



COVID-19 QUICK POLL

To mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, dental practices have made several changes to their physical layouts and processes of care. We recently conducted a Quick Poll to gather insights on how network practices are adapting to the pandemic.

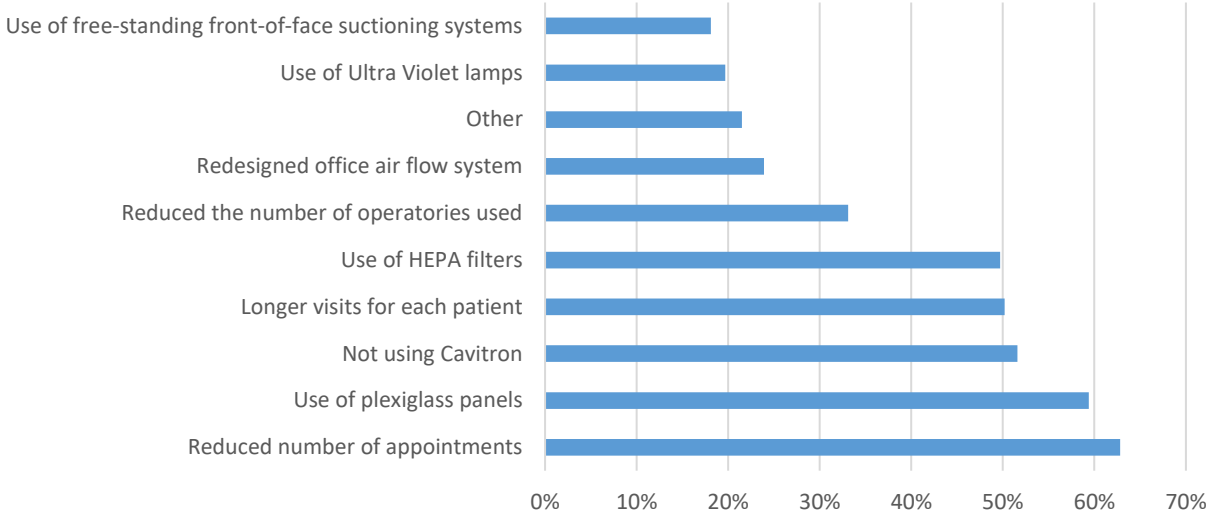
A total of 509 practitioners responded to the Quick Poll in July and August 2020. They reported having made several changes made to their dental clinics in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the frequently reported changes included: reduced number of appointments (63% of respondents), use of plexi glass panels (59%), not using cavitron (52%), longer visits for patients (50%), use of HEPA filters (50%), reduced number of operatories (33%), redesigned air flow system (24%), use of ultra violet lamps (20%), and use of free-standing front-of-face suctioning systems (18%).

With regards to concerns on maintaining a regular supply of PPE to provide an acceptable level of safety to providers and patients, 14% of responders were extremely concerned, 23% were moderately concerned, 31% were somewhat concerned, 25% were slightly concerned and 7% were not at all concerned.

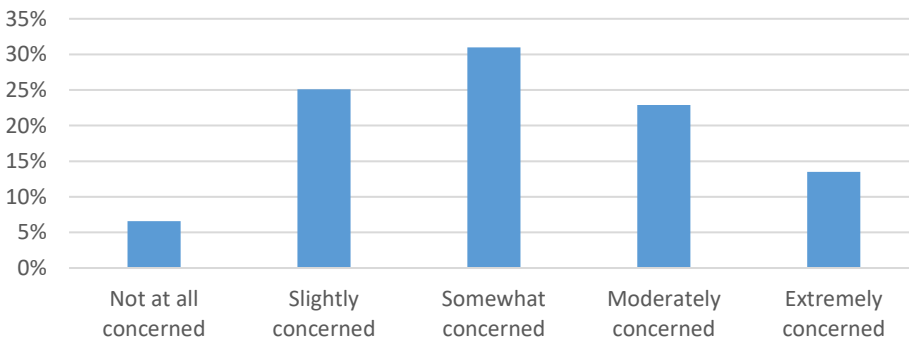
Practitioners reported using multiple sources for gathering information to guide them on COVID-19 mitigation strategies. The commonly used sources included: American Dental Association (89%), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (82%), state dental associations (69%), state and local health departments (51%), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (45%), state licensing board (43%), published research (24%), dental specialty associations (20%), World Health Organization (15%), Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 tracking website (15%), and American Dental Hygiene Association (12%).

6% of respondents reported that “none” of their patients expressed apprehension about visiting the dental clinic after they were re-opened for elective dental care, 63% reported that “1% to 24%” of patients were apprehensive, 22% reported “25% to 49%”, 7% reported “50% to 74%”, and 1% reported that “75% or more” of their patients were apprehensive.

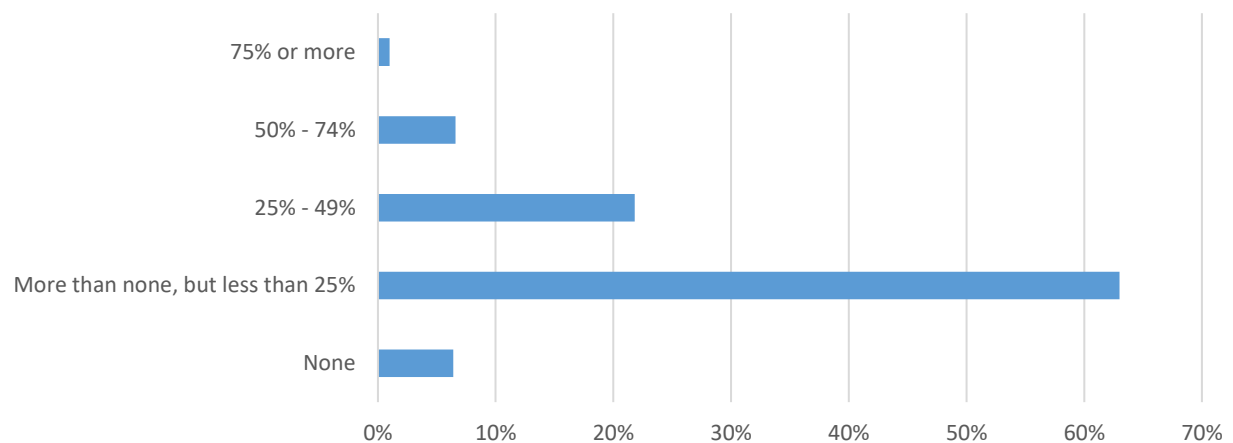
Which of the following changes have you made to your clinic since going back to providing elective dental care?



As of today, how concerned are you that you can maintain the necessary supply of PPE to provide an acceptable level of safety to you, your staff, and your patients?



Including patients in your practice's family of patients who are not scheduling visits because of their apprehension, approximately what percentage of your patients have expressed apprehension to you or your staff about visiting your office, after you re-



References:

Cases in the U.S. In., June 11, 2020 edn. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html>: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2020.

Meng L, Hua F, Bian Z. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Emerging and Future Challenges for Dental and Oral Medicine. *J Dent Res.* 2020 May;99(5):481-487. doi: 10.1177/0022034520914246. Epub 2020 Mar 12.

Bescos R, Casas-Agustench P, Belfield L, Brookes Z, Gabaldón T. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Emerging and Future Challenges for Dental and Oral Medicine. *J Dent Res.* 2020 Aug;99(9):1113. doi: 10.1177/0022034520932149. Epub 2020 May 28.