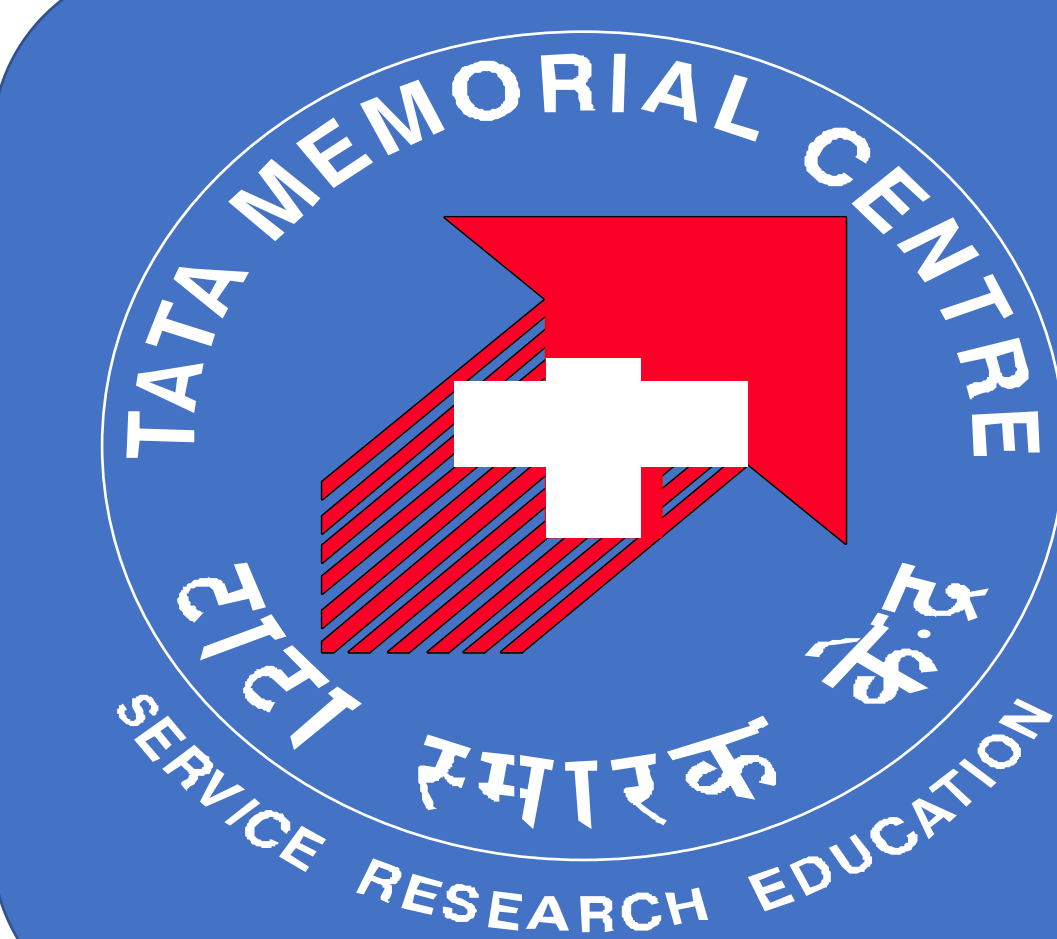




Smokeless Tobacco Usage and development of Oral Cancer – a prospective study

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Background	Results		Types of Smokeless Tobacco-Time to develop Cancer																																											
•About 90% of the global smokeless tobacco users live in South-East Asia. •The most harmful compounds in smokeless tobacco are tobacco-specific nitrosamines (TSNAs) and their levels are directly related to the risk of cancer. •The socioeconomic perspective is often ignored but several studies have shown that it is an important factor in the etiology of oral cancer. • In this prospective study, we have analyzed the socio-economic and clinical details of patients consuming different forms of smokeless tobacco either alone or in combination with smoking and alcohol and correlating that with the time to develop oral cancer.	Age (mean)	49 years (Range 25-81 years)	<table><caption>Approximate data from the box plot</caption><thead><tr><th>Habits</th><th>Min</th><th>Q1</th><th>Median</th><th>Q3</th><th>Max</th><th>Outliers</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Gutka</td><td>2</td><td>7</td><td>10</td><td>15</td><td>22</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>Khani</td><td>1</td><td>10</td><td>18</td><td>32</td><td>60</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Masheri</td><td>6</td><td>15</td><td>29</td><td>35</td><td>44</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Panmasala</td><td>3</td><td>15</td><td>29</td><td>32</td><td>55</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Multiple</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>16</td><td>25</td><td>46</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>		Habits	Min	Q1	Median	Q3	Max	Outliers	Gutka	2	7	10	15	22	28	Khani	1	10	18	32	60		Masheri	6	15	29	35	44		Panmasala	3	15	29	32	55		Multiple	4	10	16	25	46	
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	Male: Female	7:1																																												
	Site of disease (%)																																													
	Gingivobuccal complex	82.5																																												
	Tongue	17.5																																												
	Education (%)																																													
	Illiterate	21																																												
	Primary	36																																												
	Senior Secondary	32																																												
Graduate or above	11																																													
Occupation (%)																																														
Unemployed	23.1																																													
Daily Wager	32.8																																													
Small Shop or farmer	21.0																																													
Class 3 or Class 4	17.9																																													
Class 2	3.1																																													
Class 1	2.1																																													
Socioeconomic status (%)																																														
Lower/Lower middle class	81																																													
Middle class/Higher class	19																																													
Mean duration of tobacco chewing	15 years (Range, 2-50 years)	Conclusion •Smokeless tobacco is the most common form of tobacco use in India. •The frequency of smokeless tobacco usage and duration significantly correlated with development of oral cancer. • Smokeless tobacco usage is more prevalent among the lower socioeconomic group as it is cheap and easily available.																																												
Mean frequency of tobacco chewing	5 times/day																																													