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Caries detection by visual inspection of newly graduated dentist in Riyadh city

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The study aimed to evaluate the capabilities of newly graduated dentist to diagnose the carious lesions visually based on their education and clinical experience.

A total of 150 questioners were distributed in RCsDP campuses among dentists. 18 unrestored posterior teeth (6 premolar and 12 molar) representing all ICDAS scores on occlusal surfaces were selected from a pool of recently extracted teeth.

The Evaluation coding was based on the ICDAS; two expert examiners (members of the ICDAS Coordination Committee, calibrated and experienced in use of the criteria) scored each site independently using the ICDAS severity criteria.

73 newly graduated dentists carried out the caries detection through visual inspection. There was a distribution of responses of criteria for each of the 18 teeth by the newly graduated dentists which was assessed on a categorical scale with 8 categories When these responses were compared with ICDAS severity criteria provided by expert examiners.

We have found high statistically significant difference between the correct and not correct responses for all teeth except the tooth no.5 & 12. That is there is highly statistically significant difference in the proportion of correct and not correct responses for tooth no. 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17&18, where the "not correct" answers are statistically significant higher than the "correct answers". Whereas the distribution of correct and not correct answers for tooth no.5 and 12 are not statistically significantly different (p= 0.079 & p=0.292).

In conclusion, even though ICDAS was performed well in detecting occlusal caries, there was a significant different between the capabilities of evaluation done by the young dentists and the evaluations of the two expert examiner.

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