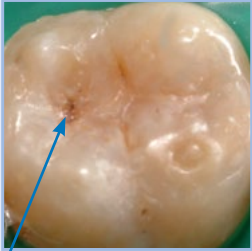


Evidence-based clinical practice guideline for the use of pit-and-fissure sealants: A Report of the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry



Non-cavitated lesion



Applied sealant

The guideline panel suggests that clinicians take into account the likelihood of experiencing lack of retention when choosing the type of sealant material most appropriate for a specific patient and clinical scenario.

GRADE Quality of Evidence

High

We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect.

Moderate

We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect.

Low

Our confidence in the effect estimate is limited.

Very Low

We have very little confidence in the effect estimate.

GRADE Interpretation of Strength of Recommendations

Implications	Strong Recommendations	Conditional Recommendations
For Patients	Most individuals in this situation would want the recommended course of action and only a small proportion would not.	The majority of individuals in this situation would want the suggested course of action, but many would not.
For Clinicians	Most individuals should receive the intervention.	Recognize that different choices will be appropriate for individual patients and that you must help each patient arrive at a management decision consistent with his or her values and preferences.
For Policy Makers	The recommendation can be adapted as policy in most situations.	Policymaking will require substantial debate and involvement of various stakeholders.


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Summary of Clinical Recommendations on the Use of Pit-and-fissure Sealants in the Occlusal Surfaces of Primary and Permanent Molars in Children and Adolescents

Recommendation	Quality of the Evidence	Strength of Recommendation
The sealant guideline panel recommends the use of sealants compared to non-use in permanent molars with both sound occlusal surfaces and non-cavitated occlusal caries lesions in children and adolescents.	Moderate	Strong
The sealant guideline panel suggests the use of sealants compared to fluoride varnishes in permanent molars with both occlusal sound surfaces and non-cavitated occlusal caries lesions in children and adolescents.	Low	Conditional
The panel was unable to determine superiority of one type of sealant over another due to the very low quality of evidence for comparative studies. The panel recommends that any of the materials evaluated (e.g. resin-based sealants, resin-modified glass ionomer sealants, glass ionomer cements, and polyacid-modified resin sealants in no particular order) can be used for application in permanent molars with both occlusal sound surfaces and non-cavitated occlusal caries lesions in children and adolescents.	Very Low	Conditional

If 100 Children Do Not Receive Sealants



 50 children will have caries


 50 children will not have caries


76%
REDUCTION
IN CARIES

If 100 Children Do Receive Sealants



 12 children will have caries

 38 children will be caries free due to sealant application

 50 children will not have caries