CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

The previous chapter explained the subject, materials, and necessary procedures used in data collection and data analyzing. This chapter reports the results obtained from 23 street dentists in Bangkok and vicinity. The data was analyzed by using SPSS version 14.0 and divided into 5 parts based on the objectives of the study. Therefore, the results were shown as follows:

4.1 The respondent's general characteristics and the scope of their work

4.2 The respondents' sources of knowledge

4.3 The respondents' knowledge level of making dentures and disinfection techniques

4.4 The respondents' working problems

4.5 The help the respondents wanted from the associated authorities.

4.1 RESPONDENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND SCOPE OF WORK

Table 12. Gender of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	19	82.6
Female	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

From total 23 respondents, it was found that most of them (82.6%) are male, Table 12.

Table 13. Age of Respondents

Age(years)	Frequency	Percent
≤ 40	6	26.1
41-50	9	39.1
≥51	8	34.8
Total	23	100.0

The respondents' ages were divided into 3 groups: 26.1% were under 40 years, 39.1% were between 41-50 years, and 34.7% were over 51 years, Table 13.

Table 14. Place of Birth of Respondents

Place of birth	Frequency	Percent
Bangkok & Vicinity	10	43.5
Up-country	13	56.5
Total	23	100.0

Table 14 shows the respondents' place of birth. 56.5% of 23 respondents came from up-country such as Chiangmai, Phetchaboon, Nakornphranom, Khonkaen, Phetburi, Nakhonsawan, and Phichit, and the rest came from Bangkok and vicinity such as Nonthaburi, Samutphrakarn, and Samutsakorn.

Table 15. Education of Respondents

Education	Frequency	Percent
Primary school	9	39.1
Junior high school	7	30.4
Senior high school	3	13.0
> Senior high school	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

Table 15 shows the education of respondents that about two-thirds of respondents had primary to junior high school education, whereas 30.4% of them had senior high school to bachelor degree education.

Concerning their marital status, all of the respondents were married and were living with their spouses (table not shown).

Table 16. Previous Occupation

Previous Occupation	Frequency	Percent
Health involved	6	26.1
Others	17	73.9
Total	23	100.0

Asking about previous occupation of the respondents, those who said that they worked in health related work such as a dental assistant, medical assistant, and X-ray technician accounted for 26.1% and those who did not have such experiences accounted for 73.9%, Table 16.

Table 17. Duration of Working as Street Dentists

Experience(years)	Frequency	Percent
<10	9	39.1
10-20	11	47.8
>20	3	13.0
Total	23	100.0

Almost a half of 23 respondents had worked as street dentists for 10-20 years. The others, 39.1%, had worked for less than 10 years and those who worked for 20 years or more accounted for 13.0%, Table 17.

Table 18. Respondents' Monthly Income

Monthly income(Baht)	Frequency	Percent
16,000-40,000	7	30.4
40,001- 80,000	10	43.5
80,001-160,000	6	26.1
Total	23	100.0

The respondents' monthly income was derived from 2 sets of data, client number/day and the number of false teeth per client. The researcher calculated their monthly income on the basis that respondents got 200 baht per tooth and worked 20 days per month. The 23 respondents' monthly income ranged from 16,000 to 160,000 baht that 30.4% of respondents earned 16,000-40,000 baht per month, 43.5% of respondents earned 40,001- 80,000 baht, and 26.1% earned 80,001-160,000 baht per month, Table 18.

Additional information is about the scope of street dentists' work, the conditions that the respondents worked for and the conditions that they did not. These situations are displayed as follows:

Table 19. Scope of Respondents' Work

Scope of respondents' work	Frequency	Percent
Removable plastic-based dentures	23	46.0
Removable metal-based dentures	17	34.0
Fixed bridge false-teeth	2	4.0
Denture repair	6	12.0
Diamond embedding, fake orthodontics	2	4.0
Total	50	100.0

The scope of respondents' work was that 46% of their answers were removable plastic-based dentures, and 34% of their answers were removable metal-based dentures. The rest was fixed bridge false-teeth, denture repair, and trendy natural tooth- decoration. This also exhibits that all respondents made removable plastic-based dentures, Table 19.

Table 20. Exception for Denture Making

Exception for denture making	Frequency	Percent
Severe decayed teeth	12	32.4
Severe inclined teeth	5	13.5
No natural tooth	5	13.5
Gum inflammation	11	29.7
Heavy dental stone or tooth mobility	4	10.8
Total	37	99.9

Table 20 shows that one-third of the reasons the respondents refused to make dentures was severely decayed teeth. Next, 29.7% of the reasons not to make dentures were gum inflammation. Third, 27% of the reasons were severe tooth inclination and all teeth missing. The last condition was heavy dental stone or tooth mobility, 10.8%.

4.2 THE SOURCES OF RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE

Table 21. Training Sources of Respondents

Training source	Frequency	Percent
Being assistant to dentists	2	8.7
Being trained in family	5	21.7
Being trained from relatives	11	47.8
Being trained from hired denturists	5	21.7
Total	23	100.0

The majority of respondents (69.5%) were trained by their families and relatives. Besides, 21.7% of them were trained by hired street dentists. For the least amount, 8.70% of them were trained from dental clinics, Table 21.

4.3 THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE LEVEL OF MAKING DENTURES AND DISINFECTION TECHNIQUE.

This part was about how respondents practiced their work. They were informed that they could answer more than one choice. This part consisted of 15 questions. When a question was correctly answered, one mark was recorded. On the other hand, when a question was wrongly answered, zero mark was recorded. This scoring reflected the level of knowledge about dentistry. Therefore, the full score of knowledge was 15 marks. Also, the researcher evaluated the correctness of the answer according to possibility of practical procedures.

Table 22. What to do before starting denture making

What to do before starting denture making	Frequency	Percent
1.Check the intraoral condition	19	54.3
2.Ask about customers' medical history	3	8.6
3.If seeing abnormal tissue, you will refuse to make denture	2	5.7
4.Only ask customers about dentures they want, and take imprint	9	25.7
5.Ask customers whether they have ever worn dentures or not	2	5.7
Total	35	100.0

Table 23. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do before starting denture making	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	4	17.4
Correct	19	82.6
Total	23	100.0

About a half of all answers of what to do before starting denture making was checking the intraoral condition, Table 22, and every answer was correct except choosing only the 4th answer. Consequently, all respondents who did not answer only the 4th answer got one mark. The result shows 82.6% of respondents answered correctly, Table 23.

Table 24. What to do when customers have many severely decayed teeth

What to do when customers have many severely decayed teeth	Frequency	Percent
1. Ignore the condition and start making dentures	2	8.0
2. Suggest that they see dentists before making dentures	20	80.0
3. Let customers decide whether to do dentures or not	3	12.0
Total	25	100.0

Table 25. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do when customers have many severely decayed teeth	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	3	13.0
Correct	20	87.0
Total	23	100.0

Table 24 shows that almost all of the answers of what to do when customers had many severely decayed teeth were suggesting to them to see dentists before making dentures. The respondents who answered only this choice got one mark. On the other hand, respondents who answered other choices or this choice with others got no mark. The result shows 87% of respondents answered correctly, Table 25.

Table 26. Effect of saliva on dentures' retention

Effect of saliva on dentures' retention	Frequency	Percent
1. The less saliva, the more dentures' retention	1	4.3
2. The more saliva, the more dentures' retention	4	17.4
3. Saliva has no effect on dentures' retention	18	78.3
Total	23	100.0

Table 27. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Effect of saliva on dentures' retention	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	19	82.6
Correct	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

Table 26 presents the effect of saliva on dentures' retention, 78.3% of all answers were that saliva had no effect on dentures' retention. However, the correct answer was the only one choice that the more saliva, the more dentures' retention. The respondents who answered others or the 2nd choice combined with others got no mark. The result shows that only 17.4% of respondents answered correctly, Table 27.

Table 28. Wearing gloves or not

Wearing gloves or not	Frequency	Percent
1. Wash hands	15	53.6
2. Wear gloves	10	35.7
3. None of the above	3	10.7
Total	28	100.0

Table 29. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Wearing gloves or not	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	13	56.5
Correct	10	43.5
Total	23	100.0

Table 28 indicates that about a half of the answers were that respondents washed hands, but did not wear gloves. On the other hand, one-third of the answers were wearing gloves which were correct whether they washed their hands or not. The result was that only 43.5% of respondents answered correctly, Table 29.

Table 30. What to do after taking the imprint out of customer's mouth

What to do after taking the imprint out of customer's mouth	Frequency	Percent
1. Wash the imprint with tap water	10	41.7
2. Wash the imprint with antiseptic solution	11	45.8
3. Pour dental stone immediately	3	12.5
Total	24	100.0

Table 31. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do after taking the imprint out of customer's mouth	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	2	8.7
Correct	21	91.3
Total	23	100.0

The majority of answers (87.5%) were washing the imprint after being taken out of customers' mouth; whether they washed it by tap water or antiseptic solution was correct. On the contrary, only 12.5% of the answers were pouring dental stone immediately which was incorrect, Table 30. The result is that 91.3% of respondents answered correctly, Table 31.

Table 32.What to do after removing tooth models from impression trays

What to do after removing tooth models from impression trays	Frequency	Percent
1. Just remove the impression and then take the next one	1	4.2
2. Clean and wash the tray with tap water	3	12.5
3. Clean and wash the tray with antiseptic solution	12	50.0
4. Clean and boil the tray in hot water	8	33.3
Total	24	100.0

Table 33. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do after removing tooth models from impression trays	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	3	13.0
Correct	20	87.0
Total	23	100.0

Table 32 shows that 50.0% and 33.3% of answers were disinfecting the impression trays after being used by antiseptic solution and boiling water respectively. The two answers were correct. On the contrary, 16.75% of all answers that were either just removing the impression or washing with tap water were incorrect. The result is that 87.0% of respondents answered correctly, Table 33.

Table 34. Tooth arrangement

Tooth arrangement	Frequency	Percent
1. Arrange without articulation	1	4.2
2. Mount the models on articulators	23	95.8
Total	24	100.0

Table 35. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Tooth arrangement	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	0	0.0
Correct	23	100.0
Total	23	100.0

Table 34 shows about tooth arrangement. Almost all of the answers were mounting the models on artificial jaws before tooth arranging which was correct, while just 4.2% of all answers were incorrect. The result shows that all respondents used articulators, and one respondent used both ways; that was, at least the 2nd choice had to be chosen to be correct. As a result, all respondents answered correctly, Table 35.

Table 36. Tooth selection

Tooth selection	Frequency	Percent
1. Whitish shade is more favorable for wearers	0	0.0
2. Harmonized with the remaining teeth	18	50.0
3. Harmonized with size and shape of the remaining teeth	5	13.9
4. In case of full dentures, select whatever satisfies wearers	13	36.1
Total	36	100.0

Table 37. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Tooth selection	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	0	0.0
Correct	23	100.0
Total	23	100.0

Table 36 shows that none of the answers was selecting the whitish shade to satisfy wearers. That means all answers are correct whether respondents chose either the 2nd or the 3rd or the 4th or any combination except the 1st choice. The result shows that all respondents answered correctly, Table 37.

Table 38. Tooth alignment

Tooth alignment	Frequency	Percent
1. Whatever satisfies customers	5	16.1
2. Align on bone ridge	1	3.2
3. Conform to the adjacent and opposite teeth	21	67.7
4. Try-in the arranged in customers' mouth	4	12.9
Total	36	100.0

Table 39. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Tooth alignment	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	1	4.3
Correct	22	95.7
Total	23	100.0

Table 38 presents that only 16.1% of answers of the criteria to arrange false teeth on models were whatever satisfied customers. That answer was incorrect, while the respondents' other answers were correct either the 2nd or the 3rd or the 4th or any combination except the 1st choice. The result is that 95.7% of respondents answered correctly, Table 39.

Table 40. Plastic- based denture making

Plastic- based denture making	Frequency	Percent
1. Sprinkle the solution over the resin powder on tooth model	2	8.0
2. Mix resin powder and solution, and then spread on the model	4	16.0
3. Mix resin and solution, and press on the model when it is dough	19	76.0
Total	25	100.0

Table 41. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Plastic- based denture making	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	4	17.4
Correct	19	82.6
Total	23	100.0

Table 40 asks about plastic-based denture making, the majority of the answers (76.0%) were pressing the mixture of resin and solution on the model when it was dough; that was correct. In contrast, 24% of all answers were not waiting till the mixture became dough. The result shows that 82.6% of respondents answered correctly, Table 41.

Table 42. How to correct customers' pain from denture wearing

How to correct customers' pain from denture wearing	Frequency	Percent
1. Tell them to take time for getting familiar with wearing dentures	3	12.0
2. Grind the dentures until wearers get well	22	88.0
3. Grind the natural teeth until wearers get well	0	0.0
Total	25	100.0

Table 43. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

How to correct customers' pain from denture wearing	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	0	0.0
Correct	23	100.0
Total	23	100.0

Table 42 shows no respondent chose grinding the natural teeth that was the only incorrect answer, while other answers were all correct. The result demonstrates that all respondents answered correctly, Table 43.

Table 44. Suggestions for denture cleaning

Suggestions for denture cleaning	Frequency	Percent
1. Remove and brush dentures softly with toothpaste	19	73.1
2. Only wash dentures with tap water	5	19.2
3. Immerse dentures in mouthwash	2	7.7
Total	26	100.0

Table 45 Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Suggestions for denture cleaning	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	6	26.1
Correct	17	73.9
Total	23	100.0

Majority of the answers (73.1%) about denture cleaning were removing and brushing dentures softly with toothpaste that was the only correct answer; other answers were incorrect, Table 44. The result shows that approximately three quarters of respondents answered this procedure correctly, Table 45.

Table 46. What to do while sleeping

What to do while sleeping	Frequency	Percent
1. Should not wear denture during sleep	21	91.3
2. Wearing denture during sleep maintains retention stabilization	0	0.0
3. Up to wearer, use cream for night wear	2	8.7
Total	23	100.0

Table 47. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do while sleeping	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	2	8.7
Correct	21	91.3
Total	23	100.0

Almost all of respondents suggested that denture wearers not wear dentures during sleeping, Table 46. That was the only one correct, whereas others were incorrect. The result shows that 91.3% of respondents answered correctly, Table 47.

Table 48. Suggestion for dentures after removal

Suggestion for dentures after removal	Frequency	Percent
2. Immerse in salty water	1	3.4
3. Immerse in mouthwash solution	6	20.7
4. Immerse in plain water	22	75.9
Total	29	100.0

Table 49. Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

Suggestion for dentures after removal	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	6	26.1
Correct	17	73.9
Total	23	100.0

Three quarters of respondents' answers were the only one correct answer that denture wearers should immerse dentures in plain water after removal.

Conversely, the other answers were incorrect, Table 48. The result shows that around three quarters of respondents answered correctly, Table 49.

Table 50. What to do if false teeth or denture cracked or fractured

What to do if false teeth or denture cracked or fractured	Frequency	Percent
1. Glue it	1	3.3
2. Repair with dental material	22	73.4
3. Make new ones	7	23.3
Total	30	100.0

Table 51 Correct and Wrong Responses from the Street Denturists

What to do if false teeth or denture cracked or fractured	Frequency	Percent
Incorrect	1	4.3
Correct	22	95.7
Total	23	100.0

Almost all respondents answered the right answers that when dentures cracked, Table 50, they repaired or made new ones. On the contrary, only 3.3% of the answers were gluing the cracked dentures that is incorrect. The result shows that 95.7% of respondents answered correctly, Table 51.

Figure 1. The Number of Respondents Who Answer Correctly on Each Knowledge Question.

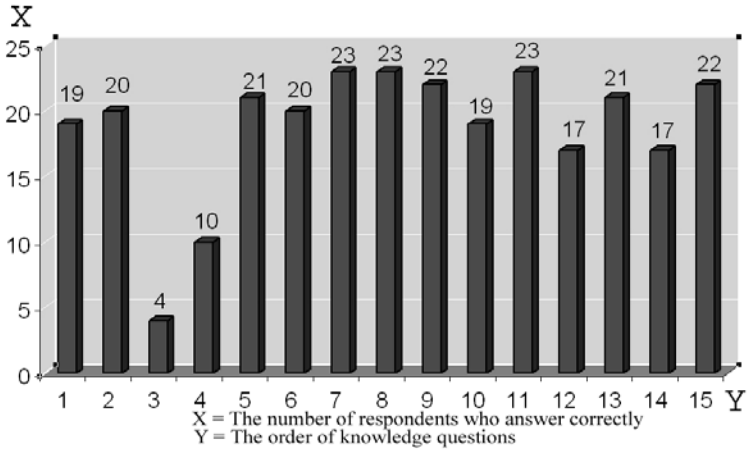

Figure 1 shows that the first minimum number of respondents who answer the knowledge question correctly is 4 persons; the second minimum number is 10

persons, while the majority number is between 17-23 persons. The question that 4 respondents got correct is about the effect of saliva on dentures' retention, and that 10 respondents got correct is about wearing gloves while working.

After calculating the scores that each respondent got from answering correctly, the researcher set up the criteria of passing at 80% of all questions about knowledge of dentistry. The total was 15 marks, so passing criteria was 12 marks. The result of knowledge scores was shown as the following.

Table 52. Knowledge Score

Score(marks)	Frequency	Percent
9	1	4.3
10	2	8.7
11	2	8.7
12	8	34.8
13	6	26.1
14	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

Table 52 shows that respondents' knowledge score ranged from 9 marks to 14 marks. First, 34.8% of respondents got 12 marks. Next, 26.1% of respondents got 13 marks. Lastly, 17.4% got 14 marks.

Table 53. Passing Respondents

Pass	Frequency	Percent
No	5	21.7
Yes	18	78.3
Total	23	100.0

Table 53 shows that 78.3% of 23 respondents passed the acceptable knowledge level.

4.4 THE RESPONDENTS' WORKING PROBLEMS

About the problems usually happening in their working, respondents' answers were all similar that the problems were pain, unfamiliarity with new dentures, and incorrectness of using.

4.5 THE HELP RESPONDENTS WANTED FROM THE ASSOCIATED AUTHORITIES

First, about what knowledge they wanted to learn more, all respondents' answers were that they do not want any more knowledge of dentistry.

Second, about some help they wanted from the associated authorities, only 2 respondents wanted to do their work without being arrested, but 21 respondents want nothing from the associated authorities.