

## Use of Rubber Dam Appliance in Children

Isolation with use of a rubber dam is a method utilized for dental treatment in which small holes are made in a thin rubber sheet and placed in the mouth of the patient, with the teeth then exposed through the holes. This is used in pediatric dentistry clinics at university hospitals and medical institutions specializing in pediatric dentistry throughout Japan for treatment of dental caries in children.

Use of rubber dam isolation prevents chemicals and cut fragments from entering the oral cavity during treatment, as well as saliva and bacteria from entering the operative field, thereby keeping the area clean and improving treatment accuracy. It is also expected to reduce treatment time by preventing suction of treatment instruments or aspiration, clarifying the operative field, and improving instrument operability, as well as provide protection for soft tissues from cutting instruments and chemicals. Furthermore, use of such a rubber dam has little influence on the airway and breathing during treatment, and its safety has been proven in various clinical studies.

In pediatric dentistry, use of a rubber dam is considered to be indispensable for providing safe, high-quality dental care.

