



ASSESSMENT OF SELF-PERCEPTION TOWARDS DENTAL ESTHETICS AMONG DENTAL UNDERGRADUATES OF MAHARASHTRA AND CHHATTISGARH STATE

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Abstract :

INTRODUCTION: Aesthetic treatments are designed to combine several dental specialties, including restorative, orthodontic, prosthodontic, and surgical treatments. Dental students, who are exposed to all branches of dentistry, should be educated about the available aesthetic treatments and their respective indications; this reflects the competency of a new dentist. In this era, it's essential to know about the awareness of dental aesthetics. **AIM & OBJECTIVES:** To assess the Self-Perception of Undergraduates students towards Dental Esthetics of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh State and to compare variations of Self-Perception among preclinical years, clinical years and interns. **MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY:** A cross sectional questionnaire-based survey was undertaken among the First to Final BDS students and Interns of Dental colleges of Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra State. **RESULT:** 67.6% participants feel that they photograph better from one side of face. Significantly greater proportion of participants from Maharashtra than Chhattisgarh said that while reading a fashion magazine, their eyes are drawn to the model's smile ($p < 0.05$). Clinical years participants are more satisfied with their gums look as compare to Preclinical years and Interns. **CONCLUSION:** The study participants showed positive views on their appearance as well as adequate knowledge about need for esthetic treatment under various modalities and importance of visiting a dental surgeon.

KEYWORDS

Dental Students, Esthetics, Self-Perception, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh

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INTRODUCTION

Modern society is placing increasing value on physical esthetics, with dental esthetic procedures gaining prominence for their ability to complement facial beauty. The progression of oral appearance over the years resulted in a better understanding of the strong connection between oral health, general health, and wellbeing.¹

Physical appearance plays a major role in human behaviour and social interaction amongst most cultures and age groups.² Dental appearance plays an important role for boosting self-confidence and psychosocial aspect of an individual.^{3,4,5} Dentofacial esthetics is one important motivational factor to seek esthetic treatment and⁶ appearance of teeth during smile.⁴

Esthetics in dentistry aims to create satisfying smile and appear attractive,^{7,8} in which facial appearance is highly complimented by dental esthetics.⁹ In the present world, due to the influence of social media, there is increased demand of aesthetic dental treatments for perfect smile.^{2,10} Physical appearance plays a key role in social interaction.¹¹

Esthetic treatments are designed to combine several dental specialties, including restorative, orthodontic, prosthodontic, and surgical treatments. Dental students, who are exposed to all branches of dentistry, should be educated about the available esthetic treatments and their respective indications; this reflects the competency of a new dentist.

In this era, it's essential to know about the awareness of dental esthetics. Hence, this study aims to access about the dental esthetics perception among dental students of Central India.

AIM

To assess the Self-Perception of Undergraduates students towards Dental Esthetics of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh State.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the Self-Perception of Dental Undergraduates towards Dental Esthetics of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh State
2. To compare variations of Self-Perception among preclinical years, clinical years and interns. Doing research and communicating the same helps not only in the future careers of the budding students but also helps in

MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

The study was administered out on undergraduate dental students from first to final BDS students and interns studying in dental colleges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh state.

Study design

A cross-sectional based study was designed. A questionnaire was distributed among first to final BDS students and Intern.

Study population

There was total 611 students from all the dental colleges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh state. There were about 275 Maharashtra and 336 Chhattisgarh students. Sample size was calculated using the formula, $n = \frac{z\alpha pq}{e^2}$, so overall sample size would be 578.

Study procedure

The questionnaire consisted of total 20 questions. The entire questionnaire was got validated. The Inclusion criterion was all the willing students of first to final BDS and interns of all the dental institutes. The unwilling students was the exclusion criteria. The questionnaire was distributed in form of google forms.

RESULTS

Study was carried out among the dental undergraduates and interns of dental institutes of two states; Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. There were about 611 students; out of which 275 Maharashtra students and 336 Chhattisgarh students.

In the current study we found that 85.3% participants feel confident while smiling. 31.3% participants responded that they put hand over mouth while smiling. 67.6% participants feel that they photograph better from one side of face. 77.7% participants believe that there is someone having a better smile. 55.6% participants look at celebrities and wish they had a smile like them. 69.6% participants said that while reading a fashion magazine, their eyes are drawn to the model's smile. 54.0% participants said that while looking at their smile in the mirror, they see defects in their teeth or gums. 72.5% participants are satisfied with their teeth shade. 82.0% participants are satisfied with the way their gums look. 43.4% participants feel that they show too many teeth when they smile. 24.4% participants felt that they show too few teeth when they smile. 20.8% participants said that they feel their teeth too long. 7.7% participants said that they feel their teeth too short. 79.2% participants said that they like the way their teeth are shaped. 57.3% participants said that they wish their teeth were whiter. 47.8% participants feel they have enough knowledge of the available esthetic treatment options. 52.5% participants prefer to have tooth-colored restorations on their posterior teeth knowing that amalgam and gold restorations have higher survival rates. 75.6% participants have visited a dentist (Table 1A).

Among those who have visited a dentist, 24.4 % went for regular check-up, 6.6 % went for smile makeover, 27.7% went for caries, 3.4% went for periodontal problems, 34.2% went for none of the previous reasons and 3.9% went for all of the previous reasons (Table 1B). The desired aesthetic dental treatment for the participants is enlisted in Table 1C.

The variations of Self-Perception among participants from Chhattisgarh than Maharashtra and among preclinical, clinical years and interns are elaborated in table 2A, 2B and 2C and 3A, 3B and 3C respectively.

Table 1A. Overall distribution of the responses for the Question no. 1 to 18

Questions		Yes	No	Total
Do you feel confident while smiling?	N	521	90	611
	%	85.3%	14.7%	100.0%
Do you ever put your hand over your mouth when you smile?	N	191	420	611
	%	31.3%	68.7%	100.0%
Do you photograph better from one side of your face?	N	413	198	611
	%	67.6%	32.4%	100.0%
Is there someone you believe has a better smile than you?	N	475	136	611
	%	77.7%	22.3%	100.0%
Do you look at celebrities and wish you had a smile like them?	N	340	271	611
	%	55.6%	44.4%	100.0%
When you read a fashion magazine, are your eyes drawn to the model's smile?	N	425	186	611
	%	69.6%	30.4%	100.0%
When you look at your smile in the mirror, do you see any defects in your teeth or gums?	N	281	330	611
	%	46.0%	54.0%	100.0%
Are you satisfied with your teeth shade?	N	443	168	611
	%	72.5%	27.5%	100.0%
Are you satisfied with the way your gums look?	N	501	110	611
	%	82.0%	18.0%	100.0%
Do you show too many teeth when you smile?	N	265	346	611
	%	43.4%	56.6%	100.0%
Do you show too few teeth when you smile?	N	149	462	611
	%	24.4%	75.6%	100.0%
Do you feel your teeth too long?	N	127	484	611
	%	20.8%	79.2%	100.0%
Do you feel your teeth is too short?	N	47	564	611
	%	7.7%	92.3%	100.0%
Do you like the way your teeth are shaped?	N	484	127	611
	%	79.2%	20.8%	100.0%
Do you wish your teeth were more whiter?	N	350	261	611
	%	57.3%	42.7%	100.0%
Do you feel you have enough knowledge of the available esthetic treatment options?	N	292	319	611
	%	47.8%	52.2%	100.0%
Do you prefer to have tooth-coloured restorations on your posterior teeth knowing that amalgam and gold restorations have higher survival rates?	N	321	290	611
	%	52.5%	47.5%	100.0%
Did you ever visited a dentist?	N	462	149	611
	%	75.6%	24.4%	100.0%

Table 1B. Overall distribution of the responses for the Question no. 19

Questions		Regular Check-up	Smile Makeover	Caries	Periodontal Problems	None of the Above	All the Above	Total
If Yes, for what purpose you visited?	N	137	37	155	19	192	22	562
	%	24.4%	6.6%	27.6%	3.4%	34.2%	3.9%	100.0%

Table 1C. Overall distribution of the responses for the Question no. 20

Questions		Teeth Whitening	Orthodontic Treatment	Tooth coloured restorations	Ceramic veneers	Crown	Partial dentures or implants	I don't need any treatment	Total
Your desired aesthetic dental treatment	N	138	170	19	20	17	5	242	611
	%	22.6%	27.8%	3.1%	3.3%	2.8%	0.8%	39.6%	100.0%

Table 2A. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 1 to 18 between the states

Question	States		Yes	No	Total	P value
Do you feel confident while smiling?	Maharashtra	N	227	48	275	0.086
		%	82.5%	17.5%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	294	42	336	
		%	87.5%	12.5%	100.0%	
Do you ever put your hand over your mouth when you smile?	Maharashtra	N	97	178	275	0.053
		%	35.3%	64.7%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	94	242	336	
		%	28.0%	72.0%	100.0%	
Do you photograph better from one side of your face?	Maharashtra	N	193	82	275	0.216
		%	70.2%	29.8%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	220	116	336	
		%	65.5%	34.5%	100.0%	
Is there someone you believe has a better smile than you?	Maharashtra	N	217	58	275	0.530
		%	78.9%	21.1%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	258	78	336	
		%	76.8%	23.2%	100.0%	
Do you look at celebrities and wish you had a smile like them?	Maharashtra	N	172	103	275	0.002*
		%	62.5%	37.5%	100.0%	

	Chhattisgarh	N	168	168	336	
		%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%	
When you read a fashion magazine, are your eyes drawn to the model's smile?	Maharashtra	N	204	71	275	0.025*
		%	74.2%	25.8%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	221	115	336	
		%	65.8%	34.2%	100.0%	
When you look at your smile in the mirror, do you see any defects in your teeth or gums?	Maharashtra	N	135	140	275	0.164
		%	49.1%	50.9%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	146	190	336	
		%	43.5%	56.5%	100.0%	
Are you satisfied with your teeth shade?	Maharashtra	N	191	84	275	0.127
		%	69.5%	30.5%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	252	84	336	
		%	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%	
Are you satisfied with the way your gums look?	Maharashtra	N	218	57	275	0.113
		%	79.3%	20.7%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	283	53	336	
		%	84.2%	15.8%	100.0%	
Do you show too many teeth when you smile?	Maharashtra	N	131	144	275	0.054
		%	47.6%	52.4%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	134	202	336	
		%	39.9%	60.1%	100.0%	
Do you show too few teeth when you smile?	Maharashtra	N	74	201	275	0.189
		%	26.9%	73.1%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	75	261	336	
		%	22.3%	77.7%	100.0%	
Do you feel your teeth too long?	Maharashtra	N	64	211	275	0.170
		%	23.3%	76.7%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	63	273	336	
		%	18.8%	81.3%	100.0%	
Do you feel your teeth is too short?	Maharashtra	N	21	254	275	0.963
		%	7.6%	92.4%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	26	310	336	
		%	7.7%	92.3%	100.0%	
Do you like the way your teeth are shaped?	Maharashtra	N	224	51	275	0.217
		%	81.5%	18.5%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	260	76	336	
		%	77.4%	22.6%	100.0%	
Do you wish your teeth were more whiter?	Maharashtra	N	152	123	275	0.363
		%	55.3%	44.7%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	198	138	336	
		%	58.9%	41.1%	100.0%	
	Maharashtra	N	140	135	275	0.163

Do you feel you have enough knowledge of the available esthetic treatment options?	Chhattisgarh	%	50.9%	49.1%	100.0%	0.566
		N	152	184	336	
Do you prefer to have tooth-coloured restorations on your posterior teeth knowing that amalgam and gold restorations have higher survival rates?	Maharashtra	%	45.2%	54.8%	100.0%	
		N	148	127	275	
	Chhattisgarh	%	53.8%	46.2%	100.0%	
		N	173	163	336	
Did you ever visited a dentist?	Maharashtra	%	51.5%	48.5%	100.0%	0.000*
		N	184	91	275	
	Chhattisgarh	%	66.9%	33.1%	100.0%	
		N	278	58	336	
		%	82.7%	17.3%	100.0%	

Table 2B. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 19 between the stat

Question	States		Regular check-up	Smile makeover	Caries	Periodontal problems	None of the above	All the above	Total	P value
If Yes, for what purpose you visited?	Maharashtra	N	43	19	68	7	98	7	242	0.010*
		%	17.8%	7.9%	28.1%	2.9%	40.5%	2.9%	100.0%	
	Chhattisgarh	N	94	18	87	12	94	15	320	
		%	29.4%	5.6%	27.2%	3.8%	29.4%	4.7%	100.0%	

Table 2C. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 20 between the states

Question	States		Teeth whitening	Orthodontic treatment	Tooth coloured restorations	Ceramic veneers	Crown	Partial dentures or implants	I don't need any treatment	Total
Your desired aesthetic dental treatment	Maharashtra	N	75	82	10	9	11	1	87	27
		%	27.3%	29.8%	3.6%	3.3%	4.0%	0.4%	31.6%	100.0%
	Chhattisgarh	N	63	88	9	11	6	4	155	33
		%	18.8%	26.2%	2.7%	3.3%	1.8%	1.2%	46.1%	100.0%

Table 3A. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 1 to 18 between the years

Question	Years		Yes	No	Total	P value
Do you feel confident while smiling?	Preclinical	N	247	41	288	0.348
		%	85.8%	14.2%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	185	38	223	
		%	83.0%	17.0%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	89	11	100	
		%	89.0%	11.0%	100.0%	
Do you ever put your hand over your mouth when you smile?	Preclinical	N	104	184	288	0.044*
		%	36.1%	63.9%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	58	165	223	
		%	26.0%	74.0%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	29	71	100	
		%	29.0%	71.0%	100.0%	
Do you photograph better from one side of your face?	Preclinical	N	195	93	288	0.990
		%	67.7%	32.3%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	150	73	223	
		%	67.3%	32.7%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	68	32	100	
		%	68.0%	32.0%	100.0%	
Is there someone you believe has a better smile than you?	Preclinical	N	222	66	288	0.426
		%	77.1%	22.9%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	179	44	223	
		%	80.3%	19.7%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	74	26	100	
		%	74.0%	26.0%	100.0%	
Do you look at celebrities and wish you had a smile like them?	Preclinical	N	160	128	288	0.803
		%	55.6%	44.4%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	127	96	223	
		%	57.0%	43.0%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	53	47	100	
		%	53.0%	47.0%	100.0%	
When you read a fashion magazine, are your eyes drawn to the model's smile?	Preclinical	N	207	81	288	0.464
		%	71.9%	28.1%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	149	74	223	
		%	66.8%	33.2%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	69	31	100	
		%	69.0%	31.0%	100.0%	
When you look at your smile in the mirror, do you see any defects in your teeth or gums?	Preclinical	N	120	168	288	0.117
		%	41.7%	58.3%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	113	110	223	
		%	50.7%	49.3%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	48	52	100	
		%	48.0%	52.0%	100.0%	

		%	48.0%	52.0%	100.0%	
Are you satisfied with your teeth shade?	Preclinical	N	205	83	288	0.648
		%	71.2%	28.8%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	162	61	223	
		%	72.6%	27.4%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	76	24	100	
%		76.0%	24.0%	100.0%		
Are you satisfied with the way your gums look?	Preclinical	N	234	54	288	0.788
		%	81.3%	18.8%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	186	37	223	
		%	83.4%	16.6%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	81	19	100	
%		81.0%	19.0%	100.0%		
Do you show too many teeth when you smile?	Preclinical	N	118	170	288	0.290
		%	41.0%	59.0%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	106	117	223	
		%	47.5%	52.5%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	41	59	100	
%		41.0%	59.0%	100.0%		
Do you show too few teeth when you smile?	Preclinical	N	81	207	288	0.127
		%	28.1%	71.9%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	47	176	223	
		%	21.1%	78.9%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	21	79	100	
%		21.0%	79.0%	100.0%		
Do you feel your teeth too long?	Preclinical	N	54	234	288	0.450
		%	18.8%	81.3%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	52	171	223	
		%	23.3%	76.7%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	21	79	100	
%		21.0%	79.0%	100.0%		
Do you feel your teeth is too short?	Preclinical	N	13	275	288	0.003*
		%	4.5%	95.5%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	28	195	223	
		%	12.6%	87.4%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	6	94	100	
%		6.0%	94.0%	100.0%		
Do you like the way your teeth are shaped?	Preclinical	N	233	55	288	0.580
		%	80.9%	19.1%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	172	51	223	
		%	77.1%	22.9%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	79	21	100	
%		79.0%	21.0%	100.0%		
	Preclinical	N	166	122	288	0.959

Do you wish your teeth were more whiter?	Clinical	%	57.6%	42.4%	100.0%	0.175	
		N	128	95	223		
	Intern	%	57.4%	42.6%	100.0%		
		N	56	44	100		
Do you feel you have enough knowledge of the available esthetic treatment options?	Preclinical	%	56.0%	44.0%	100.0%		
		N	128	160	288		
	Clinical	%	44.4%	55.6%	100.0%		
		N	109	114	223		
Intern	%	48.9%	51.1%	100.0%			
	N	55	45	100			
Do you prefer to have tooth-coloured restorations on your posterior teeth knowing that amalgam and gold restorations have higher survival rates?	Preclinical	%	55.0%	45.0%	100.0%	0.000*	
		N	99	189	288		
	Clinical	%	34.4%	65.6%	100.0%		
		N	144	79	223		
Intern	%	64.6%	35.4%	100.0%			
	N	78	22	100			
Did you ever visited a dentist?	Preclinical	%	78.0%	22.0%	100.0%		0.000*
		N	189	99	288		
	Clinical	%	65.6%	34.4%	100.0%		
		N	189	34	223		
Intern	%	84.8%	15.2%	100.0%			
	N	84	16	100			
		%	84.0%	16.0%	100.0%		

Table 3B. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 19 between the years

Question	Years		Regular check-up	Smile makeover	Caries	Periodontal problems	None of the above	All the above	Total	P value
If Yes, for what purpose you visited?	Preclinical	N	55	13	56	13	116	5	258	0.000*
		%	21.3%	5.0%	21.7%	5.0%	45.0%	1.9%	100.0%	
	Clinical	N	47	19	73	5	55	12	211	
		%	22.3%	9.0%	34.6%	2.4%	26.1%	5.7%	100.0%	
	Intern	N	35	5	26	1	21	5	93	
		%	37.6%	5.4%	28.0%	1.1%	22.6%	5.4%	100.0%	

Table 3C. Comparison of the response for the Question no. 20 between the years

Question	Years	Teeth whitening	Orthodontic treatment	Tooth coloured restorations	Ceramic veneers	Crown	Partial dentures or implants	I don't need any treatment	Total	P value
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Your desired aesthetic dental treatment	Pre clinical	N	81	74	5	2	10	3	113	288	0.004*
		%	28.1%	25.7%	1.7%	0.7%	3.5%	1.0%	39.2%	100%	
	Clinical	N	42	68	7	12	5	2	87	223	
		%	18.8%	30.5%	3.1%	5.4%	2.2%	0.9%	39.0%	100%	
	Intern	N	15	28	7	6	2	0	42	100	
		%	15.0%	28.0%	7.0%	6.0%	2.0%	0.0%	42.0%	100%	

DISCUSSION

Having pleasing facial features is essential for an individual to form their esthetic perception and value their physical attractiveness.¹² In our modern competitive society, a pleasing appearance often means the difference between success and failure in both our personal and professional lives. The present generation is giving importance to their esthetics in every aspect to improve their personality. Esthetic dentistry is a boon to mankind; where a beast can be turned into a beauty. Everybody wants to get recognized by others, and dental esthetics is making it possible.¹³

In this study we found that 85.3% participants are confident while smiling whereas Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 79.5% students, Randa F. Abidia⁵ et al found that 65.4% students, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found 92.44 % students, Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 18.4% male student and Sunayana manipal¹³ et al found that 86.2% of females and 92.3% of males are confident while they are smiling.

In present study 35.3% Maharashtra put hand over your mouth when their smile whereas Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found 25.5% students put hand over your mouth when their smile, Randa F. Abidia⁵ et al found that 30.8% students tried to hide face while smiling, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 24.42% and Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 96.3% female students put hand over your mouth when their smile.

Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al, Farzana Memon⁸ et al found 53.5% participants, 38.95% and 20.7% males and 79.3% females participants says that they photograph better from one side of their face respectively. In this study we found that 67.7% preclinical students photograph better from one side of their face.

76.8% of Chhattisgarh students believed that someone has a better smile than them where Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found 88.6% of students, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found 89.53% of students and Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 79.3% females students believed that someone has a better smile than them.

Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 48.1% students wished to had a smile like the models, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 51.54 % students and In present study 55.6% participant wished to had a smile like the models.

In current study almost half of Chhattisgarh students eyes drawn towards model smile whereas Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 70.6% students, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 87.21 %, Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 86.2% females students says that their eye is drawn towards model smile when they read a fashion magazine.

48% of interns in this study see defects in gum but as Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 59.5% participants, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 77.33% participants, Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 86.0% female participants said that when their looked at their smile in the mirror, their see defects in their teeth or gums.

In this study 57% participants wishes to have more whiter teeth whereas Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 51.25%, Ljiljana Strajnić(11) et al found that 49.4% males and 50.6% females are satisfied with their tooth color.

Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 78.7% participants, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 83.72 % participants and Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 20.2% males participants are satisfied with the way their gums look but in this 20% of Maharashtra students are not satisfied with how their gum look.

In present study we found 43.4% and 24.4% participants showed too many teeth and few teeth respectively, and Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 36.1% students, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 14.53% students showed too many or too few teeth when their smile.

23% clinical students didn't liked their teeth shape whereas Aminah M. El Mourad¹² et al found that 80.5%, Gabrielle de Carli da Silva⁷ et al found that 75.58 %, Farzana Memon⁸ et al found that 82.4% females liked the way their teeth are shaped.

In the current study almost half of the Maharashtra participants have knowledge of available esthetic treatment options and also Randa F. Abidia⁵ et al found that 46.2% participant had enough knowledge of the available esthetic treatment options.

Surprisingly in present study 65.5% of preclinical students will not prefer tooth coloured restorations in posterior teeth and at the same time Randa F. Abidia⁵ et al found that 69.2% participant will prefer white filling (composite) on back teeth knowing that silver filling (amalgam) is stronger.

LIMITATIONS

The questionnaire was self-reported therefore answers given by the participants could be biased. The study result cannot be generalized for the Indian population because, the survey was limited to dental students of two states only. The survey may be extended by conducting it in large scale in different dental colleges of India to expand the sample size to get more precise results which can be generalized.

CONCLUSION

The study participants showed positive views on their appearance as well as adequate knowledge about need for esthetic treatment under various modalities and importance of visiting a dental surgeon. Participants from Chhattisgarh showed overall better knowledge and awareness about dental esthetics and treatment needs in comparison to the participants from Maharashtra. Knowledge and awareness about dental esthetics and treatment needs was found to be better among the interns followed by clinical years and preclinical years.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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