

ABSTRACT

Introduction:

In Uganda 60–90% of school going children in Kisenyi have or had dental cavities at some point. Dental cavities can be prevented by maintaining a constant low level of fluoride in the oral cavity. In Uganda, about 30% of people aged 65–74 have no natural teeth. Oral disease in children and adults is higher among poor and disadvantaged population groups (WHO, 2012). The study of determinants of oral hygiene in primary school children aged 5-12 was conducted in Kisenyi, Rubaga Division-Kampala district, with objectives as determining the proportion of oral hygiene practices among these children, determining the individual and economic determinants of oral hygiene.

Methods:

A Descriptive Cross sectional design was used on 384 randomly selected school children, the data was collected using semi-structured questioners.

Results:

Over 70% of the oral hygiene practices were bad, with age, residence, mother's knowledge, fathers and mothers income level, frequency of dental cheek ups, duration of tooth brushing, taking snack, and residence being the major determinants of oral hygiene among the studied group.

Conclusion and Recommendation:

Over 70% of the oral hygiene practices were bad ones among the school going children, and Children should be advised to drop use of too many snacks, make frequent dental cheek ups, be advised to brush for longer hours and more occasionally, the fathers whose incomes are low should be advised of the alternative local methods and all the bad practices within oral hygiene that were identified be gaped up like advise children to use fluoridated tooth paste and brushes, Use good methods of brushing and brush more frequently not only the morning.