



Taking a Risk to Home from Dental Offices with Contaminated Clothes and Hair in Libya

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INTRODUCTION

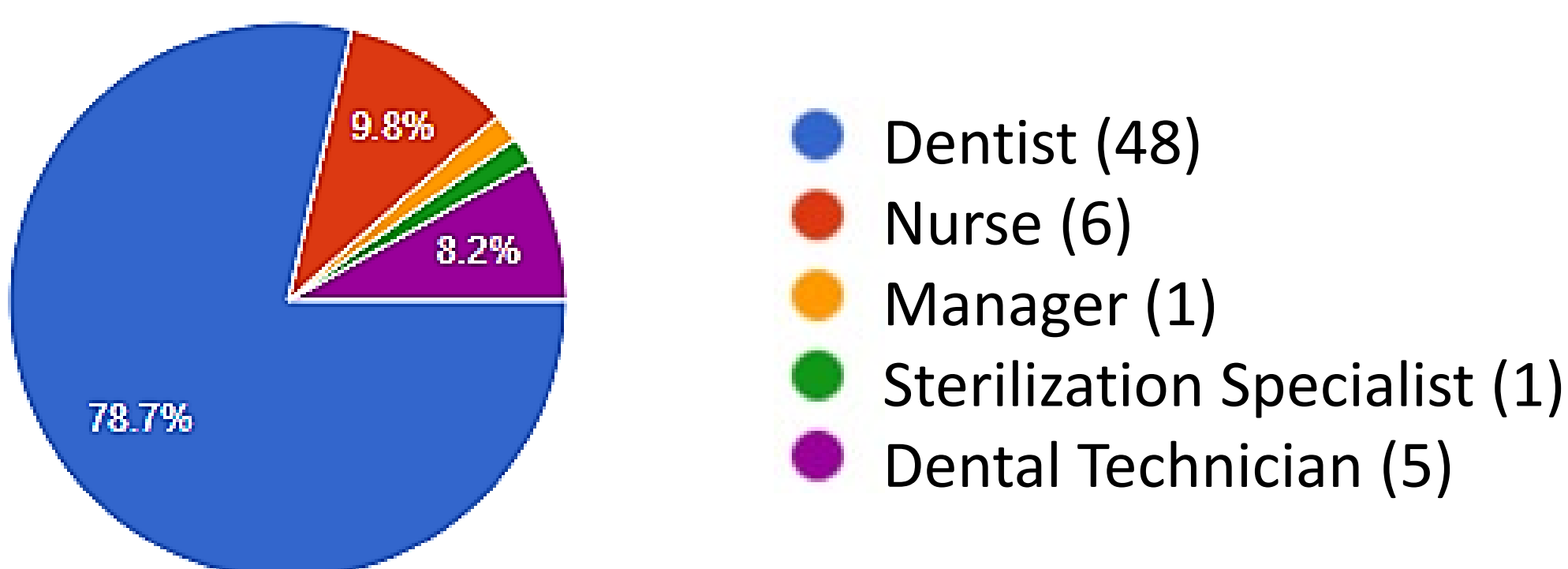
In the dental office, the possibility of pathogen transmission from patients to staff and vice versa is the chief concern. The causes of infectious microorganisms include contaminated saliva and blood, improperly sterilized instruments, inadequately disinfection of the equipment, and airborne transmission. Most dental staff are aware of infection control in their dental clinics. Though, some are negligent of the number of bacteria that are transmitted to their scrubs, and hair during their working in the clinic.

This bacteria could be a source of cross-contamination to the environment since much dental staff wear their scrubs and launder them at home. The purpose of this survey was to determine the knowledge of the dental staff on the amount and potential types of bacteria that they are unintentionally carrying home with them after a day in the clinic to prevent cross-contamination to the environment.

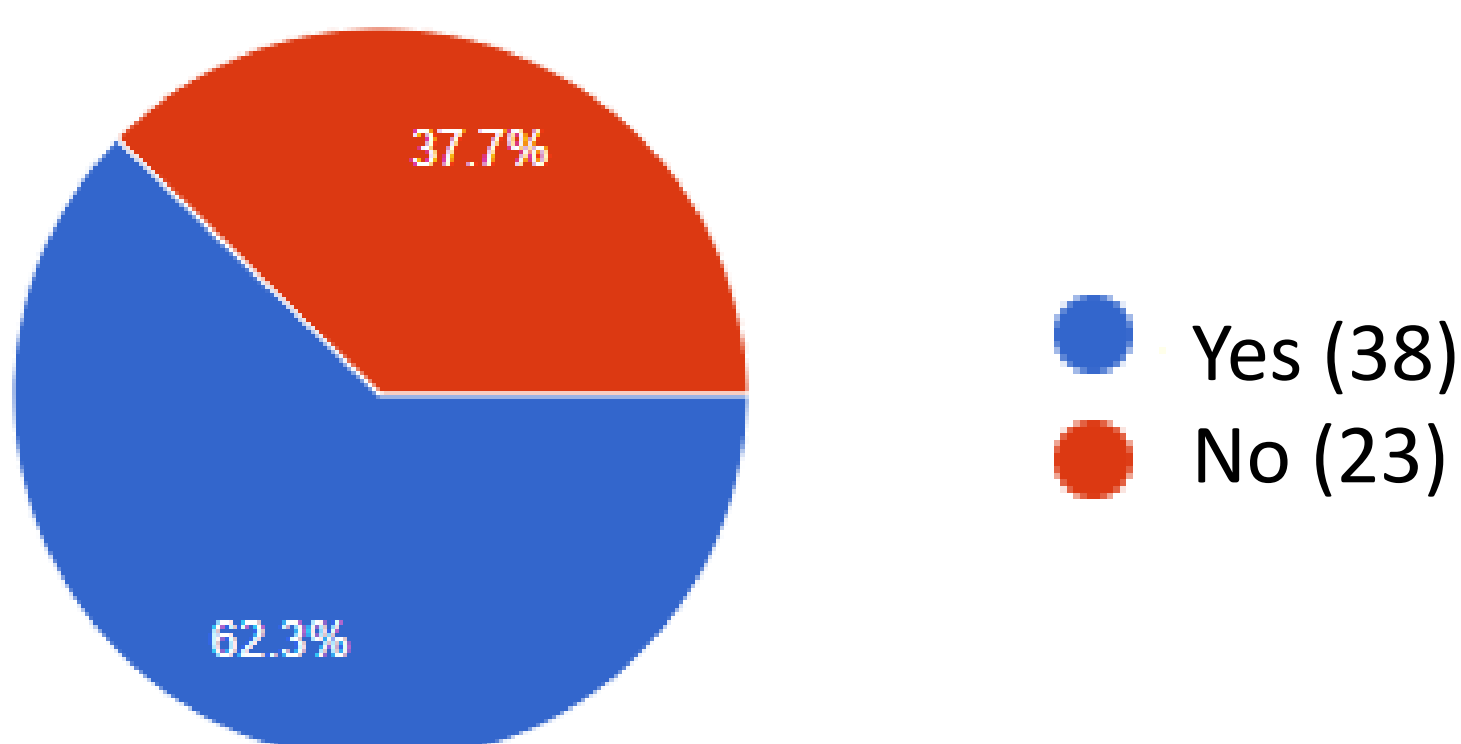
METHODS & MATERIAL

This study continuous to previous studies to determine the awareness and knowledge of dental staff regarding pathogen transmission in the dental office. E- Questionnaire was designed and distributed among a range of dental specialists including dentists, nurses, dental technicians, managers, and sterilization specialists across dental clinics in different cities in Libya to obtain information about the way that dental staff deal with contaminated clothes and hair at their homes. In addition, The knowledge about infection control that used to prevent cross-infection. 61 responses were received from different dental specialists. Questionnaire data were entered into a computer and analyzed by statistical software (SPSS).

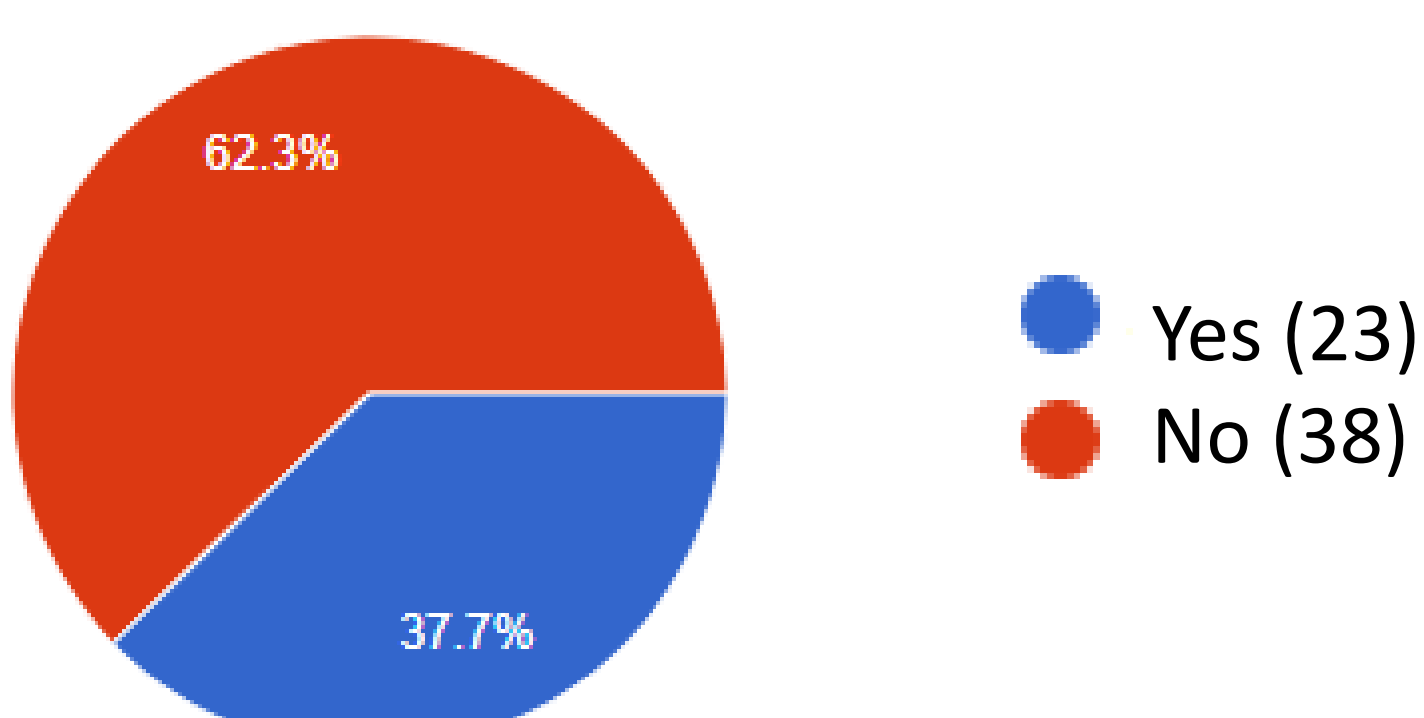
RESULTS



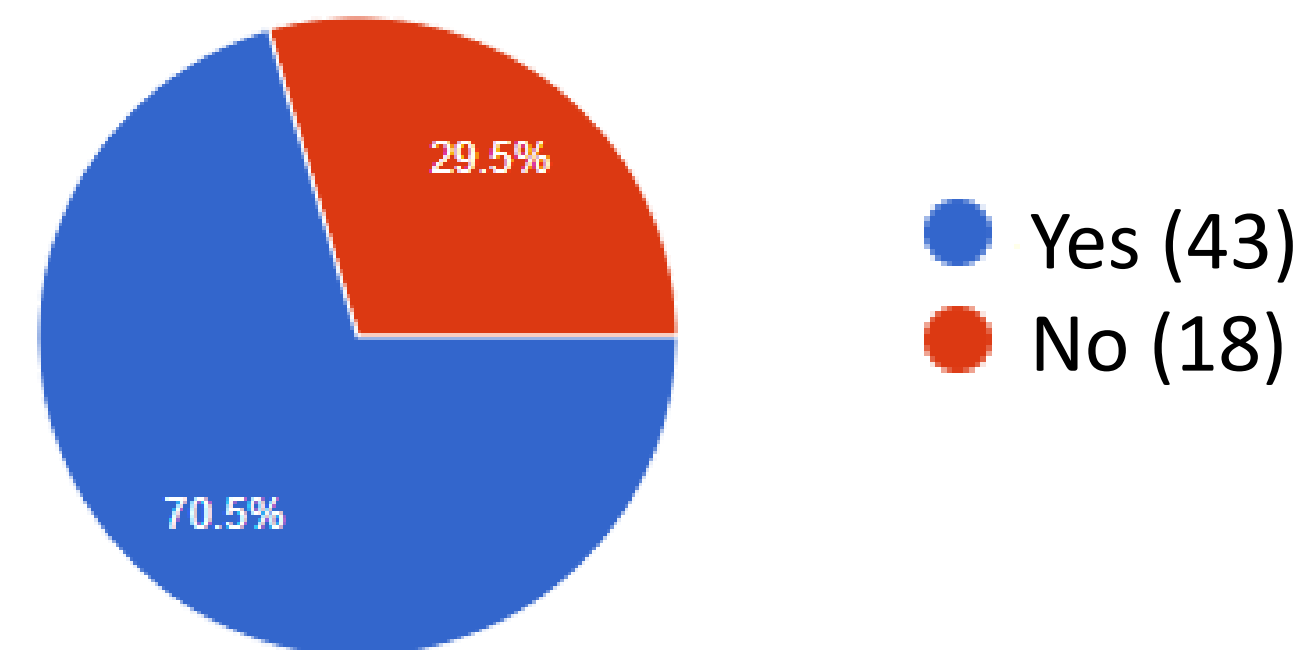
➤ Are you provided with gowns, hair coverings and face shields to wear at the clinic to avoid contamination of clothes, hair and face during scattering blood and saliva as a result of therapeutic operations?



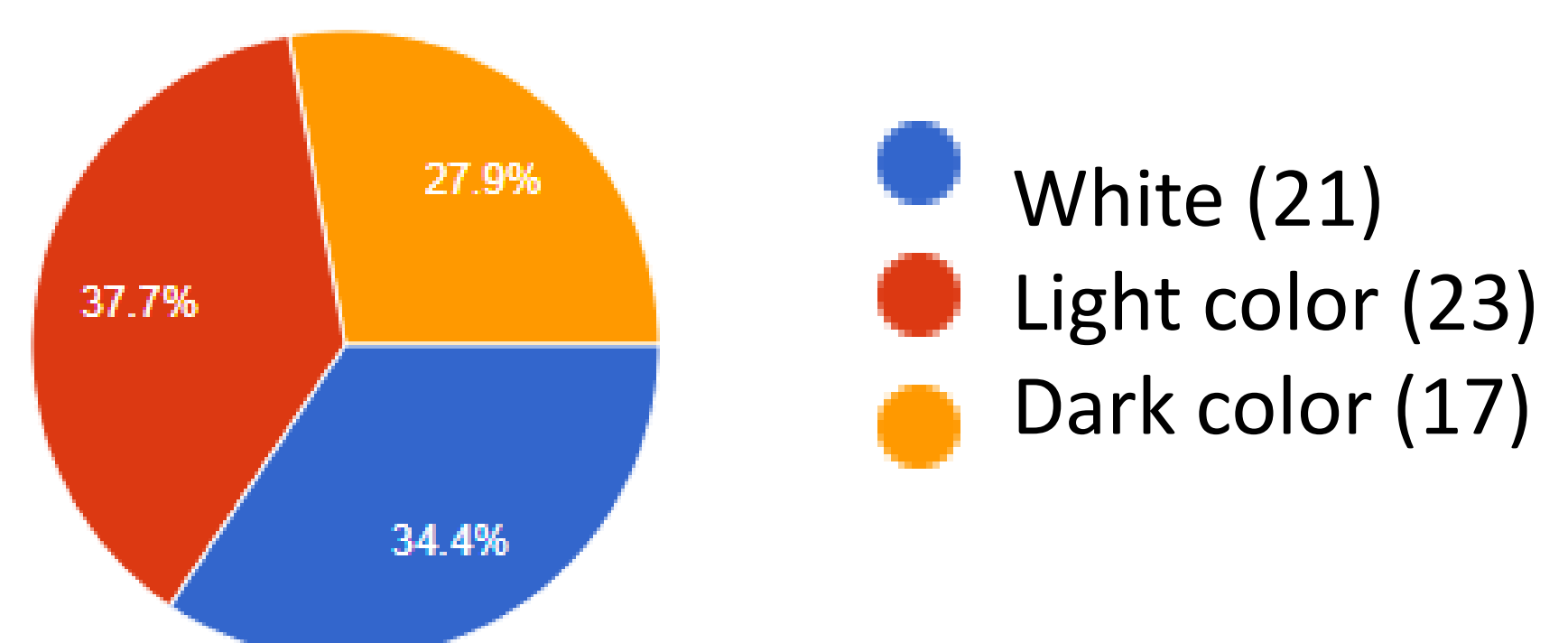
➤ Is there a changing room in the clinic ?



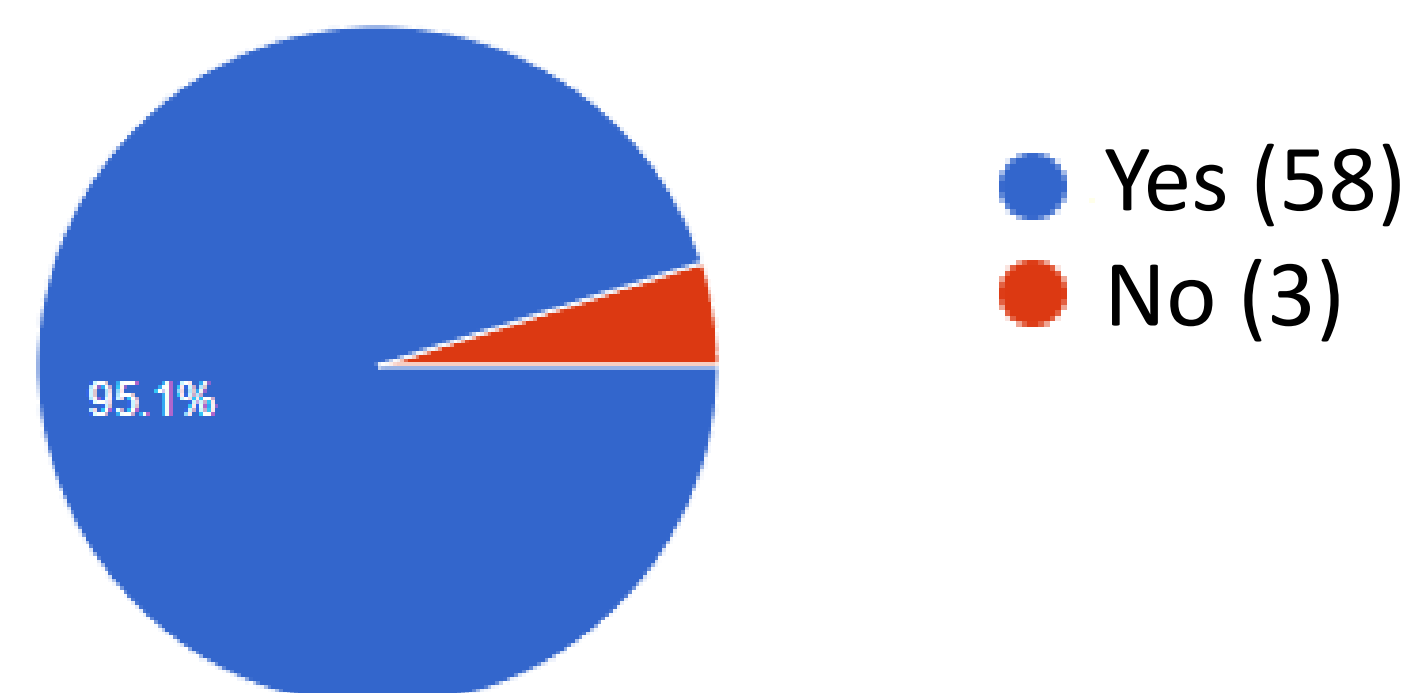
➤ Are the clothes you wear while working the same ones you return back home?



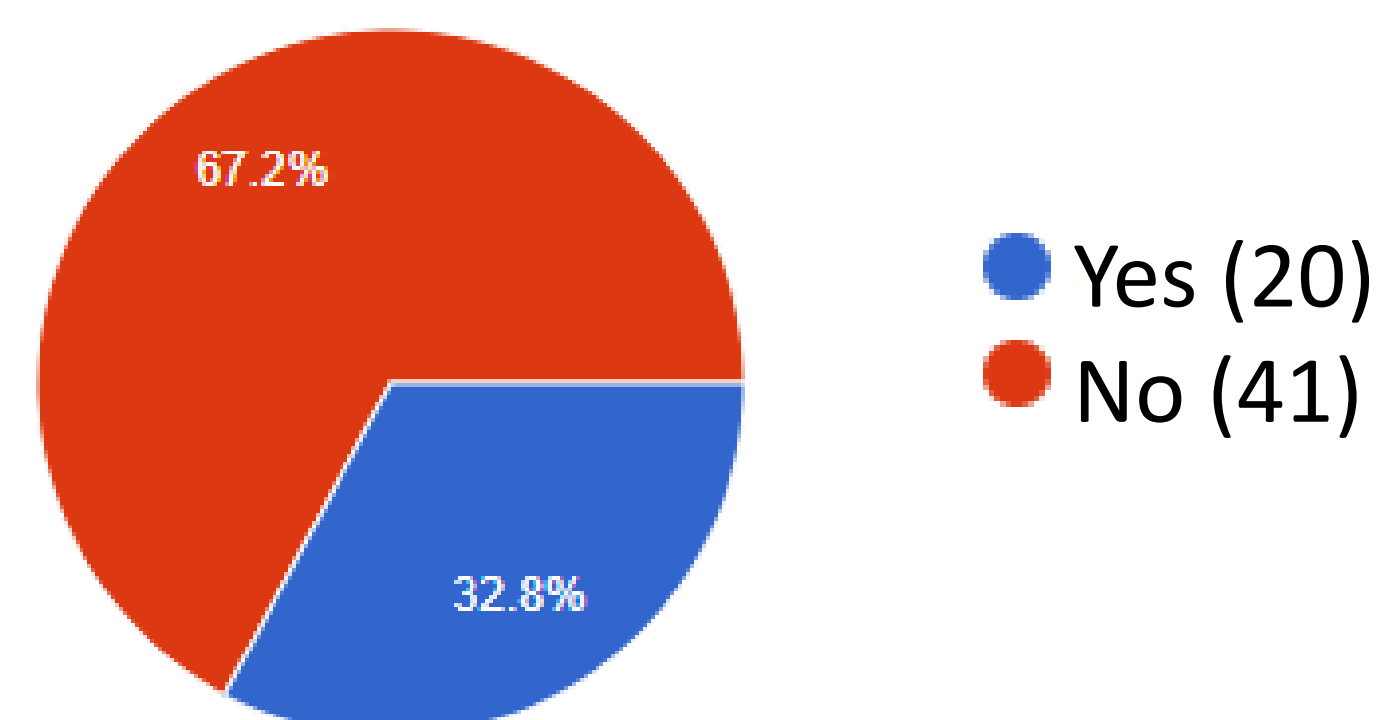
➤ Are your clothes that you wear while working?



➤ Do you think that dark color obscures the vision of blood stains scattered on clothes during therapeutic operations?



➤ For the dentists and dental assistants of women who wear scarf, do you wear a work-specific scarf?



CONCLUSION

The suggestion is by highlighting the clothing and hair contamination issue and helping prevent cross-contamination to the environment. Many data indicate that healthcare workers' uniforms are a potential reservoir of microorganisms. This study recommends the importance of using dental facility laundry services at one's dental facility to prevent taking a risk to home from dental offices with contaminated clothes and hair.

REFERENCES

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