

International Conference on

Restorative & Alternative Medicine

October 24-25, 2016 Chicago, USA

Awareness of methemoglobinemia risks associated with the use of topical anesthesia for teething

Alrouh AlSaadoon, Shaden Al Jaber, Dalal Al Sadoon and Sharat Pani
Riyadh College of Dentistry and Pharmacy, KSA

Background & Aim: Methemoglobinemia is a serious but rare complication associated with the topical application of local anesthetics, especially lidocaine in infants. Due to this risk in 2014, FDA banned the use of lidocaine as a topical anesthetic for teething. The aim of this study was to test the awareness of health professionals to the risks associated with topical anesthesia for teething among health professionals in Riyadh.

Method: A structured questionnaire was developed by consulting to an experienced pediatrician and pediatric dentist. Items were then analyzed to remove redundancies and checked for content validity. The finalized questionnaire was then tested for reproducibility. The final questionnaire comprised of four parts: The knowledge of teething, remedies used for teething, their opinion on the use of anesthetics for treating teething and the knowledge about methemoglobinemia. The questionnaire was administered to general dentists, pediatric dentists, pediatricians and pharmacists.

Results: The overall knowledge of teething was good among all four groups. Pediatricians and Pediatric Dentists had a good knowledge of methemoglobinemia. However, few respondents were aware of the FDI regulations. Among those who were aware of the potential toxicity of lidocaine, several were still willing to prescribe local anesthetics for the management of teething.

Conclusion: There is poor knowledge about the danger of using local anesthetic gels for teething.

Biography

Alrouh AlSaadoon has completed his graduation from Riyadh College of Dentistry and Pharmacy in 2014. He is an active Member in Saudi Dental Society. Currently, he is an Academic Demonstrator in Riyadh College.

alrouh.alsaadoon@riyadh.edu.sa

Notes: