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The effect of fiber reinforced composite versus band and loop space maintainers on oral lactobacillus acidophilus and streptococcus mutans in saliva

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Background: The study of the level of streptococcus mutans in saliva is one of the most common methods for identifying subjects at risk of dental caries

Aim: The originality of the present study was to evaluate caries risk factors with salivary microbial parameters in a population of children with two types of fixed space maintainers.

Design: The study sample was divided equally into two groups; group A: twelve child received fiber reinforced composite space maintainer group B: twelve child received band and loop space maintainers. The samples were collected before the insertion of the space maintainer and 2 weeks after its insertion. Results: There was no statistically significant difference between (Comp/Lacto) ($0.015 \times 10^6 \pm 0.09 \times 10^6$) and (Band & Loop /Lacto) ($0.009 \times 10^6 \pm 0.08 \times 10^6$) where ($p=0.6$). There was no statistically significant difference between (Comp / Strept) ($0.24 \times 10^6 \pm 0.05 \times 10^6$) and (Band & Loop Strept) ($0.06 \times 10^6 \pm 0.01 \times 10^6$) where ($p=0.18$)

Conclusions: Both Fiber reinforced composite space maintainer and band and loop space maintainers increase bacterial count insignificantly.

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