging from mild to severe. The research took place at a state-wide annual dental hygiene continuing education course in North Carolina. They developed a paper survey that had questions ranging from multiple choice to free response in regards to practice settings, demographics, dental anxiety awareness, and hygienist opinions and attitudes. The conclusion of the survey was that a majority of hygienists felt confident enough to help patients with mild to moderate anxiety. This experiment brought to light that questionnaires that were designed for patients with dental anxiety we're not used enough in private dental offices. Hygienist also felt that further educational programs for anxiety management would be beneficial in dental education courses.

3. Does the work meet the standards to be considered an appropriate/academic/scholarly source? Justify your choice.

I believe the article does meet the standards to be a scholarly source because upon researching the authors I discovered that they had multiple articles published.

4. Are the qualifications of the author(s) appropriate for an academic article? Briefly describe the author's qualifications

The qualifications for the authors are indeed appropriate for an academic article. I determined that after researching two of the authors, Margot B. Stein and Ceib L. Phillips and found that they also had other articles published in academic journals.

5. When was the work published?

The work was published on December 11, 2018.

Methods (30%)

1. Is the experimental design clearly described? Describe the design in your own words.

The experimental design was described clearly. They developed a survey with multiple-choice, free response, and a Likert Scale ranging from “extremely frequent to never” and “strongly agree to strongly disagree.”

2. Have the possible influences on the findings been identified and controls instituted?

Describe and evaluate the use of controls and possible influences

This particular research did not have any control groups it was simply a paper survey within dental hygienists in North Carolina.

3. Has the sample been appropriately selected (if applicable)? Describe the sample used in the study, and evaluate its appropriateness.

I do not believe the samples were appropriately selected because there was only one group and they only experimented with dental hygienists in North Carolina.

4. Is the experimental therapy compared appropriately to control therapy? Describe and evaluate the use of the control group.

This particular experiment did not have two control groups to compare against each other.

5. Is the investigation of sufficient duration? Evaluate, and explain your reasoning.

The article did not specify the duration of the experiment.

Results and Discussion (30%)

6. Have the research questions or hypotheses been answered? Restate the research questions and/or hypotheses in your own words, and describe if or how they are answered.

The research question was answered but I believe the answer not to be sufficient due to the fact that the sample size was small and only within one state.

7. Review the results in light of the stated objectives. Does the study reveal what the researcher intended?

I feel the study did accomplish what it intended however, I do think that the survey was extremely small scale and should have had a broader audience.

8. Do you agree or disagree with the article and findings? Explain why?

I disagree with the article because they did not have a big enough sample. In order for this experiment to be successful, they would have had to survey hygienists from all around the country.

9. What would you change in the article? Why? Think outside of the box. What would you add or delete?

I would change the way the survey was administered. I feel in order to get an accurate answer as to whether or not dental hygienists have enough knowledge to notice the signs and symptoms of a person with dental anxiety and how to properly treat them, the survey needed to be state-wide and administered in multiple practices and dental schools.

References:

Hunt, Lynne C., RDH, MEd, MS; Kanzigg, Lauren, RDH, MS; Phillips, Ceib L., Ph.D.; Stein, Margot B., Ph.D.; Wilder, Rebecca S., RDH, MS. Dental Hygienists' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Comfort Level in Treating Patients with Dental Anxiety. *Journal of Dental Hygiene*, October 2018; 92(5): 30-37.(8).