

Diagnosis of proximal dental caries using the DIAGNOdent pen

Ye-Mi Kim*, Byoung Duck Roh

Department of Conservative Dentistry, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea

I. Introduction

Visual inspection, detection with an explorer, radiographic examination and electrical conductance measurement have been used for diagnosing caries in clinical situations. However, because it is difficult to diagnose early caries objectively using these methods, the reproducibility of these evaluations for the same examiner or between examiners has been low. Recently, a laser fluorescence device, the DIAGNOdent (DIAGNOdent; KaVo, Biberach, Germany) has been developed for more objective caries diagnosis. Yet, this device has limited value for approximal surfaces. The DIAGNOdent pen is a new generation of the laser fluorescence device which allows fluorescence on the apporximal surfaces of teeth to be captured due to the different architecture of new tips.

This presentation aims to discuss the potential use of a laser fluorescence device, DIAGNOdent pen for proximal caries detection.

II. Case Presentation

- 1. Sex/age: F/60
- 2. Chief Complaint (C.C): For restorative tx. of #11,21
- 3. Past Dental History (PDH): N-S
- 4. Present Illness (P.I): Proximal dental caries suspected on #11,21
- 5. Impression: Proximal dental caries on #11,21
- 6. Tx Plan: Resin filling on #11,21

III. Conclusion

Careful approach is needed to diagnose and manage dental caries. A DIAGNOdent pen could be a useful aid to make an objective and reproducible diagnosis of proximal dental caries.