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The Role of Educational Atmosphere on Self-perceived-efficacy Among Dental Students

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Objectives The aim of the present study was to assess educational atmosphere according to background determinants and educational information, in clinical dental students, Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS).

Methods Present study was a descriptive study, in 2018. The sample size covered all clinical dental students in the third year or higher. A questionnaire was used for data gathering from the students which include demographic questions such as: gender, marital status, place of residence, parental education, self-reported economic status; in addition to educational information (year of study, acceptance quotas, total average grade and the last semester grade, working experience out of dental school, self-perceived efficacy). SPSS software (version 20) served for data analysis. In statistical analysis T-test and ANOVA were used to investigate the relationships between educational atmosphere, and background determinants and educational information.

Results About half of the dental students were female (52.6%), the majority (87.4%) were single and 50% were residents in dormitories. Half (53.2%) of the students had a moderate self-perceived efficacy and 42.1% had a good one.

Mean score (SD) for total educational atmosphere was 158.1 (± 15.5), and that for students' Perception of Learning was 57.9 (SD=6.2), and 35.5 (± 4.4) for students' Perception of Teaching domain, 26.1 (± 3.9) for students' Academic Self-Perception, 38.7 (± 5.2) for students' Perception of Atmosphere, and was 22.8 (± 2.9) for students' Social Self-Perception domain.

Out of all background determinants and educational information, self-perceived efficacy had significant relationships with students' Academic Self-Perception (p-value=0.006), students' Perception of Atmosphere (p-value=0.013), and students' Social Self-Perception (p-value=0.017) domains.

Conclusions An improved educational atmosphere may conclude to a better self-perceived efficacy in dental students.

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Rubric for Evaluation of Endodontic Treatments Performed by Dental Students