

Elaboration of a standard questionnaire for the epidemiological survey on dental trauma and avulsion.

Maria Lucia Marçal Mazza Sundefeld¹, Dalton Francisco Andrade², Lithiene Ribeiro Castilho³, Wilson Roberto Poi¹

¹University of São Paulo State - School of Dentistry of Araçatuba-Brazil

²Informatics and Statistics Department – University of Santa Catarina-Brazil

³Graduation of University of São Paulo State - School of Dentistry of Araçatuba-Brazil

The assessment of the knowledge on dental trauma and avulsion is very important to prevent the trauma and re-implant the tooth. The aim of this study is elaborate a standard questionnaire to analyze the knowledge the dental trauma and avulsion. Based on the questionnaire examined in the literature a new questionnaire was designed by experts on traumatology for the assessment of knowledge on dental trauma and avulsion. The focal group technique was applied to individuals of the target population aged 11-13. There were 2 applications of the questionnaire: pilot survey (n=145) and final survey (n=777). The items were analyzed by the Classical Measurement Theory and the Item Response Theory-IRT. After the analysis of the saved talk on focal groups, several terms of the questionnaire need to be altered since the respondents lacked their real understanding. This questionnaire had two focus: life experience and knowledge on the subject. The questions related to their life experience were expressed just a descriptive analysis. Related to the dental trauma and avulsion knowledge, 12 items were analyzed by using the classical measurement theory and the IRT on the pilot survey and final survey. Some items were more complex, as a discriminatory item that requires high level of ability in the pilot survey. After to make some changes for the final survey the level of ability increased more. This is the most difficult item but needs to be included. This item, which requires the highest level of ability, the right answer is, "The permanent tooth can be placed again in your mouth by anyone". Only 1% answered correctly. Another item requires lower level of ability, as "Choose the riskiest situation to your permanent tooth", the proportion of right answer were 81%. After the pilot survey, two alternatives were joined in only one, in the final survey it didn't shows as a discriminatory item. So, it must maintain the alternatives of the questionnaire used on the pilot survey. Others 2 items must be altered in the standard questionnaire because didn't shows as a discriminatory item in both surveys and, 8 items were considered discriminatory items by the IRT and will be remain without changes in the standard questionnaire. The conclusion is that it makes necessary several steps of changes in the first questionnaire to have an appropriate standard questionnaire to the target population.