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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-50395

Date: 23/02/25

Title: Effectiveness of Newer Distraction Technique on Gagging Reflex on taking Alginate Impression in Paediatric Patients: A Randomised Control Study

Recommendation:

- Accept as it isYes.....
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	•			
Techn. Quality	•			
Clarity	•			
Significance	•			

Reviewer Name: Dr. Sireesha Kuruganti

Date: 23/02/25

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

The manuscript is well-written and contributes valuable insights into the management of gag reflex and anxiety in pediatric dentistry. The use of distraction techniques, particularly the liquid motion hourglass, presents a novel and effective approach to improving patient outcomes during dental procedures.....

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Detailed Reviewer's Report

Abstract and Introduction (Lines 1-26, 27-85)

The manuscript provides a concise and well-structured abstract, clearly stating the background, aim, methods, results, and conclusion. The introduction is comprehensive, giving an appropriate context about

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the prevalence of gagging reflex in children during dental procedures and the necessity for effective behavior management techniques.

Suggestions:

- The abstract could mention the specific statistical methods used for better clarity (e.g., paired t-test, chi-square test).
- The introduction could benefit from a brief mention of the novelty of using hourglasses as distraction techniques, highlighting its unique contribution to the field.

Study Design and Methodology (Lines 86-152)

The study design is robust, employing a single-blind, randomized controlled trial with three parallel groups. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are well-defined, ensuring a clear and targeted participant group. The methodology is meticulously detailed, describing the process of impression taking and the use of hourglasses.

Suggestions:

- It would be helpful to include the rationale behind choosing liquid motion and sand-based hourglasses as distraction tools (Lines 57-60).
- Consider providing more detail on the calibration and validation of the Gagging-related Impression Success Scale (GISS) and Gagging Severity Index (GSI) (Lines 115-125).

Statistical Analysis (Lines 152-175)

The statistical methods used are appropriate for the study design. SPSS 21 was used for data analysis, and the threshold for statistical significance was set at $P < 0.05$. The results are presented with means, standard deviations, t-values, and p-values for heart rate, oxygen saturation, gagging-related impression success scale, and gagging severity.

Suggestions:

- It might be beneficial to include a brief explanation of why certain statistical tests were chosen over others (Lines 145-151).
- Consider discussing any potential limitations of the statistical analysis used.

Results (Lines 153-185)

The results are clearly presented, indicating that the liquid motion hourglass group (Group 1) had the highest success in reducing the gag reflex and anxiety. The tables and graphs provide a clear visualization of the data, supporting the textual descriptions.

Suggestions:

- Include more detailed interpretations of the statistical results, particularly focusing on the clinical relevance of the findings (Lines 158-175).
- Discuss any potential confounding factors that might have influenced the results.

Discussion (Lines 193-252)

The discussion effectively interprets the results, emphasizing the effectiveness of the hourglass distraction technique in reducing anxiety and gag reflex in pediatric patients. The authors compare their findings with previous studies, providing a strong context for their conclusions.

Suggestions:

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- A more in-depth exploration of the mechanisms behind the effectiveness of the hourglass as a distraction tool would be valuable (Lines 223-247).
- Consider discussing the potential applications and limitations of this technique in a broader clinical context (Lines 248-252).

Conclusion (Lines 253-260)

The conclusion is succinct and reinforces the study's main findings, recommending the use of liquid motion hourglasses as an effective behavior management technique for pediatric dental patients.

Suggestions:

- Mention any future research directions or potential improvements to the study design that could be explored (Lines 256-257).