**Title:** Effectiveness of PEN-3 model in oral health behaviors in primary school students in Mashhad-2010

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**Abstract:**

**Introduction:**
Oral cavity is one of the main organs of the body, which has great effect on people health and as a consequence, the health of the society. As a result, dental health indexes are not only indicators of health status but also can be hallmarks of socioeconomic and culturally condition. There for diagnosis of the effective factors is important and first step in this program.

**Methods:**
This was a cross-sectional study in which data was gathered using questionnaire and interview for fourth grade's girls students and for them mothers was used group discussion and questionnaire.

**Results:**
Qualitative finding include Positive perceptions that were dental health effects in personality, effect of dairy products and fruit on dental health, effects of dental health in other organs and negative role of smoking on tooth decay. Negative perceptions were gender tooth is more important than brushing, do not brush due to lack of time, healthy teeth is a sign of dental health and tablet and anesthetic sprays instead of going to the dentist. Positive enabling factors were oral health posters in health systems and effects of mass media. Negative enabling factors include unfavorable distribution of sodium fluoride mouthwash through school, the cost dental services and easy access to drug for self-medication. Positive reinforcing in clued obedience of the parents and teachers and negative reinforcing factors were do not brush by teacher, fear of dentist and dental unit, advice to self-medication by adults and encourage children with chocolate and snake by the grandfather and mother. Neutral behaviors were the use of traditional herbal medicines to reduce tooth pain.

In quantitative research, this study showed that the perceptions in mothers and students had a statistically significant relationship with educational level ($t=-7.417, P=0.001$) and ($t=3.939, P=0.001$). Findings show that the increased perceptions urged the children to perform oral behaviors. Between mothers awareness and attitude had a statistically significant relationship with education level ($t=-2.227, P=0.001$). Mothers and students were confirmed that the role of father is reinforcing.

**Conclusion:**
Economic and social factors and cultural backgrounds are caused of behaviors. Changing attitudes and behaviors need to identify these. This study found that fathers need to train because the most of children had received first training from them. Also schools should provide oral hygiene instruction to parents and children.

**Key words:** primary school children - PEN-3 model - Oral Health

**Presentation:** Poster