

I am a dental hygienist who worked Federally for Indian Health Service for twenty-three years. During this time - due to working Federally, I was allowed to place Interium Therapeutic Restorations (ITRs). I placed ITRs in school settings without incidence for the last fifteen years of my career. I received training on ITR's through Indian Health Service, and they are very easy to place. They are easier to place than a dental sealant which dental hygienists have been placing for many years. When in school settings it is better to fill a cavity with a fluoride loaded material than leave it as a hole in the tooth that will continue to pack in food and be a cesspool of bacteria that deepens the cavity. In families where both people are working or in low income families ITRs help preserve the tooth until it can be restored. In conclusion, it is my recommendation that ITRs be allowed to be placed by dental hygienists.