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Caries detection among children toward development of diagnostic tool for dental caries

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Background: Dental caries has always been one of the major problems which affect the majority of population in every country, regardless of the gender, race or even age. Proper diagnosis of any ailment plays a vital role in the success of any treatment.

Purpose: The aim of the study was to determine the incidence of dental caries among students whose age ranging from 5-6 years old.

Materials & Methods: A total of 319 students from Malolos, Bulacan were included in the study. The researchers used several diagnostic tools to assess the incidence of caries among the respondents; ICDAS form, WHO Oral health form and ADA caries risk assessment form were used by two examiners with high reproducibility (Kappa score>0.81).

Results: There is no direct correlation of gender to caries incidence when using ICDAS or DMF index. Most of the respondents have Code 5 and 6 and some has active lesions. More carious lesions have been detected when using ICDAS compare to that of the DMF index.

Conclusion: There were significant correlation between ICDAS and DMF index. ICDAS can detect more carious lesion. The success of the treatment will rely on successful diagnosis of the examiner; therefore, using new caries classification system may help in proper diagnosis.

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