



# COVID-19 knowledge and adherence of dentists to health authority protection guidelines during a pandemic



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**Objective.** This study aimed to assess the degree of dentist adherence to these recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic

**Background.** A large percentage of medical personnel including dentists, acquired COVID-19 while treating patients. Worldwide health regulatory authorities have devised and distributed guidelines and information for dental staff, to prevent transmission of the virus.

**Methods.** An online questionnaire was distributed via social media among dental practitioners in Israel who worked during the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Results** The survey was completed by 144 dentists; it was found that dentist adherence to all of the recommendations was 69.83%. Many dentists (46.78%) reported on use of extra protection which were not required, with 36.8% using N95 face masks. knowledge of COVID-19 was rated as “very good” by 37.1% of responders. However, only 25.5% felt “highly protected” by personal protective equipment.

**Conclusions.** Stricter regimens should be applied for dealing with this challenging virus. Specific strategies should be followed to ensure good practice in order to improve the safety of dentists and patients.

