

Review of: "Relationship between In Vitro Physical Properties and In Situ Biofilm Formation of Fissure Sealants"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The study is very interesting for the pediatric dentistry area, and the publication of the paper will be very important for the scientific community. So, some questions were raised concerning the methodology, and suggestions will be followed below:

- Were the third molar samples submitted to any decontamination process before being used for mouth devices?
- In the statistical analysis, the description is very general and needs more details to understand the steps of the
 analysis. The suggestion is to describe separately the tests used in *in vitro* and *in situ* evaluations.
- The quantitative data did not show normal distribution. The suggestion is to put some commentary about the results or discussion, mainly concerning physical and mechanical tests.
- For correlation data, graphics could be used rather than tables to show the results.
- In the discussion, this part could be reviewed:

"Limitations of this in vitro study obviously included excluding numerous other surface parameters like ion contents, surface topography, surface free energy, etc.; we also did not conduct thermocycling, wearing, degrading, or aging of the materials, which will influence the surface characteristics. Each parameter would add more time and energy to the study."

The suggestion is to justify the choice of tests performed and show the importance of these as the first evaluation of materials. Other complex tests are important and could be accomplished in future studies.

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