

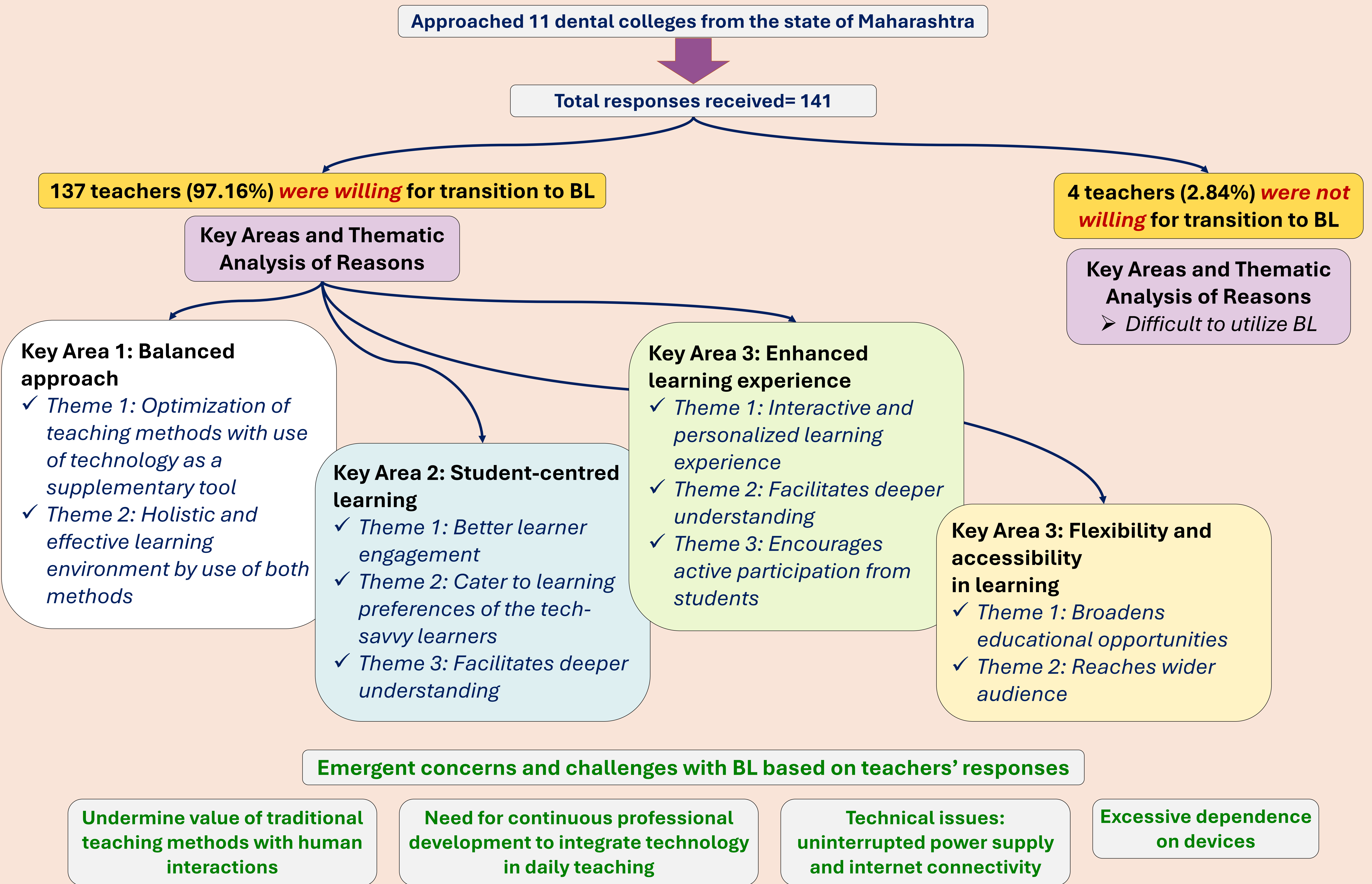
CONTEXT FOR THE STUDY

- Globally, Blended learning (BL) or hybrid learning, is the catch phrase in today's world of technology-enhanced instruction.
- It was adopted on a large scale in India due to the exigencies of Covid-19 pandemic.
- However, post the pandemic, it was back to traditional face-to-face method of teaching.
- *Did sensitization to this mode of teaching make dental teachers ready for transitioning to BL? If yes/no, what were their reasons for the same? This study was aimed at finding out the answers.*

WHAT WAS DONE

- A study was conducted to explore perceptions of dental teachers from the state of Maharashtra about the use of BL in instruction, as a part of doctoral research.
- A research tool was developed and validated and was shared with the participants online using SurveyMonkey® and it included two questions about use BL in instruction.
- The first question was about their willingness to transition to BL (Yes/No), while the second question (response to which was not mandatory) was about citing reasons for their response to the first question.

WHAT DID WE FIND



CONCLUSION

- 97.16% of dental teachers are willing to transition to BL and are aware of the benefits of this method.
- Traditional face-to-face method of teaching with human interactions are still valued.
- Continuous FDP, technology and administrative support are mandatory for successful transition to BL.

IMPLICATIONS & FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- A major percentage of dental teachers are willing to transition to BL and if it translated to practice needs to be studied.
- The various factors, or reasons which act as hindrances to adopting BL by dental teachers could be explored.
- A similar study could be conducted across different locations and states of India, or various other geographical locations.

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