See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323812464

Evaluation of stress among undergraduate dental students in Al-Qadisiyah University-Iraq

Article in Czasopismo Stomatologiczne · June 2017 DOI: 10.5604/01.3001.0010.1843

CITATIONS 3	;	reads 76	
2 autho	'S:		
	Ali Hassan Murad University of Al-Qadisiyah 14 PUBLICATIONS 103 CITATIONS SEE PROFILE		Mohammed Nasser Alhajj Thamar university 79 PUBLICATIONS 754 CITATIONS SEE PROFILE

Some of the authors of this publication are also working on these related projects:

Perceived Sources of Stress among Dental Students: A Multi-Country Study View project

I am working on new subject related to thyroid diseases View project

O R I G I N A L A R T I C L E

Evaluation of stress among undergraduate dental students in Al-Qadisiyah University-Iraq

Ocena poziomu stresu wśród studentów tomatologii w Uniwersytecie Al-Qadisiyah w Iraku

Ali H. Murad¹, Mohammed N. Alhajj²

¹ Department of Oral Pathology, College of Dentistry, Al-Qadisiyah University, Al-Diwaniya, Iraq Katedra Patologii Jamy Ustnej, Wydział Stomatologiczny, Uniwersytet Al-Qadisiyah, Al-Diwaniya, Irak Head: prof. *M. A. Sugar Al-Pharaoh*

² Department of Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Thamar University, Dhamar, Yemen Katedra Protetyki Stomatologicznej, Wydział Stomatologiczny, Uniwersytet Thamar, Dhamar, Jemen Head: prof. A. Amran

Abstract

Aim of the study. To explore the self-reported source of stress among dental students and to identify the role of gender, marital status, and study level on the perceived stressors. Materials and methods. A modified self-reported questionnaire was completed by undergraduate dental students registered at Al-Qadisiyah University, College of Dentistry. The questionnaire consisting of 41 close-ended questions was divided into seven domains. Stress was assessed in a response to four items. The collected data were analyzed for frequencies, means, and comparisons between the study participants in relation to the gender, marital status, and study levels. Nonparametric tests were used with confidence interval 95% (α error = 0.05). **Results.** A total of 185 dental students with mean age of 19.86 ± 1.40 years completed the questionnaire. *There was a prevalence of females (1.4:1) and single* students rather than married ones. The "workload" domain was the highest stressor domain while the "social stressors" domain was the lowest. Among the stressor questions, the most stressor factor was "examinations and quizzes" while the least stressor was "difficulty of class work". Comparison between the participants revealed more concern in females, married, and pre-doctoral students in most of the stress-provoking factors. Conclusion. Considerable levels of stress were observed among dental students. The study also identified stressors affecting the students' academic life. It is important to include stress management programs in the curriculum of the dental college.

KEYWORDS:

dental students, stress sources, dental education, Iraqi students

Streszczenie

Cel pracy. Zbadanie zgłaszanych przez studentów stomatologii źródeł stresu oraz ustalenie roli płci, stanu cywilnego i etapu edukacji w postrzeganiu elementów stresujacych. Materiał i metody. Zmodyfikowany kwestionariusz był samodzielnie wypełniony przez studentów 4-letnich studiów stomatologicznych Uniwersvtetu Al-Oadisivah. *Kwestionariusz* składający się z 41 pytań podzielono na siedem działów. Stres badano w odpowiedzi na cztery pytania. Dane analizowano pod kątem częstości występowania, średnich i porównań pomiedzy uczestnikami badania wzgledem płci, stanu cywilnego i etapu edukacji. Testy nieparametryczne wykorzystano z przedziałem ufności 95% (α błąd = 0.05). Wyniki. Łącznie 185 studentów (średnia wieku 19.86±1.40 lat) wypełniło kwestionariusz. Liczebnie przeważały kobiety (1.4:1) i studenci stanu wolnego. Dział "obciążenie pracą" otrzymał najwyższe noty, podczas gdy "czynniki społeczne" najniższe. Wśród pytań, najbardziej stresującym czynnikiem okazały się "egzaminy i testy", podczas gdy najniższe noty otrzymała "trudność pracy na zajęciach". Porównanie wśród uczestników ujawniło wyższy niepokój zamężnych kobiet i studentów ostatniego, czwartego roku dla większości czynników stresogennych. Wniosek. Zaobserwowano znaczny poziom stresu wśród studentów stomatologii. Badanie ujawniło również czynniki stresujące oddziaływujące na życie akademickie studentów. Należy włączyć kursy postępowania ze stresem do programów nauczania w szkołach stomatologicznych.

HASŁA INDEKSOWE:

studenci stomatologii, źródła stresu, kształcenie stomatologiczne, studenci z Iraku

Introduction

The term "stress" describes external demands (physical or mental) on an individual's physical and psychological wellbeing.¹ Feelings of stress in humans result from interactions between persons and their environment that are perceived as straining or exceeding their capabilities and threatening their well-being.² Personal and environmental events that cause stress are known as stressors. The diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorder defines a psychosocial stressor as "any life event or life change that may be associated temporally (and perhaps causally) with the onset, occurrence or exacerbation of a mental disorder.³

University entry for students is a transitional period, as they are exposed to a multitude of changes in their personal, social and academic environment. Conditions and events inherent to university life induce experiences of stress, which may lead to difficulty in adjusting to this new environment.⁴ Dental schools are known to be highly demanding and stressful learning environments.⁵⁻⁶ Sources of environmental stress among dental students have been identified and quantified by means of the Dental Environment Stress (DES) questionnaire.⁷⁻⁸ Stressors identified include the learning environment, fear of failure, heavy workload, difficulty in dealing with patients, performing non-reversible procedures in a confined space, difficulty in dealing with transitions in curricula and difficult relationships with academic staff.9

Findings from different studies have indicated that stress in dental students is quite high.¹⁰ Previous studies have predominantly focused on examination of stress in dental students at a certain point of time. Results of these investigations have shown that psychological stress was the highest in final-year students and the lowest in first year students.¹¹⁻¹² This would seem to imply that as students progressed through dental school, their level of stress increased, but due to the cross-sectional nature of these investigations, this assumption could not be verified.¹³ Moreover, higher level of stress among final-year dental students may reflect negatively on their oral hygiene and self-care practice.¹⁴

The dental course in Iraqi universities is five years in duration, consisting of ten academic semesters, the first three years are preclinical in content and in the fourth and fifth years are clinical years and students are expected to examine and offer treatment to patients under supervision as part of their clinical training. However, the dental school at University of Al-Qadisiyah is one of the novel Institutes in southwestern Iraq, operating since 2013, and it has provided education at only four stages till now.

It is crucial to have a better understanding of students' perceived stress factors, which would in turn contribute to building a positive and effective learning environment.¹⁵ Hence, the objective of the present study was to determine the stress levels and perceived sources and factors affecting stress among dental students in Al-Qadisiyah University.

Materials and methods

This study was conducted at the Faculty of Dentistry - Al-Qadisiyah University among undergraduate dental students from 1st to 4th level for the academic year 2015/2016. An approval letter was obtained from the ethical committee prior to commencement of the study. The nature and aims of the study were explained to the dental students and a consent form was obtained. A representative sample was recruited from each study level (45 students from 1st, 3rd, and 4th levels and 50 from 2nd level). The questionnaire used in this study is a self-administered questionnaire adapted from a previous study conducted among Saudi dental students.16 This modified version contained 41 close-ended questions with a four-point Likert scale for answer and categorized in seven domains to assess different types of stressors. The students were asked to answer the questions as "not related" when the question is not related to the current status of the student e.g.: first-level student answering a question related to treatment of the patients, "no stress", "moderate stress", and "severe stress". The collected data were entered to MS. Excel 2013 and analysed using SPSS v.22. For descriptive analysis the means and standard deviations were calculated. Distribution of gender, marital status, and study levels among participants were also

tabulated. Comparison between the means among the study variables will be presented for the stress domains and for top ten stress questions. P-value was considered statistically significant when P <0.05, while the level of P <0.001 was considered highly significant.

Results

The study comprised 185 dental students with a mean age of 19.86±1.40 years ranged from 17 to 23 years. Distribution of the study participants by gender, marital status, and study level is presented in Table 1, indicating that females were more than males with female to male ratio was 1.4:1 and single students were much more than married ones (96.8% and 3.2% respectively). As illustrated in Table 2, the "workload" domain is the most stressor among domains with a mean of 2.06±0.51 indicating moderate stress among participants followed by the domain "performance pressure" with a mean of 1.83 ± 0.54 . The least stressor domain was "social stressors" with a mean of 0.79±0.57 indicating less concern among participants. For comparison between genders (Table 3), the results of the study revealed significant differences between males and females regarding "workload" and "performance pressure" domains with more concern in females than in males. With regard to the marital status, the significant difference was found only for the domain "social stressors" with more concern in married than in single participants. Comparison between different study levels revealed highly significant differences (P <0.001) between study levels with the domains "faculty and administrations", "patient treatment", "clinical treatment", and "social stressors" while, a significant difference (P<0.05) was found with the domain "performance pressure". It was noted that the amount of stress increased with the increase in study level. No significant differences were found regarding "self-efficacy beliefs" and "workload" domains (P > 0.05).

The top ten provoking-stress questions are presented in Table 4. The most stressor factor was "examinations and quizzes" followed by "lack of time for relaxation" while, the least stressor was "difficulty of class work". Analysis of differences

 Table 1. Characteristics of all participants

		Frequency	Percent
Gender	Male	77	41.6
Genuer	Female	108	58.4
Marital status	Single	179	96.8
	Married	6	3.2
	First level	45	24.3
Ctudu loval	Second level	50	27.1
Study level	Third level	45	24.3
	Forth level	45	24.3

Table 2. Means of questionnaire domains

Domain	Mean±SD
Workload	2.06±0.51
Performance pressure	1.83±0.54
Self-efficacy beliefs	1.75±0.56
Faculty and administration	1.63±0.46
Clinical training	1.32±0.81
Patient treatment	1.31±1.02
Social stressors	0.79±0.57

between males and females (Table 5) revealed significant differences (P < 0.05) in the response of four questions out of the ten, with more concern in females than in males. Responses to only two questions were found to be significantly different when related to the marital status (Table 5) with more concern in single participants than in the married ones. As shown in Table 6, responses to the question related to the number of instructors were found to be significantly different among the study levels. No significant differences were found between responses of the study levels to the other questions (P > 0.05).

able 3	• Comparis	on between resp	onses by (Table 3. Comparison between responses by domains according to gend	to gender,	ler, marital status, and study level	and study l	evel							
		Self-efficacy beliefs	beliefs	Faculty and administration	inistration	Workload	þr	Patient treatment	tment	Clinical training	ining	Performance pressure	pressure	Social stressors	SSOIS
		Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Sig.
ıder	Male	1.67±0.52		1.61±0.48	V 7 V U	1.96±0.51	0.016	1.40±0.97		1.34±0.72	0600	1.72±0.57	1000	0.85±0.61	017 0
nəð	Female	Female 1.81±0.59	0.004	1.64±0.46	0.404	2.14±0.49	c10.0	1.24±1.05	700.0	1.31±0.87	U.7 Z 7	1.90±0.50	100.0	0.75±0.53	0.417
sutatus	Single	1.76±0.56	0 501	1.64±0.46		2.06±0.50	/06.0	1.31±1.02	0 076	1.33±0.81	02 6 0	1.83±0.54		0.77±0.56	
Marital	Married	1.63±0.53	+0C.0	1.30±0.32	- con.n	2.22±0.59	000.0	1.29±1.05	c /0.0	1.00±0.79	6/0.0	1.67±0.47	0.471	1.40±0.61	0.014
	1 st	1.78±0.54		1.41±0.40		2.03±0.49		0.74±0.82		0.96±0.79		1.73±0.53		0.63±0.44	
ləvəl	2 nd	1.74±0.62	O ODE	1.44±0.43		2.08±0.55	220.0	0.72±0.87		0.90±0.76		1.69±0.45		0.56±0.40	
Vbut2	3rd	1.80±0.54	cno.n	1.77±0.45	- 100.0>	2.07±0.45	111.0	1.61±1.01	- 100.0>	1.66±0.73	<0.001	1.90±0.61	00000	1.07±0.65	100.0>
	4th	1.69±0.55		1.91±0.35		2.07±0.54		2.22±0.36		1.82±0.46		2.00±0.51		0.93±0.60	

http://www.jstoma.com

Murad A.H., Alhajj M.N.

Table 4. Top ten stressors questions

Question	Mean±SD
Examinations and quizzes	2.34±0.70
Lack of time for relaxation	2.29±0.79
Overloaded feeling due to huge syllabus	2.26±0.68
Lack of time to do assigned school work	2.24±0.74
Fear of failing a course or the year	2.21±0.90
Competition for grades	2.02±0.78
Inadequate number of instructors	2.01±0.89
Insecurity concerning professional future	1.98±0.86
Availability of qualified laboratory technicians	1.95±0.86
Difficulty of class work	1.95±0.73

Discussion

College of Dentistry, University of Al-Qadisiyah is located at Al-Diwaniya province in southwestern Iraq. This city is somewhat small and characterized by its closed conservative society, as well as the lack of recreational places. To the best of our knowledge, this investigation is the first to explore stress-provoking factors among Al-Qadisiyah dental school students. The formal education encompassing a five-year study program, and tuition with clinical work are free for the students.

Based on the responses to the questionnaire in our study, it was observed that the workload followed by performance pressure were the most stressful factors among all the students. This observation coincides with most studies conducted for determining the perceived source of stress among dental students.^{2,13,15,17-18} Moreover, it has been reported that medical students experience

Table 5. Comparison between responses by top ten stressors according to gender and marital status

	Ger	ıder		Marital status		
Question	Male	Female		Single	Married	
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Sig.	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Sig.
Examinations and quizzes	2.13±0.71	2.48±0.66	0.001	2.33±0.71	2.50±0.55	0.646
Lack of time for relaxation	2.13±0.83	2.41±0.74	0.018	2.29±0.79	2.33±0.82	0.919
Overloaded feeling due to huge syllabus	2.08±0.68	2.40±0.66	0.001	2.27±0.68	2.17±0.75	0.711
Lack of time to do assigned school work	2.13±0.82	2.32±0.67	0.134	2.23±0.74	2.50±0.84	0.317
Fear of failing a course or the year	2.08±0.93	2.31±0.87	0.081	2.22±0.90	2.00±0.89	0.476
Competition for grades	1.90±0.74	2.10±0.80	0.043	2.03±0.78	1.67±0.52	0.203
Inadequate number of instructors	2.10±0.77	1.94±0.97	0.381	2.04±0.87	0.83±0.98	0.006
Insecurity concerning professional future	2.13±0.80	1.88±0.89	0.065	1.99±0.86	1.67±0.82	0.308
Availability of qualified laboratory technicians	2.06±0.75	1.87±0.92	0.243	1.98±0.84	1.17±0.98	0.040
Difficulty of class work	1.91±0.73	1.97±0.73	0.483	1.96±0.73	1.67±0.52	0.264

http://www.jstoma.com

	Study level					
Question] st	2 nd	3rd	4 th		
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Sig.	
Examinations and quizzes	2.24±0.71	2.38±0.70	2.40±0.69	2.31±0.73	0.691	
Lack of time for relaxation	2.33±0.85	2.36±0.78	2.24±0.80	2.22±0.74	0.625	
Overloaded feeling due to huge syllabus	2.29±0.73	2.30±0.76	2.16±0.60	2.31±0.63	0.508	
Lack of time to do assigned school work	2.31±0.70	2.32±0.74	2.22±0.77	2.11±0.75	0.466	
Fear of failing a course or the year	2.33±0.77	2.22±0.91	2.22±0.90	2.07±1.01	0.748	
Competition for grades	2.04±0.74	1.88±0.85	2.13±0.66	2.02±0.84	0.522	
Inadequate number of instructors	1.80±0.97	1.74±1.03	2.24±0.71	2.27±0.69	0.011	
Insecurity concerning professional future	2.11±0.83	1.98±0.92	1.98±0.81	1.87±0.89	0.588	
Availability of qualified laboratory technicians	1.80±0.94	1.90±0.91	2.02±0.87	2.09±0.67	0.543	
Difficulty of class work	1.98±0.72	1.92±0.78	2.02±0.62	1.87±0.79	0.842	

Table 6. Comparison between responses by top ten stressors according to study level

less stress than do their dental peers, which might be attributed to the additional psychomotor skills needed in dentistry.¹⁹ The results of our study revealed a significant difference between males and females regarding "workload" and "performance pressure" domains with more concern in females than in males. Similar results have been reported by other researchers.^{16,18,20} High stress levels in females may be related to their psychological makeup and greater expressivity of thoughts and feelings.¹⁶ However, these results are in contrast to the findings reported by Tangade et al.²¹ where they found that males perceived more stress than female students, and attributed that to the fact that man's income in India is considered the primary source of earning in the family, and he has to take financial care of his parents, wife and children. Because of such responsibilities and long tenure of dental profession, men could be under considerable stress. On the other hand, the present study showed that social stressors come as the least reason of stress with slightly more concern in males than in females. This may be due to the conservative nature of our social sample and lack of entertainment places which are more needed by males than females. Similar result was observed in the studies conducted by *Tangade* et al.²¹ and *Harikiran* et al.²² However, when compared with marital status it showed a significant difference, this is consistent with previous study outcomes.^{23,24} This is related to the fact that married subjects have more responsibility than singles and perhaps with the presence of children this might make the situation worse.

Regarding the study levels the amount of stress increased with the increase in study level, specifically speaking in the transition into clinical training, where highly significant differences (P <0.001) between study levels with the domains "faculty and administrations", "patient treatment", "clinical treatment", and "social stressors" were observed; however, less significant difference (P<0.05) was found with the domain "performance" pressure". This is consistent with findings of other studies.^{2,5,10,13} This can be explained by the reasons related to both the faculty and students. Seemingly, the limited number of teaching staff provoked the feeling of fear in dealing with the patients, in addition to insufficient time that was available to complete the requirement. However, these are in contrast to the findings reported by Westerman et al.²⁵ where the nonclinical years were more stressful. Furthermore, no significant differences were found in our study between study levels with "self-efficacy beliefs" and "workload" domains (P >0.05). Contrarily, Polychronopoulou and *Divaris*²⁶ reported that the primary sources of stress in the Greek dental school are assigned workload and self-efficacy beliefs, and attributed it to the fact that dental students may be overloaded by the high academic demands of their year of study.

"Examinations and quizzes" followed by "lack of time for relaxation" topped stressor factors recorded in our study. This may be due to huge amount of material given by the lecturers, and perhaps the difficulty of exams, which may be due to the nature of the questions, as well as competition for grades, lack of the time and means of comfort for students. This abrupt increase in stress was also reported by other authors²⁷⁻²⁹ but was not reported as the key concern by Westerman et al.²⁵ Moreover, it was observed that stress due to less time for relaxation was consistently high from the first to the third years of education with a slight dip in the second year, and this may be due to the fact that in both the first and third years, the students are exposed to a new dimension in education.20

Regarding the relation between stressor factors and gender, the present study showed significant differences (P<0.05) of gender in response to examinations and quizzes, lack of time for relaxation, overloaded feeling due to huge syllabus, and competition for grades with

more concern in females than in males, which is consistent with previous investigations.^{16,30} These findings may help in improving strategy to enable students to overcome the academic life-related stressors.³¹ However, Sofola et al.³² reported that stress levels were not different between genders. Noteworthy differences were observed when inadequate number of instructors and availability of qualified laboratory technicians' items were analyzed across marital status with more concern in single participants than in the married ones. The study involved mainly unmarried students (96.8%) and hence it may not clearly reflect the stressrelated factors of students in marital status (3.2%), and this certainly does not reflect the real results. However, examination of stress scores by marital status showed that married subjects perceived more stress than single subjects did.^{16,23,24}

Our finding demonstrated that the students among all the years of study unanimously agreed that inadequate number of instructors was the main exciting stressor. This can be related to the fact that there is a shortage in the number of trainers' team in both clinics and preclinical labs. This is in line with the findings of previous studies.^{7,13,21,31} However, *Elani* et al.¹⁷ concluded that sources of stress in these undergraduate dental students varied depending on their year in the program and time during the year. Likewise, it is worth mentioning that *Polychronopoulou* and *Divaris*²⁶ observed differences by year of study indicating that entering and preclinical students are mostly concerned with factors closely related to workload, as well as examinations and grades, whereas clinical year students were more stressed about patient treatment and insecurity concerning their professional future.

Conclusion

Dental students are subjected to numerous work-related and academic stressors. Identifying possible causes of stress enables the faculty and administration to alleviate students' stress by means of modifying the teaching curriculum and environment. The authors suggest that psychology lessons should be introduced and included in the curriculum of the colleges of dentistry.

DENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS QUESTIONNAIRE									
Please choose the appropriate answer related to your status.									
Gender: Male Female Age: Marital Status: Single Married									
Class: First Second Third Fourth Fifth									
1- Amount of assigned class work									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
2- Amount of cheating in dental school									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
3- Availability of qualified laboratory technicians									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
4- Being treated as immature and irresponsible by faculty									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
5- Clinical requirements									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
6- Competition for grades									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
7- Difficulty in learning clinical procedures									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
8- Difficulty in learning precision manual skills required in preclinical work									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
9- Difficulty of class work									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
10- Examinations and quizzes									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
11- Fear of being unable to catch up if behind									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									
12- Fear of dealing with patients who do not disclose the existence of a contagious disease									
Not apply No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress									

Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
14- Fear of not being able to join a post graduate dental education program								
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
15- Financial respon	sibilities							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
16- Forced postpone	ment of marriage or engagement							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
17- Getting study ma	iterial							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
18- Inadequate num	ber of instructors in relation to student							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
19- Inconsistency of feedback on work between different instructors								
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
20- Insecurity conce	rning lack of employment positions							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
21- Insecurity conce	rning professional future							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
22- Lack of confiden	ce in own decision making							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
23- Lack of confiden	ce to be a successful dental student							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							
24- Lack of confiden	ce to be a successful dentist							
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress							

Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
26- Lack of home at	mosphere in living quarters
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
27- Lack of input in	to the decision-making process of school
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
28- Lack of time for	relaxation
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
29- Lack of time to o	lo assigned school work
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
30- Language barrie	r
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
31- Late ending day	
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
32- Marital adjustm	ent problems
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
33- Necessity to post	pone having children
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
34- Overloaded feeli	ng due to huge syllabus
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
35- Patients being la	te or not showing for their appointments
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress
36- Receiving critici	sm about work
Not apply	No Stress Moderate Stress Severe Stress

	37- Responsibility of	getting suitable pat	tients						
	Not apply	No Stress	Moderate Stress	Severe Stress					
	38- Shortage of alloca	ted clinical time							
	Not apply	No Stress	Moderate Stress	Severe Stress					
	39- Shortage of alloca	ited laboratory tim	e						
	Not apply	No Stress	Moderate Stress	Severe Stress					
	40- Transition from p	ore-clinic to clinic w	vork						
	Not apply	No Stress	Moderate Stress	Severe Stress					
	41- Working on patients with dirty mouths								
	Not apply	No Stress	Moderate Stress	Severe Stress					
l									

References

- 1. Atkinson JM, Millar K, Kay EJ, Blinkhorn AS: Stress in dental practice. Dent Update 1991; 18: 60-64.
- 2. *Giri D, Singh VP, Marla V, Kamait LB, Giri N:* Perceived Source of Stress Among Undergraduate Dental Students at BPKIHS, Nepal. Int J Interdiscip Multidiscip stud 2014; 1: 309-316.
- 3. *Lazarus RS:* Theory-based stress measurement. Psychol Inq 1990; 1: 3-13.
- 4. *Bojuwoye O:* Stressful experiences of first year students of selected universities in South Africa. Couns Psychol Q 2002; 15: 277-290.
- 5. *Rajab LD:* Perceived sources of stress among dental students at the University of Jordan. J Dent Educ 2001; 65: 232-241.
- 6. *Sanders AE, Lushington K:* Effect of perceived stress on student performance in dental school. J Dent Educ 2002; 66: 75-81.
- Al-Saleh SA, Al-Madi EM, Al-Angari NS, Al-Shehri HA, Shukri MM: Survey of perceived stress-inducing problems among dental students, Saudi Arabia. Saudi Dent J 2010; 22: 83-88.
- 8. Alzahem AM, van der Molen HT, Alaujan AH, Schmidt HG, Zamakhshary MH: Stress amongst

dental students: a systematic review. Eur J Dent Educ 2011; 15: 8-18.

- 9. Gorter R, Freeman R, Hammen S, Murtomaa H, Blinkhorn A, Humphris G: Psychological stress and health in undergraduate dental students: fifth year outcomes compared with first year baseline results from five European dental schools. Eur J Dent Educ 2008; 12: 61-68.
- 10. *Elani HW, Allison PJ, Kumar RA, Mancini L, Lambrou A, Bedos C:* A systematic review of stress in dental students. J Dent Educ 2014; 78: 226-242.
- 11. *Abu-Ghazaleh SB, Rajab LD, Sonbol HN:* Psychological stress among dental students at the University of Jordan. J Dent Educ 2011; 75: 1107-1114.
- Uraz A, Tocak YS, Yozgatligil C, Cetiner S, Bal B: Psychological well-being, health, and stress sources in Turkish dental students. J Dent Educ 2013; 77: 1345-1355.
- Abu-Ghazaleh SB, Sonbol HN, Rajab LD: A longitudinal study of psychological stress among undergraduate dental students at the University of Jordan. BMC Med Educ 2016; 16: 90.
- 14. Amran AG, Alhajj MN: Assessment of Gingival

Health Status among a Group of Preclinical and Clinical Dental Students at Thamar University, Yemen. IOSR-JDMS 2016; 15: 69-75.

- 15. *Polychronopoulou A, Divaris K:* Dental students' perceived sources of stress: a multi-country study. J Dent Educ 2009; 73: 631-639.
- Al-Sowygh ZH, Alfadley AA, Al-Saif MI, Al-Wadei SH: Perceived causes of stress among Saudi dental students. King Saud University J Dental Sci 2013; 4: 7-15.
- 17. *Elani HW, Bedos C, Allison PJ:* Sources of stress in Canadian dental students: a prospective mixed methods study. J Dent Educ 2013; 77: 1488-1497.
- Radcliffe C, Lester H: Perceived stress during undergraduate medical training: a qualitative study. Med Educ 2003; 37: 32-38.
- 19. *Murphy RJ, Gray SA, Sterling G, Reeves K, DuCette J:* A comparative study of professional student stress. J Dent Educ 2009; 73: 328-337.
- 20. *Pau AK, Croucher R:* Emotional intelligence and perceived stress in dental undergraduates. J Dent Educ 2003; 67: 1023-1028.
- 21. *Tangade PS, Mathur A, Gupta R, Chaudhary S:* Assessment of Stress Level among Dental School Students: An Indian Outlook. Dent Res J (Isfahan) 2011; 8: 95-101.
- 22. Harikiran AG, Srinagesh J, Nagesh KS, Sajudeen N: Perceived sources of stress amongst final year dental under graduate students in a dental teaching institution at Bangalore, India: a cross sectional study. Indian J Dent Res 2012; 23: 331-336.
- 23. *Muirhead V, Locker D:* Canadian dental students' perceptions of stress. J Can Dent Assoc 2007; 73: 323.
- 24. Pani SC, Al Askar AM, Al Mohrij SI, Al Ohali TA: Evaluation of stress in final-year Saudi dental stu-

dents using salivary cortisol as a biomarker. J Dent Educ 2011; 75: 377-384.

- 25. Westerman GH, Grandy TG, Ocanto RA, Erskine CG: Perceived sources of stress in the dental school environment. J Dent Educ 1993; 57: 225-231.
- 26. *Polychronopoulou A, Divaris K:* Perceived sources of stress among Greek dental students. J Dent Educ 2005; 69: 687-692.
- 27. *Heath JR, Macfarlane TV, Umar MS:* Perceived sources of stress in dental students. Dent Update 1999; 26: 94-98, 100.
- Naidu RS, Adams JS, Simeon D, Persad S: Sources of stress and psychological disturbance among dental students in the West Indies. J Dent Educ 2002; 66: 1021-1030.
- 29. Sanders AE, Lushington K: Sources of stress for Australian dental students. J Dent Educ 1999; 63: 688-697.
- Peker I, Alkurt MT, Usta MG, Turkbay T: The evaluation of perceived sources of stress and stress levels among Turkish dental students. Int Dent J 2009; 59: 103-111.
- 31. Babar MG, Hasan SS, Ooi YJ, Ahmed SI, Wong PS, Ahmad SF, et al.: Perceived sources of stress among Malaysian dental students. Int J Med Educ 2015; 6: 56-61.
- Sofola OO, Jeboda SO: Perceived sources of stress in Nigerian dental students. Eur J Dent Educ 2006; 10: 20-23.

Address: Department of Oral Pathology, College of Dentistry, Al-Qadisiyah University, Al-Diwaniya, Iraq e-mail: ali.murad@qu.edu.iq

Received: 30th January 2017 Accepted: 7th May 2017