Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

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health itineraries and also empowers community health leaders on conventional health care while providing a basic oral health package.

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26.09.2021, 11:45-12:00 AEST

FC15

Knowledge and Awareness of Specialists, General Dentists and Assistants Regarding SARS-CoV-2

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Aim or Purpose: This study aims to assess the knowledge and awareness among dental specialists, general dentists and dental assistants regarding guidelines on minimizing the spread of infection.

Materials and Methods: A survey based cross-sectional study was conducted on a sample size of 84 patients. A modified version of validated questionnaire was used to evaluate knowledge and awareness regarding SARS-CoV-2 as per the Center of Disease Control guidelines. The data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA to assess the difference in scores of knowledge among three groups. Pair-wise comparisons were performed using post-hoc Tukey test. Simple linear regression was used to examine factors influencing knowledge scores.

Among all the dental specialists, 13 were orthodontists, 9 were operative dentists, 8 were maxillofacial surgeons, 4 were prosthodontists, and one periodontist, who responded to the survey.

Results: Among the three groups, we found a significant difference (p = 0.02) of knowledge scores between dental specialists, general dentists and dental assistants. Additionally, the mean knowledge scores of dental specialists, general dentists and dental assistants were 10.05 ± 2.10, 9.95 ± 2.60 and 8.53 ± 2.10 respectively. On pairwise comparison, we found that there was a significant difference (p = 0.02) of knowledge scores among dental specialists as compared to dental assistants.

Conclusion: Based on the findings, the study suggests that hospitals should conduct mandatory workshops, training sessions and seminars for awareness of novel coronavirus (nCoV) pandemic and disinfection protocols, not only for specialists but also for all the staff members.

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26.09.2021, 12:00-12:15

FC32

Dental drive through model of care to reduce caries incidence

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Aim or purpose: An increase in number of people seeking emergency care due to inability to access dental services for general care was seen during COVID-19. This drive through model was developed to screen, educate and prioritise, based on individual risks, patients who were otherwise unable to get dental care due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Methods: On World Oral Health Day, 2021 dental examinations were conducted for patients while they drove through an existing COVID-19 screening clinic. The ICDAS-II index (International Caries Detection and Assessment System), score two to six, was used for caries assessment and management. Patients were categorised into three groups based on number of decayed teeth (less than three, three to six or more than six). The management criteria was based on the ICDAS score of teeth under each of the three categories.

Results: A total of 247 patients were screened and educated on the day. 102 patients with ICDAS score two to four were given education and preventative treatment appointment. While 118 patients with ICDAS score five or six were identified to be at risk of dental emergency in the near future and were booked in for emergency or general treatment. Another 27 patient were given clinical priority based on their periodontal or denture related needs. Patient survey revealed a high satisfaction rate of 92%.

Conclusions: This public health initiative was a great success in providing dental care to the patients during these unprecedented times who would not have had any care otherwise due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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26.09.2021, 12:15 - 12:30 AEST

FC16

Erosion-inhibiting potential of a novel remineralising paste

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Aim or Purpose: The increasing prevalence of erosive tooth wear among children and young adults is an issue of growing concern, emphasising the need for improvement in the currently used preventive strategies. Our aim was to evaluate individual and synergistic effects of SnF2 and CPP-ACP pastes in inhibiting erosion at a nano-scale.

Materials and Methods: Forty flat, polished enamel specimens were subjected to 10 erosion cycles, with each cycle comprising one-min erosion in citric acid (pH 3.0) and one-min exposure to human saliva. In each of the 3 experimental groups (n=10 per group), a remineralising paste (10% CPP-ACP or 0.45% SnF2 (1,100 ppm F) or SnF2/CPP-ACP (combined