

Exploring Hall Technique with a Special Emphasis on Graduate Education

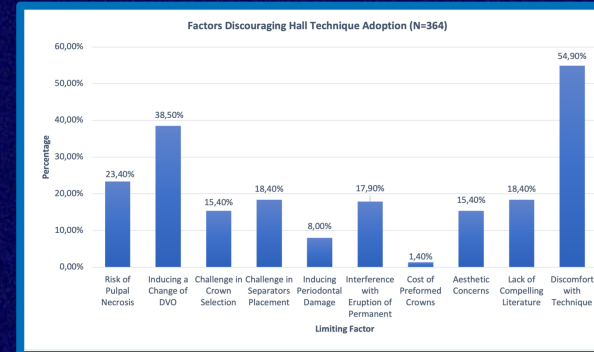
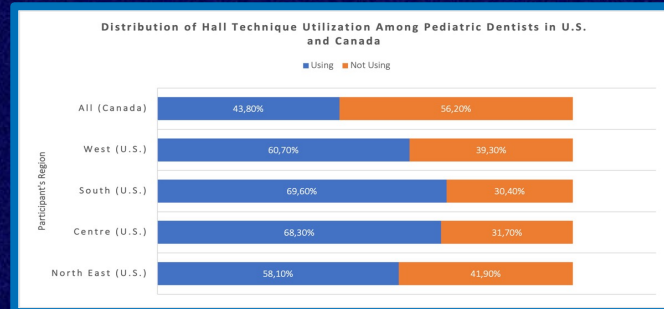
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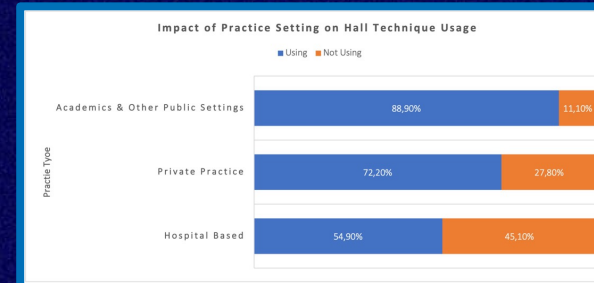
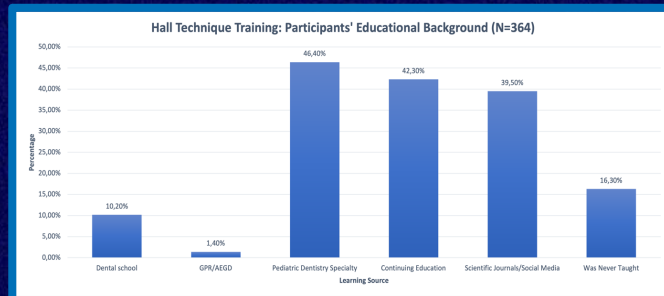
Introduction: Pediatric dentistry increasingly favors minimally invasive approaches, discouraging extensive treatments such as complete caries removal. The COVID-19 pandemic hastened this shift, highlighting relevance of procedures like the Hall technique (HT) for managing carious lesions in primary dentition while addressing challenges such as patient cooperation and restricted access to operating rooms. Despite being recognized for its 98% efficacy, this technique continues to encounter limited adoption among pediatric dentists.

Purpose: To assess the integration and teaching methods of the HT in graduate pediatric dentistry programs, evaluate its utilization, comprehension, and perception among American and Canadian specialists, and explore obstacles to its adoption.

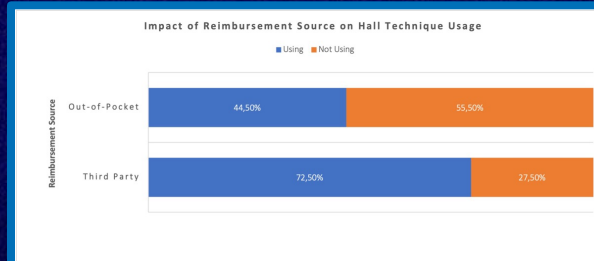
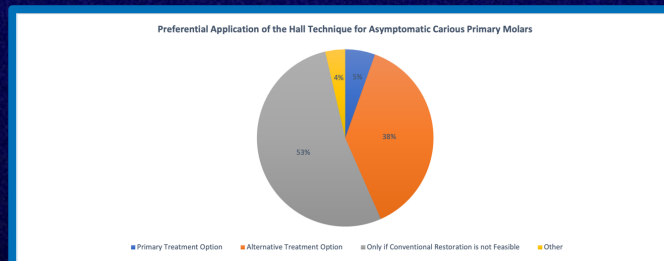
Methods: Pediatric dentists in Canada and U.S. were surveyed via the AAPD mailing list, featuring a dedicated section for program directors. Using the LimeSurvey platform, a questionnaire of 32 potential inquiries was electronically available in early September (U.S.) and early October (Canada) of 2023, with reminders issued 4-6 weeks later.



Results: Of 364 participants, statistical analysis indicated significant differences in HT use according to practice regions ($p=0.009$), settings ($p<0.001$), age ($p<0.001$), years of experience ($p<0.001$), reimbursement sources ($p=0.003$), and education exposure ($p<0.001$). This offers a comprehensive understanding of the nuanced landscape surrounding the HT among pediatric dentists in Canada and the U.S.



Conclusion: This investigation reveals a growing acceptance of the HT, despite persistent challenges faced by pediatric dentists in Canada and the U.S. These findings provide actionable insights for improving the adoption of the HT in contemporary pediatric dentistry practices, aligning with today's emphasis on minimally invasive approaches.



What Next? In-depth exploration of education-practice nexus so we can guide future generations of professionals towards more effective and tailored methods aligned with the realities of pediatric dental health.

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