



# PSCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING OF PARTIALLY AND COMPLETELY ENDENTULOUS ELDERLY PATIENTS OF BARANGAY SAN JUAN, APALIT, PAMPANGA, PHILLIPINES

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## **A b s t r a c t**

Healthy smile may affect person's confidence and self-image. Senior dental problem can be common, from tooth decay to periodontal diseases, since oral health directly impacts the health of the rest of the body and mind, these issues need to be taken seriously. Elderly individual may start limiting the kinds of food they eat, prone to experience low self-esteem and other psychological problems, they may find it difficult to socialize to other people, changes of mood because of pain they experience in oral cavity and difficulty in communication due to changes in oral motor function such as phonation and deglutition. Descriptive type of research, 273 individuals were selected through convenience and purposive sampling. The respondents were all partially and completely edentulous individuals, aged sixty and above, residing at Barangay San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga, Philippines. Researcher made questionnaire, validated by licensed dentists, psychologists, and guidance counselor, were utilized as the research instrument to determine the respondent's psychosocial well-being and quality of life. Based on data gathered, dental caries is the most common cause of the respondents' tooth loss. Result showed that the effects of toothloss on health, behavioral, and socio-economic factors of the respondents are equal, and social aspect is greatly affected. Psychosocial well-being of the respondents is in between strongly affected and not affected at all, an indication that quality of life is affected by the effects of edentulism. Socialization and health aspect are the most commonly affected by edentulism. Feelings were encountered and coped differently by individual. Awareness and proper education on oral health practices can help prevent tooth decay and tooth loss that may improve the psychosocial well-being and overall quality of life of an individual, especially to future generations.

## **R e s e a r c h   H i g h l i g h t s .**

Quality of life is related to a number of elements such as self- esteem, personal well-being, functional ability, socioeconomic status, emotional state, social interaction, intellectual activity, self-care, family support, one's proper state of health, cultural values, ethics, and religiousness, lifestyle, satisfaction with one's job and / or daily activities, and environment in which one lives. However, results showed that the psychosocial well-being of the respondents of the current study is in between strongly affected and not affected at all.





## Research Objectives

The study aims to determine the psychosocial well-being of partially and completely edentulous patients, especially to the residents of Barangay San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga through various questions. The current study will serve as a basis line data for the community of San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga on the psychosocial status of the partially and completely edentulous individuals. Through this data, the authorities may offer free dental mission providing dentures for its citizen. Through this study, each individual with partially and completely edentulous patients will be more aware and understanding with the effects of tooth loss also for the benefits of having their edentulous spaces replaced with dentures or artificial teeth.

## Methodology

This study is a descriptive type of research will be used to describe the characteristics of population or phenomena without changing the environment and can be explained as a statement of affairs as they are at present with the researcher having no control over variable. This method was designed by means of collecting, organizing and recording all fundamental details concerning the subject of the study. In this research, it will be utilized to determine the psychosocial well-being of partially and completely edentulous patients of Barangay San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga. A detailed survey questionnaires were made for the purpose of making adequate classifying, analyzing, interpreting and recording the data to be gathered. The researchers selected 273 partially and/or completely edentulous elderly patients from San Juan Apalit, Pampanga, as subject of the study. During the interview, the respondents were assisted by the researchers in answering the questionnaires. The data gathered were recorded and tallied by the researchers; computed and validated by a statistician. The results provide a better idea of the psychosocial well-being of partially and/or completely edentulous elderly patients.

## Results

From the people currently residing at Barangay San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga, 273 elderlies were made as respondents of the study. Results showed that majority of the respondents are aged 61





to 64 years old with 56.4%. There were 55.31% female respondents in the study. Most of them have 4 to 5 members currently living with them with 55.67%. Majority of the respondents finished primary education as their highest educational attainment with 56.78%. Having 61.17%, more than half of the respondents have 5,000 pesos and below family monthly salary while only 2.2% have 30,000 pesos monthly income. Majority of the population with 44% said that they were housewives or househusbands. On how many years the respondents were already edentulous, 31 to 35 years and 41 to 45 years have the same result with 24.9%. Majority of the respondents never had a prosthesis before with 59.7%.

Dental disease prevention practices were broken down into five groups: tooth brushing, flossing, using mouth wash, diet and dental visit. Tooth brushing has an overall mean of 3.65 making it the highest mean among the other dental practices. This shows that tooth brushing is the most common practice of the respondents.

The effects of tooth loss on the elderlies of San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga in terms of social relationships, health, behavioral and work are interpreted as undecided or in between of strongly affected and not affected having an overall mean of 3.26, 3.21, 3.12 and 3.01, respectively.

The interaction with other people is the most affected aspect because of tooth loss with 59.34% in comparison with life at work and social life.

## Findings

Based on the results obtained, the researchers concluded that the psychosocial well-being of the completely and partially edentulous elderly patient of San Juan, Apalit, Pampanga is in between strongly affected and not affected at all. Interacting with other people is the leading effect of tooth loss on majority of the respondents. More than half of the respondents does not have and never had worn a prosthesis before. This can be linked to the socio-economic status since majority have only 5000 pesos and below family monthly income.

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