

## **A Systematic Review on the use of Teledentistry in Pediatric Dentistry**

**Suganya M<sup>1</sup>, Shikha Mali<sup>1</sup>, US Mahadeva Rao<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry, People's College of Dental Sciences & Research Centre, People's University, Bhanpur, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), <sup>2</sup>Faculty of Medicine, University Sultan Zainal Abidin - 20400, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu ( Malaysia)

### **ABSTRACT:**

Delivering oral healthcare to children can be challenging due to anxieties, access limitations, and geographical barriers. Teledentistry, the use of telecommunication technologies for dental care, has emerged as a potential solution. This systematic review evaluates the effectiveness of teledentistry in pediatric dentistry. A comprehensive search of electronic databases, including PubMed, EMBASE, Scopus, and Web of Science, was conducted to identify relevant studies published with no time frame. The validity of teledentistry for oral screening varies with sensitivity and specificity. Studies also reported acceptable agreement between teledentistry and in-person examinations, with Kappa statistics. Teledentistry shows promise as a comparable tool to traditional methods for oral screening in pediatric dentistry. It holds particular value for school-based programs, remote areas, and long-term care facilities, potentially improving access to dental care for children. Further research with robust methodologies is needed to definitively determine the effectiveness of teledentistry across the full spectrum of pediatric dental care.

**KEY WORDS:** teledentistry, pediatric dentistry, anxiety