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**Infection control procedures applied by trainee dentists
against COVID-19 before and after vaccination**

Abstract

Aim: this study aimed to conduct a questionnaire evaluation to investigate previously used prevention methods by dentists in major dental centers in Mosul, and whether the level of these precautions has been affected, If the dentist has ever had an infection, or if he or she has received a vaccine against the disease.

Materials and methods: This community-based study (cross-sectional study) conducted a comprehensive questionnaire to evaluate precautions and means of self-protection taken against infection by 165 trainee dentists working in the major specialized dental centers in the city of Mosul using a form a special questionnaire for this purpose was designed by.

Results: Highly significant number of participants 61.8% had a knowledge of the 7 steps hand hygiene procedure. However, around half of the participants 43.6% did not routinely hand wash/ gel with alcohol gel before and after wearing the gloves, yet, this was not statistically significant. Liquid soap was agreed to be the main type provided for the trainees/staff. The 69.5% of staff were significantly committed to single use of disposable gloves, not tempted to disinfect/reuse them with.

Conclusion: most of the dental staff has knowledge of hand hygiene, PPE, vaccine and other protective guidelines against the infection, but not all the facilities present and there is shortage in patient education about the infection and the procedures to avoid it.