# Prevalence of pain following single-visit pulpectomy with stainless steel crown done by postgraduate students in a university sitting

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## ABSTRACT

Pain is usually a very unpleasant experience, it can be felt by any age group whose sensory and cognitive components have been developed. Children tend to experience pain in around 65% of dental procedures. It can affect daily activities, and in many situations, it can lead to crisis. Since it is a developing child, the concept of pain can influence adversely in the mind of the child. The clinical records of all pulpectomy cases during the period between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2021, were analyzed. Gender and age of the patients were also included in the study. The majority of children in our study group were males; children who had a proper abscess of any kind of symptoms tend to have a higher incidence of postoperative pain compared to children with the least symptoms. The study identified that children experienced less pain following multi-visit pulpectomy when compared with single visits during the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 days. In children who were treated with both single-visit pulpectomy and stainless steel crown experienced no difference in pain perception in the first 3 days of appointment.

Key words: Age, innovative, pulpectomy, single, innovative technique, novel method

# INTRODUCTION

Experience of pain is one of the significant unpleasant experiences for all age groups.<sup>[1]</sup> In dental procedures, it is estimated that 65% experience some degree of pain after the dental procedures.<sup>[2,3]</sup> In some situations, the degree of pain can affect the quality of life in an individual. In children, it is of utmost importance since it can affect the

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long-term psychological effect. Children who experience any degree of pain tend to delay the dental treatment and therefore complicate further management and severity of the disease.<sup>[4-6]</sup>

Pain during dental treatments in children can lead to the discontinuation of care by the parent. Young children often lack the cognitive skills to pain management strategies. Pain is considered to be a subjective phenomenon in many situations it varies from one person to another. In children, there is a difficulty in evaluation pain due to various degrees of cognitivedevelopment,understandingthequestions, response to pain, fear, and anxiety. Individual degree of pain is the standard method to evaluate the pain during any procedure.<sup>[7,8]</sup>

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Preservation of pulpal involved primary teeth to maintain the arch circumference is an ideal space maintainer.<sup>[9-11]</sup> When the coronal and radicular pulp is involved, then it is indicated for pulpectomy procedures.<sup>[12-14]</sup> Moreover, in nonvital teeth to maintain it until the exfoliation stage can be done only with pulpectomy procedure where the infected radicular pulp is removed followed by biomechanical preparation and the canal is obturated with resorbable material. There is much available literature to prove the higher success rates in pulpectomy procedures.<sup>[15,16]</sup> Another limitation of this procedure is that it can, in some situations, cause severe amounts of pain and leads to dissatisfaction among the patients. The number of the visit also influences the patient's acceptance of the treatment. There is no clear picture of whether the results will vary based on the number of visits, it has not been evaluated in the literature.[17,18]

The research team in our university have translate many ground-breaking studies which are published in high-ended journals.<sup>[19-38]</sup> Therefore, the aim of this study was to compare the level of posttreatment pain between male and female patients following single-visit pulpectomy.

## METHODOLOGY

The methodology was done as a retrospective, single-centered study. Approval for the project was obtained from the Saveetha Dental College Institutional Ethical Committee (Ethical clearance approval number. SDC/SIHEC/2020/DIASDATA/0619-0320). We reviewed case sheets of the data of children who had undergone single-visit pulpectomy. Incomplete data were excluded from the study. Age and gender were collected. These data were cross-verified with photographs and radiographs.

Descriptive statistics (percentage, mean, and standard deviation) and inferential tests (Chi-square test) were done appropriately.

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Figure 1 represents the association between age and postoperative pain following single-visit pulpectomy with stainless steel crown. X-axis represents age (<3, 4–8, and 8–13). Y-axis represents the presence of pain (orange-no and violet-yes).

Figure 2 represents the association between teeth and postoperative pain following a single-visit pulpectomy with stainless steel crown. X-axis represents age (mandible and maxillla). Y-axis represents the presence of pain (Orange-no and violet-yes). Chi-square analysis was performed, and P value was < 0.01.

Figure 3 represents the relationship between the genders and postoperative pain following a single-visit pulpectomy with stainless steel crown. X-axis represents gender (female and male). Y-axis represents the presence of pain (orange-no and violet-yes).

Previous studies conducted by Ashkenazi *et al.* indicated that more than 38% of patients in the group suffer from some form of posttreatment pain.<sup>[39]</sup> Children tend to have some degree of pain following pulpectomy procedures, the degree varies with the amount of preoperative infection. Children with nonvital teeth with abscess showed more prevalence of pain following pulpectomy and stainless steel crowns compared to vital teeth pulpectomy.<sup>[40,41]</sup> Degree of pain is more when it is a class 2 cavity involving pulp



Figure 1: Relationship between the genders and postoperative



Figure 2: Association between teeth and postoperative pain



Figure 3: Relationship when compared with gender

compared to the class 1 cavity.<sup>[42,43]</sup> Ashley *et al.* revealed that T type of treatment and postoperative pain correlates a significant relationship.<sup>[44]</sup> The results from the previous literature indicate that the degree of pain is high in the 1<sup>st</sup> 6 h postoperatively

The condition of the tooth preoperatively is an indication for the extent of pain postoperatively. There are various research in the literature to prove the degree varies among different children. Spontaneous pain and intensity of pain preoperatively can influence the degree after the procedure is completed.<sup>[45-47]</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Children experienced a lower degree of pain in multi-visit pulpectomy procedures compared to single-visit procedures in the first 3 days of appointment. Placement of stainless steel crown does not imply a high degree of pain compared to without crown placement.

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#### **Conflicts of interest**

There are no conflicts of interest.

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