Hall Technique for Placement of Preformed Metal Crowns on Primary Molars: Foundational Articles and Consensus Recommendations, 2021


The Hall technique for placement of preformed metal crowns involves cementing the crown over a caries-affected primary molar without local anaesthetic, caries removal, or tooth preparation. It is a less invasive caries management procedure for treating carious primary teeth, based on the concept of that caries under the crown arrest due to the sealing of the caries from the oral cavity. The Hall crown technique for placement of preformed metal crowns originally gained popularity in the United Kingdom primarily for its use by general dentists.

1. The Hall technique may be indicated for: (a) fearful or anxious children where behaviour guidance is unsuccessful; (b) primary teeth with deep or multi-surface caries without pulp involvement; and (c) treatment where equipment for conventional procedures are not available.

2. The Hall technique may be contraindicated for: (a) teeth that show signs or symptoms of pulp involvement; (b) teeth that are considered non-restorable; and (c) when restoration is needed for crowns next to each other, especially where there has been space loss due to interproximal caries.

3. Disadvantages of the Hall technique may include the need for a prior visit to place separators, temporary opening of the bite after placement, less well adaption of the crown to the gingival margin, aesthetics and pain during placement.

4. Advantages of the Hall technique include comparable success to conventional preformed metal crowns, and high acceptability by children and parents. Additionally, the Hall technique may be more cost effective than conventionally placed preformed metal crowns.

5. Conventional preparation of teeth for restoration with preformed metal crowns, in some instances, may be the preferred method to treat primary teeth with multi-surface lesions to ensure proper fit, better occlusion and crown alignment.