

with a house-to-house approach on 1312 subjects. They were interviewed and examined. For data analysis, a p-value of less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant. Prevalence of edentulousness was 97.7% in the study population. Majority of the subjects used tooth brush and paste as a cleaning aid (63%) and the frequency of tooth brushing among majority of the study participants was once daily (49%). Only 17% of the subjects were not aware of the treatment. Majority of the study participants wore the prosthesis for duration of 1-5 years (54.2%). Majority of the denture wearers were found to have ulcers, denture stomatitis and candidiasis. Prevalence of dental caries among dental prosthesis users is 11.6%. Prevalence of periodontal disease among denture wearers is 1.1%. Complete denture was predominantly used among the study participants. When comparing the professionals and subjects' opinion with the esthetics it was found that the study participants were found to have high expectation. Even though the participants had the knowledge about the need for replacement, majority of them did not undergo treatment mainly due to financial constraint.

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## 14. Evaluation of oral health status, prosthetic need and quality of existing dental prosthesis among adult rural population of mangalore taluk

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Oral health is considered as an indicator of general health and quality of life. Among the rural population oral health is generally perceived to be less important than physical health. This study aims to assess the oral health status, the quality of existing dental prosthesis, patient satisfaction with the dental prosthesis, the need for prosthetic treatment and to assess the awareness of oral rehabilitation among rural population of mangalore taluk. . The study was conducted