ISSN: 2347-6567

International Journal of Allied Medical Sciences and Clinical Research (IJAMSCR)

IJAMSCR |Vol.14 | Issue 2| Apr - Jun - 2026

www.ijamscr.com

DOI : 01.05.2026https://doi.org/10.61096/ijamscr.v14.iss2.2026.788-792

Fashion for a Reason; Oral Jewellery to Aid in Forensic Odontology

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Published on: 01.05.2026
Published by: Futuristic Publications

Abstract: Jewellary can be used for human identification because they might be the only intact objects left after an air crash or natural disaster.[4] For instance, information about jewellery is requested in the INTERPOL disaster victim identification (DVI) PM forms.

Aim: To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students.

Objectives:

1. To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students based on gender.
2. To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students based on year of the study.

Methodology:

A cross sectional study was conducted among undergraduate dental students using a structured questionare.The questionnaire consists of demographic details and oral jewellery for personal identification in forensic odontology.

Results:

In the study population, majority of them were females with 56.1% and males were 43.9%.

Conclusion: The study concluded that most of the students were aware that oral jewellery will help in personal identification in forensic odontology and has better knowledge regarding the oral jewellery.

Key words: Oral jewellery, Forensic Dentistry, Human identification.

INTRODUCTION

Forensic dentists are frequently requested to assist in human identification. Human identification by dental means is performed by comparing ante-mortem (AM) and post-mortem (PM) dental records[1] in order to try to establish a positive identity; however, the comparison of dental records is not always possible because the AM dental records might be missing, inaccurate.

A number of case reports or review articles on immediate or long-term complications of ornamental oral piercing have been published but not a single one has reckoned on the significance of oral forms of jewellery for human identification. The main aim of this study was to investigate the opinions on the use of modified tooth/oral jewellery items among dental students, dentists, designers/tattoo & piercing artists. The secondary aim was to create and suggest an elaborated oral charting system to document oral jewellery and tooth modifications and respective abbreviations.

AIM

To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students.

OBJECTIVES

1. To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students based on gender.
2. To investigate the opinions on the use of oral jewellery items among the undergraduate dental students based on year of the study.

METHODOLOGY

Study design and area: A cross sectional study was conducted at Mamata Dental College, khammam, Telangana.

Study population: The health care students included a total of 205 dental students of all years.

Study instruments: A protested offline questionnaire was given consisting of 15 questions each participant had to fill in their demographic data like name, gender, age, year of study. Participants had to select one option from the options provided against each question.

Sampling methodology: The sampling methodology used is convenience sampling.

Inclusion criteria: Students who were present on the day of the study and willing to participate are included.

Exclusion criteria: Students who were absent on the day of the study and who has not given consent were excluded.

Organizing the study: The study was designed in a paper based version of the self administered questionnaire of 15 questions focusing on knowledge and awareness includes the sections of demographic data**.**

RESULTS

Based on the year of study majority of them were IV Bds students with 29.3% I Bds with 21% followed by Interns and III Bds with 19.5% and II Bds with 10.7%.

In this study group most of the females (65.7%) agreed that oral jewellery will help in identification in forensic odontology.

Based on the year of study, most of the II Bds students were unaware of oral jewellery when compared with other students.

Most of the II Bds students have not agreed that oral jewey will help in personal identification in forensic odontology.

Age

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	205	18	25	21.58	1.393

Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	90	43.9	43.9	43.9
	Female	115	56.1	56.1	100.0
	Total	205	100.0	100.0	

Year of study

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	I BDS	43	21.0	21.0	21.0
	II BDS	22	10.7	10.7	31.7
	III BDS	40	19.5	19.5	51.2
	IV BDS	60	29.3	29.3	80.5
	Interns	40	19.5	19.5	100.0
	Total	205	100.0	100.0	

Distribution and comparison of responses based on gender:

Item	Response	Males		Females		Chi-Square value	P value
		n	%	n	%		
Q1	1	62	43.4	81	56.6	0.057	0.811
	2	15	48.3	16	51.6		
	3	13	41.9	18	58.1		

Q2	1	11	23.9	35	76.1	14.220	0.003*
	2	43	45.3	52	54.7		
	3	17	47.2	19	52.8		
Q3	1	34	34.3	65	65.7	12.808	0.005*
	2	27	67.5	13	32.5		
	3	21	42.9	28	57.1		
Q4	1	41	42.3	56	57.7	0.270	0.874
	2	22	46.8	25	53.2		
	3	27	44.3	34	55.7		
	4	0	0	0	0		
Q5	1	26	44.1	33	55.9	4.609	0.330
	2	20	33.9	39	66.1		
	3	22	50	22	50		
Q6	1	42	44.7	52	55.3	3.278	0.351
	2	18	46.2	21	53.8		
	3	17	34.7	32	65.3		
	4	13	56.5	10	43.5		
Q7	1	36	40	54	60	6.131	0.04*
	2	28	59.6	19	40.4		
	3	26	38.2	42	61.8		
	4	0	0	0	0		
Q8	1	18	31.6	39	68.4	6.104	0.04*
	2	30	54.5	25	45.5		
	3	42	45.2	51	54.8		
Q9	1	33	35.9	59	64.1	8.954	0.030*
	2	25	64.1	14	35.9		
	3	23	44.2	29	55.8		
	4	9	40.9	13	59.1		
Q10	1	41	43.2	54	56.8	0.172	0.918
	2	25	46.3	29	53.7		
	3	24	42.9	32	57.1		
Q11	1	25	32.5	52	67.5	11.020	0.012*
	2	33	61.1	21	38.9		
	3	25	45.5	30	54.5		
Q12	1	27	36.5	47	63.5	16.682	0.001*
	2	27	56.2	21	43.8		
	3	19	31.7	41	68.3		
	4	17	73.9	6	26.1		
Q13	1	33	39.8	50	60.2	3.383	0.336
	2	23	56.1	18	43.9		
	3	23	40.4	34	59.6		
	4	11	45.8	13	54.2		
Q14	1	39	39.4	60	60.6	1.609	0.447
	2	36	48.6	38	51.4		
	3	15	46.9	17	53.1		
	4	0	0	0	0		
Q15	1	45	43.3	52	56.7	3.621	0.164
	2	27	54	23	46		
	3	10	35.3	33	64.7		
	4	8	53.3	7	46.6		

P≤0.05 is statistically significant

Distribution and comparison of responses based on year of the study:

Item	Response	I BDS		II BDS		III BDS		IV BDS		INTERN		Chi-Value	P-Value
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%		
Q1	1	30	21	13	9.1	25	17.5	45	31.5	30	21	3.488	0.480
	2	10	25.6	5	12.8	10	25.6	11	38.2	3	7.6		
	3	3	13	4	17.3	5	21.7	4	17.3	7	30.4		

Q2	1	3	6.5	3	6.5	4	8.7	23	50	13	28.3	33.735	0.001*
	2	23	24.2	9	9.5	23	24.2	27	28.4	13	13.7		
	3	10	27.8	8	22.2	6	16.7	7	19.4	5	13.9		
Q3	1	20	20.2	10	10.1	20	20.2	28	28.3	21	21.2	13.774	0.315
	2	7	17.5	4	10	8	20	18	45	3	7.5		
	3	11	22.4	8	16.3	8	16.3	11	22.4	11	22.4		
Q4	1	19	19.6	11	11.3	19	19.6	29	29.9	19	19.6	5.658	0.685
	2	13	27.7	4	8.5	11	23.4	14	29.8	5	10.6		
	3	11	18	7	11.5	10	16.4	17	27.9	16	26.2		
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Q5	1	15	25.4	6	10.2	10	16.9	15	25.4	13	22	19.393	0.249
	2	7	11.9	9	15.3	14	23.7	20	33.9	9	15.3		
	3	8	18.2	3	6.8	11	25	14	31.8	8	18.2		
Q6	1	17	18.1	13	13.8	13	13.8	30	31.9	21	22.3	10.726	0.553
	2	12	30.8	2	5.1	8	20.5	11	28.2	6	15.4		
	3	10	20.4	4	8.2	12	24.5	15	30.6	8	16.3		
	4	4	17.4	3	13	7	30.4	4	17.4	5	21.7		
Q7	1	19	21.1	8	8.9	12	13.3	28	31.1	23	25.6	8.799	0.360
	2	12	25.5	6	12.8	9	19.1	13	27.7	7	14.9		
	3	12	17.6	8	11.8	19	27.9	19	27.9	10	14.7		
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Q8	1	12	21.1	6	10.5	11	19.3	21	36.8	7	12.3	11.620	0.169
	2	12	21.8	10	18.2	13	23.6	10	18.2	10	18.2		
	3	19	20.4	6	6.5	16	17.2	29	31.2	23	24.7		
Q9	1	19	20.7	7	7.6	17	18.5	28	30.4	21	22.8	5.445	0.941
	2	11	28.2	4	10.3	8	20.5	10	25.6	6	15.4		
	3	10	19.2	7	13.5	10	19.2	16	308	9	17.3		
	4	3	13.6	4	18.2	5	22.7	6	19.2	4	18.2		
Q10	1	13	13.7	13	13.7	19	20	31	32.6	19	20	11.583	0171
	2	19	35.2	4	7.4	11	20.4	12	22.2	8	14.8		
	3	11	19.6	5	8.9	10	17.9	17	30.4	13	23.2		
Q11	1	16	20.8	8	10.4	12	15.6	24	31.2	17	22.1	8.073	0.779
	2	11	20.4	8	14.8	13	24.1	13	24.1	9	16.7		
	3	14	25.5	5	9.1	12	21.8	16	29.1	8	14.5		
Q12	1	10	13.5	10	13.5	15	20.3	20	27	19	25.7	10.642	0.560
	2	13	27.1	4	8.3	10	20.8	15	31.2	6	12.5		
	3	13	21.7	6	10	11	18.3	21	35	9	15		
	4	7	30.4	2	8.7	4	17.4	4	17.4	6	26.1		
Q13	1	14	16.9	8	9.6	15	18.1	25	30.1	21	25.3	5.487	0.940
	2	10	24.4	5	12.2	9	22	11	26.8	6	14.6		
	3	13	22.8	6	10.5	13	22.8	17	29.8	8	14		
	4	6	25	3	12.5	3	12.5	7	29.2	5	20.8		
Q14	1	19	19.2	12	12	14	14.1	32	32.3	22	22.2	11.925	0.155
	2	17	23	8	8	22	29.7	18	24.3	9	12.2		
	3	7	21.9	2	2	4	12.5	10	31.2	9	28.1		
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Q15	1	16	15.4	11	10.6	25	24	28	26.9	24	23.1	11.488	0.176
	2	16	32	7	14	6	12	16	32	5	10		
	3	10	21.6	2	7.8	5	17.6	11	31.4	7	21.6		
	4	1	6.2	2	12.5	4	25	5	31.2	4	25		

P≤0.05 is statistically significant

DISCUSSION

This study was undergone to assess the opinion of undergraduate students regarding oral jewellery in personal identification of forensic odontology.

Most of the females were aware of oral jewellery because females have more knowledge on fashion and jewellery which they browse on a regular basis.

Most of the final year students accepted that oral jewellery will help in personal identification in forensic odontology, because they are constantly in subject with forensic odontology in academics.

CONCLUSION

The study concluded that most of the students were aware that oral jewellery will help in personal identification in forensic odontology and has better knowledge regarding the oral jewellery. Oral jewellery and piercings are highly acceptable by all the dental students but the uniqueness of oral jewellery was more recognized by the female students.

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