The Resounding Effect of COVID-19 on Dental Care Utilization, Payer Type, and Prophylaxis Code Frequency

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The Why
- The initial diagnosis of COVID-19 emerged within the United States on January 20th, 2020
- Despite the installation of the SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine in early December of 2020, repercussions of the pandemic still continue to linger
- Disparities within the realm of dental medicine have persistently impacted the issue of access to care amongst underserved populations
- Since COVID-19, these disparities have only increased, thus displaying the need for investigation as to what barriers pose the biggest impact to this overarching dilemma

The Goal
- To demonstrate the pre, during, and post COVID-19 patterns of Dental Service Utilization, Payer Type and Prophylaxis Code Frequency among the underserved populations of North Carolina.

The How
- Data retrieved from AxiUm Clinical Database
- Dissected Using IBM SPSS Statistics
- Dental Utilization investigated using procedural level characteristics
- Retrospective Descriptive Epidemiologic study design was utilized

The Findings
- Payer Type across three periods: April to August of 2019, 2020, and 2021
- Procedure Type across three periods: April to August of 2019, 2020, and 2021

The Conclusion
- As a result of COVID-19, it can be observed that dental utilization as a whole was greatly affected and is still showing signs of gradual rebound as the pandemic continues to evolve in its midst.

Want to Learn More?

Acknowledgments
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Prophylaxis Code Frequency across three periods: April to August of 2019, 2020, and 2021

Frequency of Recall Visits Over Time

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Dissected Using IBM SPSS Statistics
Dental Utilization investigated using procedural level characteristics
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