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The Attitude and Practice Regarding The Use of Rubber Dam Among Dental Practitioners in Southern Zone Malaysia

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The rubber dam technique is one of the most widely used methods of isolation for various dental procedures as it comes with many advantages. However, recently many dental practitioners are not keen on using it simply because it is time-consuming or difficult to place. Thus, our research focuses on attitude and practice regarding the use of rubber dams among dental practitioners in southern zones of Malaysia. The aim of the study is to evaluate the attitude and practice regarding the use of rubber dams among dental practitioners in Malaysia. An online descriptive cross-sectional questionnaire was conducted among the dentists practising in the Southern zone of Malaysia which included Melaka and Johor states. Online questionnaires were distributed to dental practitioners working in private clinics. The data were collected, and descriptive statistical analysis was done. Around 109 responses were received. The factors which are significant regarding attitude of practitioners are relative ease of restoration under rubber dam, improved treatment outcome. It was considered more necessary while working in mandible and when adequate isolation cannot be achieved without it. For evaluating practice, factors which are significant include usage of rubber dam in routine practice and selection of clamp with its adaptation which made rubber dam application a difficult procedure. Dental practitioners in the Southern zone of Malaysia understand the advantages of rubber dams and utilise them in their daily routine. However, due to the limited sample size, further studies should be conducted to better understand the attitude and practice of dental practitioners regarding the use of rubber dam.

Keywords: Dental Practitioners, Isolation, Rubber-dam

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