



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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تم رفع هذه الرسالة بواسطة / سامية زكى يوسف

بقسم التوثيق الإلكتروني بمركز الشبكات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات دون أدنى

مسئولية عن محتوى هذه الرسالة.

ملاحظات: لا يوجد



PREVALENCE OF SELF-MEDICATION FOR DENTAL CONDITIONS BY PARENTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN : CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

**A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Dentistry at Cairo University in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree in
Pediatric Dentistry**

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We certify that we have read the present work and that in our opinion it is fully adequate in scope and quality as thesis towards the Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree in Pediatric Dentistry.

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DECLARATION

The authors declare that all the work in the thesis is original work, and has not been published or used for the award of any other degree.

ABSTRACT

Faten Salah Abdel Moneim; Prevalence of self-medication for dental conditions by parents for their children (Cross-sectional Study)

Under the supervision of **Soad Abdel-Moneim and Marwa Aly**

Aim: This study aimed to assess the prevalence and practices of self-medication for dental conditions by parents for their children.

Methodology: A descriptive cross-sectional study was carried out among 188 mothers of children under 10 years of age who attended the department of Pediatric dentistry and dental public health, Faculty of Dentistry, Cairo University. Data were collected using an interviewer-administered questionnaire and were statistically analyzed.

Results: One hundred thirty-nine respondents reported giving drugs to their children without the advice of a doctor or using previous prescriptions for the treatment of oral conditions. There was no statistically significant difference between the demographic data (age of the children, age of parents, and their educational level), and the self-medication.

Conclusion: The prevalence of self-medication by parents to their children for oral health problems was 73.94%, and was not significantly influenced by the age of the children or the education level of the parents.

DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this work to my parents, and my supportive husband for their daily support and prayer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, all thanks and praise be to Allah the most merciful.

I would like to express my respect and gratitude to **Dr. Soad Abdel Moneim**, Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health, Faculty of Dentistry, Cairo University, for her continuous support, valuable time and guidance throughout this work.

I am also offering my warmest thanks to **Dr. Marwa Aly**, Lecturer of Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health, Faculty of Dentistry, Cairo University, for her continuous support, patience, and substantial supervision. It is a great honor and a chance of lifetime to be supervised by her. No words of praise are sufficient for her.

I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff members of the Pediatric Dentistry and Dental Public Health, Faculty of Dentistry, Cairo University for their great help and friendly support throughout the present work.

Many thanks to all children and their parents for volunteering in this study, without them I would not have accomplished this thesis.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations	Full term
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DDIs	Drug-drug interactions
DRPs	Drug-related problems
IPF	International Pharmaceutical Federation
OTC	Over-the-counter
PDO	Prescription drug overdose
WHO	World health organization

Introduction

According to the World Health Organization, self-medication is the act of medicating oneself, either on their initiative or on the advice of a close person, to treat self-recognized conditions or symptoms without supervision by a healthcare professional (*Paulino et al., 2019*).

Self-medication includes the use of nonprescription drugs and a range of different alternative medicines such as herbal remedies, food supplements, and traditional products. People of all socio-demographic categories practice self-medication. Self-medication is common in both developed and developing countries but higher in developing countries, due to a wider increase of drug availability without prescription (*Esan et al., 2018*).

The factors influencing the frequency of self-medication include lack of functional health care services, high costs in health facilities, wide availability of over-the-counter medicines, availability of drugs outside pharmacies, desire to take care of oneself, extensive drug advertising, and inadequate family support (*Lukovic et al., 2014*).

The practice of self-medication among children is considered important as children constitute a large percentage of the population in developing countries and are susceptible to many illnesses. Younger children are often given medications by their parents because the first response by most families to many illnesses in their children is the use of non-prescribed drugs (*Nahhas et al., 2012*).

The risks of self-medication are incorrect self-diagnosis; masking of an underlying severe health condition and consequent failure to seek medical advice promptly, failure to recognize contraindications and potential drug-drug and drug-food interactions, inadequate dosage, incorrect route or manner of administration; risk of dependence or abuse; storage in incorrect conditions and incorrect choice of therapy (*Panda et al., 2016*).