## INTENTIONAL USE OF PIT AND FISSURE SEALANTS OVER CARIOUS LESIONS AMONG FACULTY MEMBERS OF THREE DENTAL FACULTIES IN EGYPT

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## INTRODUCTION

The successful use of pit and fissure sealants in the prevention of occlusal caries has been well-documented<sup>1</sup>-<sup>4</sup>. Sealants are safe cost-effective and easy to apply<sup>5</sup>,<sup>6</sup>. Nevertheless, the incorporation of appropriate and routine use of sealants in dental practice has been slow, and until recently has not gained wide acceptance by practicing dentists. Dentists have given several reasons for being reluctant to use sealants: the high failure rate, the fear of sealing on existing lesion and the low cost-effectiveness of sealants<sup>1</sup>-<sup>7</sup>. In 1974 study, only 38% of general

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