

# Isolation and pretreatment considerations



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**Dr. Ahmad El-Ma'aïta**

*BDS, MSc, PhD, MEndo RCS-Ed*

## **Outline:**

### **Isolation methods**

#### **The rubber dam**

- **Advantages**
- **Components**
- **Placement techniques**

#### **Pre-treatment considerations**

## Methods of isolation:

- i- absorption - cotton rolls, gauze, retraction cord, etc
- ii- evacuation - saliva ejectors, high volume suction, etc
- iii- barrier - rubber dam and associated retainers and retractors
- iv- combinations of the above



## The rubber dam:



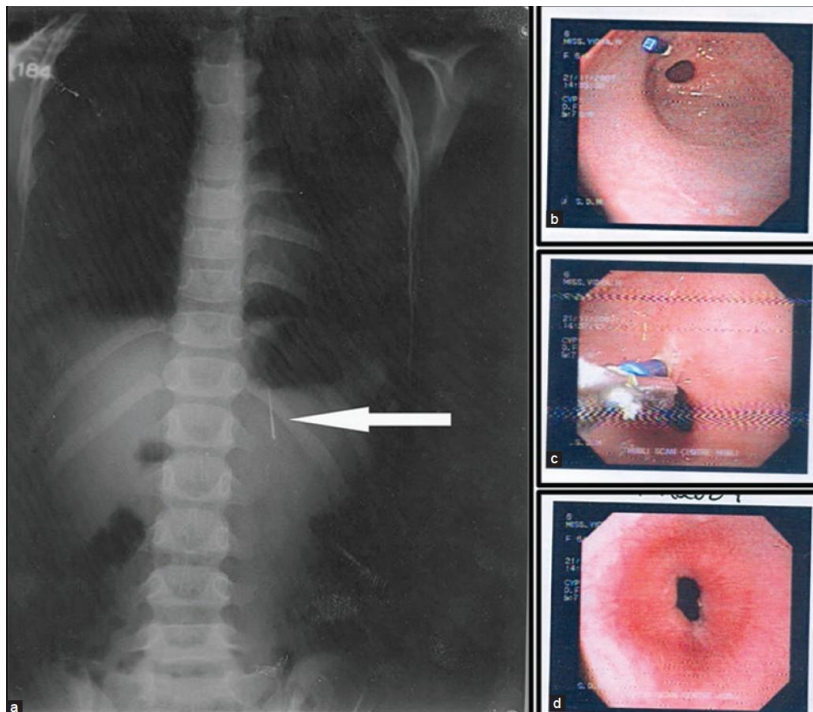
## **Advantages of using the rubber dam:**

- 1- Isolation of the tooth/ teeth from the rest of the oral environment and achieving a surgically clean field.



## Advantages of using the rubber dam:

2- Patient protection from the ingestion or, worse, the aspiration of small instruments, dental fragments or irrigating solutions.





## Advantages of using the rubber dam:

3. Retraction and protection of the soft tissues (gums, tongue, lips, and cheeks).



## Advantages of using the rubber dam:

4. Protection of the dentist (and dental assistants) from infections which can be transmitted by the patient's saliva.





## **Advantages of using the rubber dam:**

5. Improved visibility in the working field.
6. Increased treatment efficiency (minimizes patient conversations, swallowing and rinsing)
7. Better tactile sensitivity during the cleaning and shaping procedure.
8. The patients are more comfortable, as they do not feel that their mouth is invaded by hands, instruments, and liquids.
9. Dentists can work at a more leisurely pace and may be permitted to answer a phone call, leaving the patients well protected with the rubber dam and the dental assistant close to them.

# Components:

## 1. Rubber dam:

A rubber sheet that is made in different

Sizes: 5x5, 6x6 or rolls

Material: latex or non-latex

Colour: light, blue, green, purple...

Thickness: Extra heavy, heavy, medium, light



# Components:

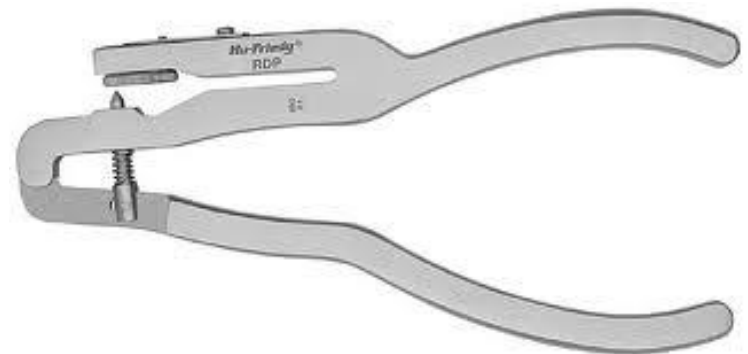
## 2. Rubber dam punches:

To make a round hole(s) in the rubber sheet

Holes range in size from 0.7 – 2mm

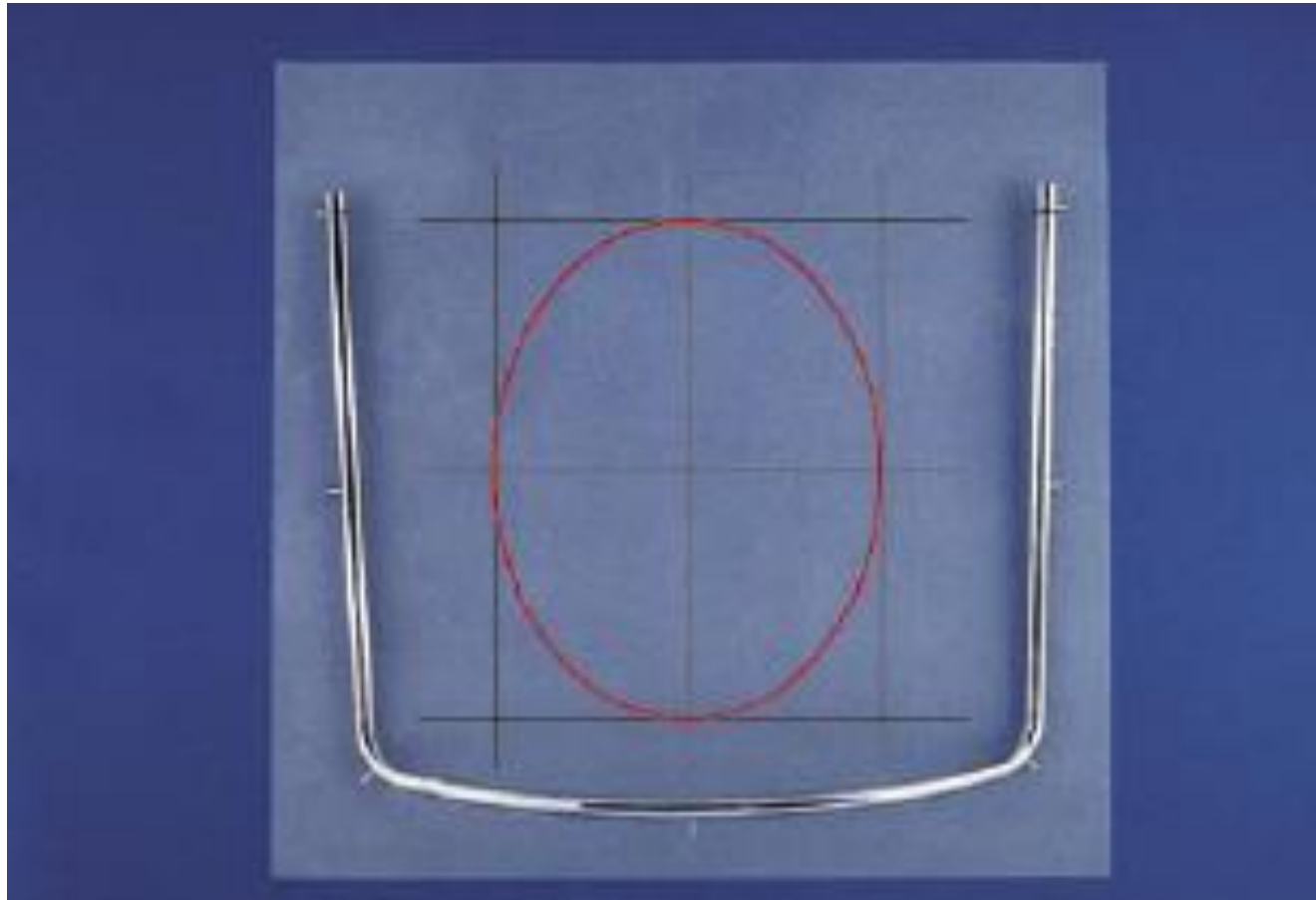


Ainsworth punch



Ivory punch

**Hole position:**



## Components:

### 2. Clamps:

To anchor the rubber dam in place

Made of stainless steel

Molar, premolar or anterior (butterfly)

Winged or wingless

Straight or inverted prongs

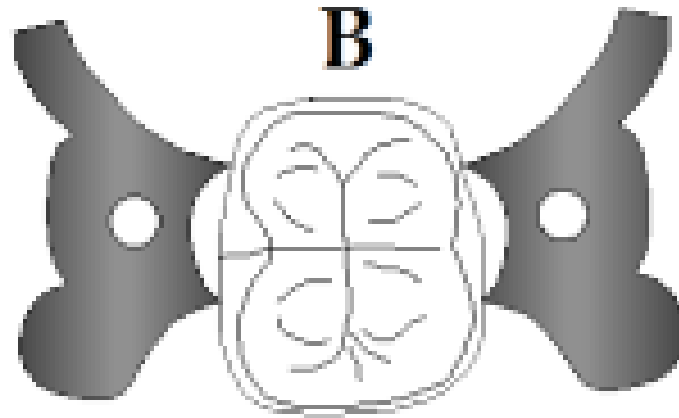
The prongs must engage undercuts on the tooth surface

Four-point clamp-to-tooth relationship



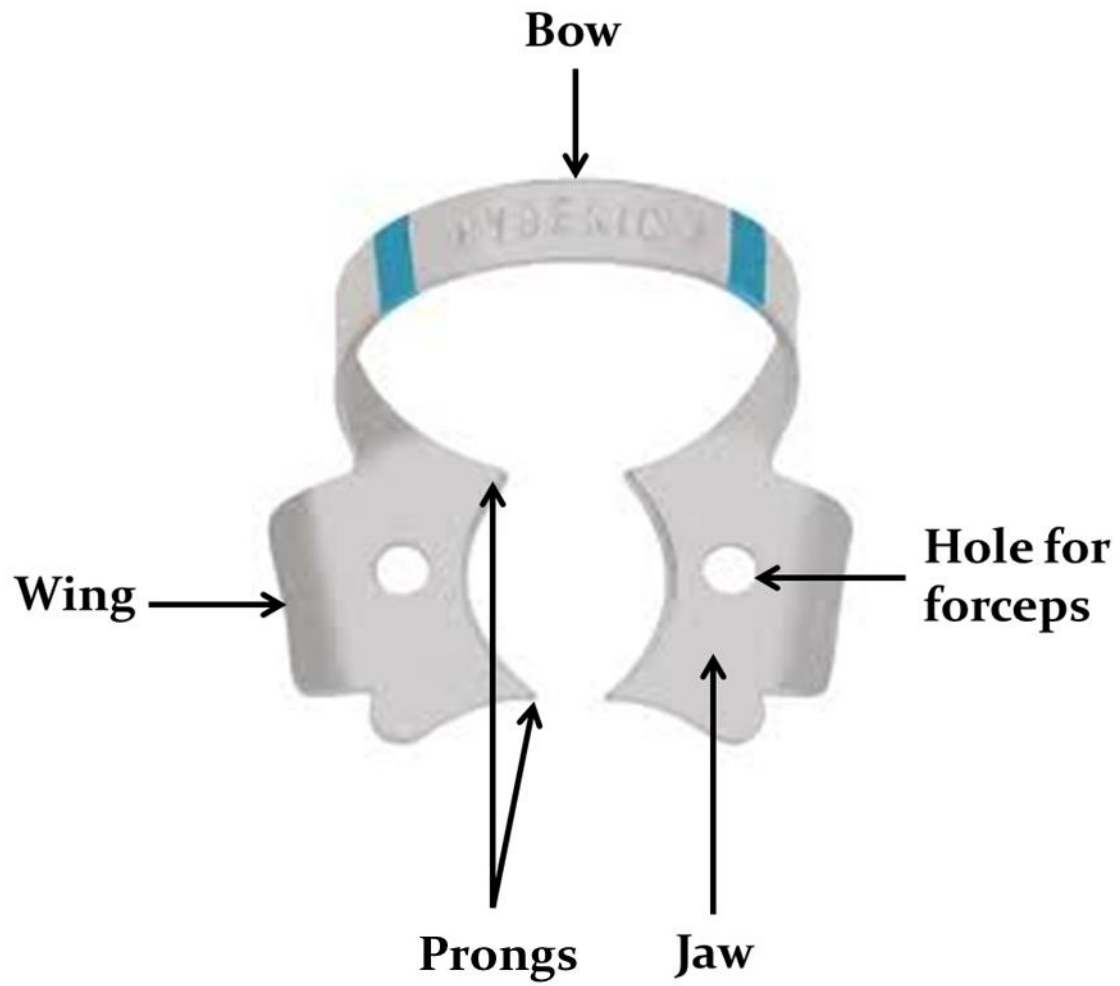


**A**



**B**





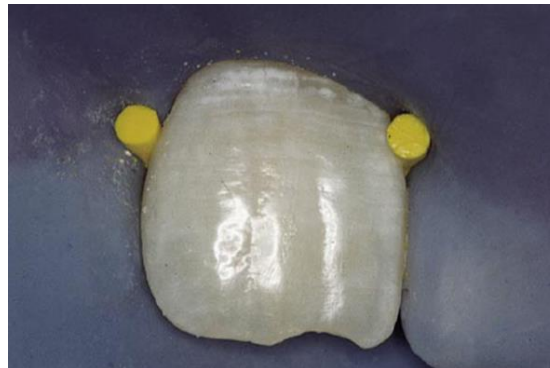
## Alternative retainers:

Strips of rubber dam

Dental floss

Wedjets

Wooden wedges





# Components:

## 4. Clamp forceps:

To open the clamp and position it around the tooth.



Uni of Washington  
forceps



Ivory forceps



Brewer forceps

## Components:

### 5. Rubber dam frame:

To retract and stabilize the dam

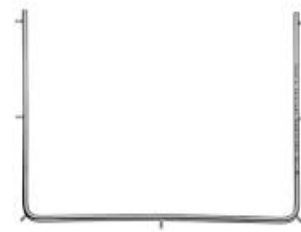
Metal or plastic



Insti-Dam



Nygaard-Ostby (N-O)



Metal frame



Young's



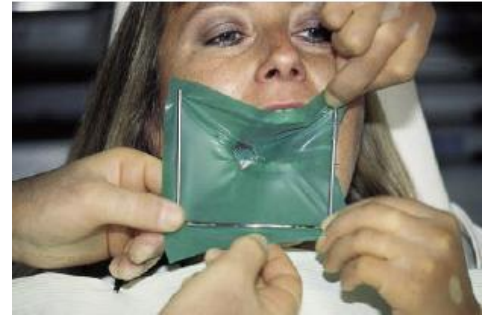
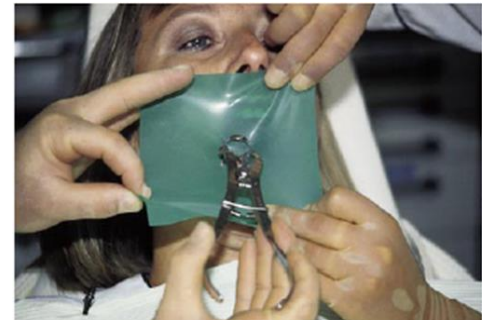
## Other components:

- Lubricants
- Rubber dam napkins
- Dental floss





## Placement techniques:











## Rubber dam removal:

Use the forceps to remove the clamp

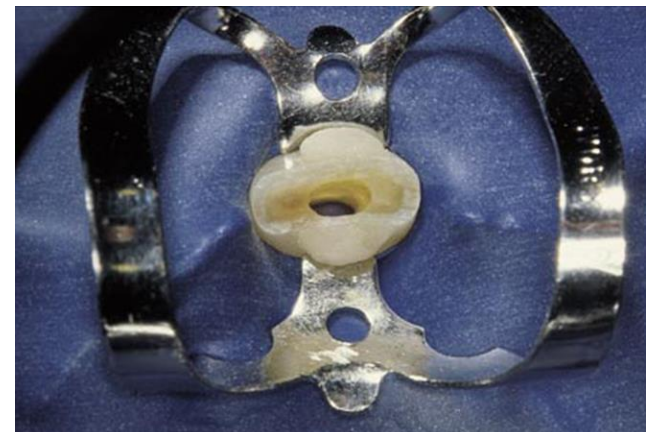
The rubber dam should be cut if a temporary filling is used in the contact area.



## Pretreatment considerations:

### 1. If rubber dam retainer is unstable:

- a. modify rubber dam retainer beaks to achieve 4-point contact with the tooth.
- b. bond resin composite or glass ionomer lugs on facial and/or lingual to stabilize retainer
- c. specialized retainers are available, e.g. serrated jaws
- d. use thinner gauge dental dam to decrease tension on retainer





# Pretreatment considerations:

## 2. Badly destroyed teeth:

may need to be built up with glass ionomer or composite before placement of the rubber dam. (*This can be facilitated by using copper bands, orthodontic bands, or S.S. temporary crowns*)

Use adjacent teeth to retain the rubber dam

Some cases may requiring clamping the gingival tissues. Profound soft tissue anesthesia required. Generally heals quickly



## Pretreatment considerations:

### 3. If minor leaking occurs:

can sometimes be sealed off with CAVIT, Oraseal, or “liquid dam” products like Opal Dam (Ultradent).



*Thank you!*