



Fund “Nauka” Project № 23007 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2023:
“Knowledge, attitudes and practices related to cross-infection control in dental laboratories”

Project leader: Prof. Klara Georgieva Dokova, MD, PhD

Cross-infection control is a recognized priority by all involved in oral healthcare due to the risk of infection to which both patients and the dental team are exposed during treatment.

The knowledge, attitudes and practices of dental technicians related to cross-infection control in the dental laboratories are determinants of good practice and patient and dental professional safety.

Targeted studies such as the one included in the present project are needed to establish the level of knowledge, attitudes and practices of cross-infection control in the dental laboratories.

Aim: To explore and analyze the knowledge, attitudes and practices related to cross-infection prevention and control in the dental laboratories.

Material and methods:

The following studies are planned:

1. Historical documentary analysis of international policies and recommendations for cross-infection prevention and control in the dental laboratories;
2. Historical review of the development of the regulatory framework related to the prevention and control of infections in dental laboratories in Bulgaria;
3. A survey of dental technicians’ knowledge, attitudes and practices related to cross-infection prevention and control;
4. A survey of dentists’ practices related to the disinfection processes of clinical materials, their transportation between the dental office and the dental laboratory and the communication between the two medical facilities regarding this process;
5. Focus groups with experts in dental technology, epidemiology, and public health on the implementation of cross-infection control measures in the dental laboratories and existing barriers to implementation;
6. Comparative analysis of dental technicians’ knowledge, attitudes and practices related to cross-infection control in Bulgarian dental laboratories and in international context.

Expected results:

1. An in-depth analysis of the possibilities for optimizing the regulatory framework for cross-infection control in dental laboratories in Bulgaria;
2. Results on the level of dental technicians' knowledge, attitudes, and practice and their compliance with international and national regulations related to cross-infection control in the dental laboratories;
3. Publications in scientific journals;
4. A PhD dissertation of one of the team members;
5. Recommendations to the Bulgarian Association of Dental Technicians for the development of continuing educational courses related to cross-infection control in the dental laboratories.