

Caries Susceptibility of Endodontically versus Non-endodontically Treated Teeth

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Aim

To assess the difference in caries susceptibility between RCT and non-RCT teeth.

Materials & Methods

- 20 patients with 2 endodontically treated teeth.
- Teeth were examined regarding cariogenic microflora of proximal plaque, in situ plaque, resting pH levels and de novo plaque formation.
- Recurrent caries and the quality of the coronal fillings/ crowns of these teeth were also evaluated.
- RCT teeth were compared with contralateral, non-RCT teeth.

Results

- Irrespective to the type of restoration, Streptococcus mutans count, de novo plaque formation, and recurrent caries were higher on the surface of RCT teeth compared with Non- RCT
- the initial (resting) pH in plaque was significantly lower in RCT teeth .

Conclusion

- RCT increases the susceptibility to caries as a result of either alteration in their biological environment or inadequacy of the marginal fit of the dental restoration.
- Clinicians should be aware of this risk.

Authors

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Reference: Caries susceptibility of endodontically versus nonendodontically treated teeth.Merdad K, Sonbul H, Bukhary S, Reit C, Birkhed D.J Endod. 2011 Feb;37(2):139-42. doi: 10.1016/j.joen.2010.10.006.