

## **Coping with embedded mandibular wisdom teeth in developing countries**

### **Abstract:**

Despite low incidence of embedded mandibular wisdom teeth (third molars) among dental patients in developing countries (less than 100/1,000), the unfavourable patients:dentist ratios, the limited resources and low levels of public awareness render them an important problem to operators in these countries. Since the effectiveness with which they are removed largely depends on the age with respect to the stage of root formation, bone resilience and relationship with adjacent anatomical structures, and the dexterity of the operator, whenever possible, early removal is recommended. To minimise occurrence of non-operative complications that are costly to manage, primary health care workers have a vital role to play in raising levels of awareness and early referral for further evaluation. In view of the risks involved in the removal of these teeth and the small number of trained oral surgeons, continuing education to the dental practitioners, could improve their efficiency in the management of this condition