

TECH-INFORMATION : PARENTS' VIEWS

The advent of the digital age has meant more & faster access to information. In the 21st century, the diagnosis announces itself as the patient walks in, as the body represents a text. Health-related internet information both strengthens weakens one's potential for self-care.

93% Parents use the internet

63% Search for child's dental health

Improving knowledge **80%**

42% Reducing anxiety

Seeking a pedodontist **26%**

69% Child's dental health

Medication **51%**

26% Alternate therapies

The digital media is a sea of data & information in which a little dip can speed up & change the way we live. It has become an important source of oral health information to parents for support & guidance.

METHODOLOGY –

Data was collected using a validated questionnaire from 100 parents attending the Department of Pediatric Dentistry to gain their views on online health information.

OBJECTIVES –

- Parents' internet usage patterns.
- Nature of information parents searched for.
- Effect on the child's oral health.

97%

Found internet information useful for improving child's oral health



89%

Parents rely on the dentist for information



93%

Suggest searching for health information on the internet



DISCUSSION – This study demonstrated that although parents use the internet for their child's dental health, they still prefer the dentist for accurate information as some information is lacking on the internet, like dosage of drugs, validation of information, accuracy, doctor's advice, etc. Parents search for medications & alternate therapies that they can discuss with their child's paediatric dentist.

Knowing one's health & body is a primary right of every individual. But obtaining the correct information through learned professionals is much more important.

THE INTERNET IS A FAST AND GOOD TOOL BUT CANNOT REPLACE HUMAN CONTACT.