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**A TIME STUDY ON EFFICIENCY ENHANCEMENT IN DENTAL CARE BY
DENTAL STUDENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RESTORATIVE
DENTISTRY**

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Dental students in the Department of Restorative Dentistry, play a major role in rendering service to the public while they learn, and gain experience. With the opening of the new Dental Hospital, and the advancement of the availability of the facilities, it has been recorded that the number of patients who attended, the Faculty has increased tremendously. Amongst them a major portion of patient population has attended the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

Efficiency enhancement in dental care by the dental students is an important factor in meeting the local demands, in the faculty.

The amount of time taken to complete 21 items of treatment procedures including Amalgam, Composite and Root Canal procedures by groups of dental students were measured to draw the time SD curve.

The results show some items of higher mean values with a broader scatter (higher deviation) for treatment procedures such as Veneering 55 (6.8), Obturation 48.3 (9.7), Root Canal Access Cavity Preparation 26.77 (8.6) and Amalgam Class II Cavity Preparation 25.75 (8.0). Lower mean values with a higher deviation for treatment procedures such as Composite Cavity Preparation 20.5 (6.4), Finishing of Composite Restorations 14.0 (7.37) and Amalgam Class II Fillings 5.1 (9.7) were observed.

In conclusion this study shows that further improvements in the time management could be obtained by improving the technique itself or/and by increasing the experience (training time) of the operator.