

Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of the study population

Variable name	Absolute frequency (n)		Relative frequency (%)	
a. Categorical variables				
Sex				
Male	1,491		27.77	
Female	3,878		72.22	
Age categorization				
Young adult (22-35 years)	1,341		24.97	
Adult (36-45 years)	1,488		27.71	
Mature adult (46-59 years)	2111		39.31	
Older adult (≥60 years)	430		8.01	
Geographic region				
Atlantic	580		10.80	
Eastern	878		16.35	
Bogotá D.C.	1,819		33.87	
Central	1,472		27.41	
Pacific	563		10.48	
Amazonas and Orinoquía	58		1.08	
City of residence vs. Main practice city				
Different one	834		15.53	
Same one	4536		84.47	
Dental specialties				
General dentistry	2,252		41.94	
Health administration	388		7.23	
Basic sciences	11		0.20	
Oral surgery	58		1.08	
Maxillofacial surgery	91		1.69	
Endodontics	347		6.46	
Implantology	85		1.58	
Oral medicine	22		0.41	
Forensic dentistry	10		0.19	
Pediatric dentistry	292		5.44	
Orthodontics	982		18.29	
Oral and maxillofacial pathology	8		0.15	
Periodontics	261		4.86	
Prosthodontics/Oral Rehabilitation	473		8.81	
Dental and maxillofacial radiology	8		0.15	
Public health	82		1.53	
Job performance				
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Private dentist (owner)	2,401	2,969	44.71	55.29
Private dentist (works on a percentage basis and/or leases)	1,926	3,444	35.87	64.13
Employed (in a public or private entity) clinical dentist	1,637	3,733	30.48	69.52
Dentist teaching at one or more universities	723	4,647	13.46	86.54
Dentist working in administrative areas	372	4,998	6.93	93.07
b. Continuous variables				
Variable name	Median		Min-Max	
Age	45		22-82	

Source: by the authors

Table 2. Profession-related aspects and career plans modification in the study population

Variable name	Absolute frequency (n)		Relative frequency (%)	
At the beginning of the declaration of compulsory social isolation throughout the Colombian national territory (March 25, 2020):				
Continued to work as usual	125		2.33	
Limited clinical activity to dental emergencies (in-person)	1,002		18.66	
Completely stopped clinical activity and only attended emergencies remotely (telephone/video/WhatsApp/social media)	1,377		25.64	
Stopped all clinical activity altogether	2,866		53.37	
From what point on, did you start in-person dental emergency care?				
Before the official declaration of the mandatory social isolation measure (March 25, 2020)	203		4.67	
Since the official declaration of the mandatory social isolation measure (March 25, 2020)	540		12.42	
Since Colombia's Ministry of Health and Social Protection issued guidelines for emergency care of oral health problems during the SARS-Cov2 pandemic (May 4, 2020)	782		17.99	
Since Colombia's Ministry of Health and Social Protection issued biosafety guidelines for oral health care services provision during the SARS-Cov2 pandemic (May 14, 2020)	1,235		28.41	
After these dates	1,587		36.51	
Not applicable n=1023				
If at any time you completely stopped your in-person clinical activity, since when did you do so?				
Since the first COVID-19 case in Colombia (March 6)	401		8.69	
Days before quarantine was ordered (March 25)	2348		50.92	
When quarantine started (March 25)	1,692		36.69	
After these dates	170		3.68	
Not applicable n=759				
If at any time you stopped or limited your in-person clinical activity, why did you do so?				
	Yes	No	Yes	No
The clinic or institution in which I work closed	1,385	3,723	27.11	72.89
I felt insecure or afraid of a possible contagion	1,844	3,264	36.10	63.90
I did not have enough personal protective equipment (PPE)	901	4,207	17.64	82.36
I thought the patient demand would decrease due to confinement	302	4,806	5.91	94.09
I thought it was mandatory to close	978	3,913	20.00	80.00
To comply with the guidelines of the national government in this regard	3,368	1,740	65.94	34.06
Other reasons	400	4,708	7.83	92.17
I did not stop clinical activity	230	4,878	4.50	95.50
Not applicable (no clinical activity) n=303				

<i>How has the impact of COVID-19 pandemic influenced your career plans as a dentist?</i>	Yes	No	Yes	No
Consider retiring early	1,168	3,233	21.75	78.25
Reduce working hours	3,431	970	77.96	22.04
Move from current practice location	408	3,993	9.27	90.73
Change career away from dentistry	799	3,602	18.15	81.85
Move to a non-clinical dental position	705	3,696	16.02	83.98
No impact on career plans	1,108	4,262	20.63	79.37

Source: by the authors

Table 3. Biosafety measures at the dental practice and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) during the pandemic

Variable name	Absolute frequency (n)		Relative frequency (%)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
<i>If you have been working during the pandemic, which of the following protective measures have you taken?</i>				
Telephone triage	3,348	820	88.33	19.67
Spacing appointments	3704	464	88.87	11.13
Checking the patient's state of health before giving an appointment	3,758	410	90.16	9.84
Postponing appointments for people who are elderly or have systemic pathologies	2648	1520	36.47	63.53
Taking the patient's temperature on arrival	3798	370	91.12	8.88
Disinfecting surfaces several times a day: bells, door handles, POS credit card readers, waiting room and reception	3854	314	92.47	7.53
Disinfecting all elements and surfaces in the clinical area several times a day	3897	271	93.50	6.50
Taking the temperature of all staff and excluding those with a temperature above 37.5°C	3243	925	77.81	22.19
Patients' handwashing before entering the office	3,821	347	91.67	8.33
Keeping at least 1 m of distance between patients	3,341	827	80.16	19.84
Requesting the patients to use a mask while waiting or providing them one	3,768	400	90.40	9.60
Providing patients with shoe covers	1,714	2,454	41.12	58.88
Erecting protective dividing screens	1,247	2,921	70.08	29.92
Frequent ventilation of indoor spaces or waiting rooms	2,072	2,096	49,71	50,29
Removing magazines and brochures from waiting rooms	3,477	691	83.42	16.58
Leaving coats, bags, or other patients' personal belongings outside the clinic area	2,905	1,263	69.70	30.30
Preoperative mouthwash with 1% hydrogen peroxide	2,176	3	99.86	0.14
Preoperative mouthwash with 0.12-0.2% chlorhexidine	1,464	2,704	35.12	64.88
Preoperative mouthwash with 0.2-1% iodopovidone	380	3,788	9.12	90.88
Preoperative mouthwash with 0.05&-0.10% cetylpyridinium chloride	279	3,889	6.69	93.31
Rinse with diluted mouthwash	356	3,812	8.54	91.46
Ventilating the clinical area at least 10 minutes between each patient	2,659	1,509	63.80	36.20
Disinfecting surfaces with 70% alcohol	2,928	1,24	70.25	29.75
Disinfecting surfaces with 0,5% sodium hypochlorite	2,328	1,84	55.85	44.15

Using other common clinical disinfectants	2,459	1,709	59.00	41.00
Clinician handwashing before and after each procedure	3,965	655	85.82	14.18
Removing all reusable protective elements and disinfecting all disposable ones	3,574	594	85.75	14.25
Not applicable (I do not work at a clinic or I have not worked during the pandemic) n=1,241				
<i>Which of the following elements of personal protective equipment (PPE) have you used during clinical care?</i>	Yes	No	Yes	No
Surgical mask	2,399	1,883	56.03	43.97
N95, FFP2 or FFP3 mask	3,839	443	89.65	10.35
Silicone Respirators (half face or full face)	558	3,724	13.03	86.97
Disposable scrub caps	3,764	518	87.90	12.10
Non-Disposable fluid-resistant coat	1,381	2,901	67.75	32.25
Disposable fluid-resistant coat	3,091	1,191	72.19	27.81
Sterile disposable fluid-resistant coat	1,535	2,747	35.85	64.15
Protective overall	2,309	1,973	53.92	46.08
Protective glasses or faceshield	3,391	891	79.19	20.81
Safety glasses or visor	4,122	160	96.26	3.74
Sterile disposable gloves	980	3,302	22.89	77.11
Disposable gloves	3,916	366	91.45	8.55
Rotary instruments with non-return valve	973	3,309	22.72	77.28
Rubber dam	972	3,310	22.70	77.30
Disposable shoe covers	2,540	1,742	59.32	40.68
Not applicable (I do not work at a clinic or I have not worked during the pandemic) n=1,122				

Source: by the authors

Table 4. COVID-19 tests and contagion risk perception in the study population

Variable name	Absolute frequency (n)		Relative frequency (%)	
<i>Since the emergence of COVID-19, have you experienced any of the following symptoms?</i>	Yes	No	Yes	No
Headache	663	4,707	12.35	87.65
Nasal congestion	284	5,086	5.29	94.71
Cough	236	5,134	4.39	95.61
Body aches	103	5,217	1.92	98.08
Sore throat	375	4,995	6.98	93.02
Fatigue	188	5,182	3.50	96.50
Diarrhea	139	5,231	2.59	97.41
Conjunctivitis	57	5,313	1.06	98.94
Difficulty breathing	51	5,319	0.95	99.05
Loss of smell	50	5,32	0.93	99.07
Loss of taste	46	5,324	0.86	99.14
Fever	85	5,285	1.58	98.42
Nosebleed	16	5,354	0.30	99.70
No symptoms	4,302	1,068	80.11	19.89
<i>Have you been tested for COVID-19?</i>				
Yes	458		8.53	
No	4,912		91.47	
<i>What was the result of your COVID -19 test?</i>				
Positive for COVID-19	33		0.61	
Negative for COVID-19	422		7.86	
Not applicable (I have not been tested)	4,915		91.53	
<i>Have you taken any course (with or without certification) about COVID-19?</i>				
Yes	3,498		65.14	
No	1,812		34.86	
<i>Do you consider that you have enough knowledge about COVID-19?</i>				
Yes	3,688		68.88	
No	1,671		31.12	
<i>Do you consider that COVID-19 infection is a risk for dentists?</i>				
Very likely	3,719		69.26	
Likely	1,431		26.65	
Not likely	207		3.85	
Unlikely	13		0.24	
<i>In your opinion, the COVID-19 transmission risk during dental practice is:</i>				
Higher than going to the supermarket	3,167		58.98	
Comparable to going to the supermarket	732		13.63	
Lower than going to the supermarket	1,471		27.39	
<i>How confident are you that you will not get COVID-19 during your clinical activity?</i>				
Completely confident	493		9.18	
Confident enough	2,961		55.14	
Not very confident	1,603		29.85	
Unconfident	313		5.83	

Source: By authors