

Comparative Evaluation of Microleakage with Different Composite Placement Technique in Preparation with High C Factor-An *In vitro* Study

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Research Article

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Abstract

Objective: To evaluate and compare the effect of different composite placement technique on microleakage in class I composite resin restoration with high C factor.

Method: Standardized class-I cavities were prepared on 90 caries-free, extracted human premolars and were randomly assigned to three groups:

- Horizontal incremental curing was done; each increment of thickness 1.5 mm was cured one after the other using curing unit (Rotex, Taiwan).
- Concave surface was obtained with a ball burnisher on the first increment and cured for 20 seconds; subsequently, the next increment was placed and similarly cured.
- Cavities were filled with resin, short of the occlusal surface; two cuts (mesiodistal and buccolingual) were made through the condensed resin and cured for 20 seconds, followed by addition of resin in the gaps created by the cuts and additional curing for 20 seconds. The specimens were stored in distilled water for three months and then subjected to thermocycling, followed by immersion in 0.5% methylene blue dye for 24 hours. The teeth were sectioned longitudinally and evaluated for microleakage under stereomicroscope, and the scores obtained were analysed with Mann whitney test and Kruskal-Wallis nonparametric test.

Result: The comparison of groups was statistically significant between Group I, Group II and Group III.

Conclusion: split increment horizontal placement technique were capable of generating an effective bonding at the tooth/restoration interface followed by incremental horizontal placement technique and scoop shaped (concavity) technique.

Keywords: Microleakage; C Factor; Polymerization shrinkage; Composite placement technique

Introduction

Amalgam was the material of choice worldwide for class I and class II restorations for more than a century. Declining acceptance of amalgam and patients interest in dental esthetics resulted in the development of new tooth colored restoratives and techniques [1]. Dental composite restorative materials have been available since the early 1960s [2]. Their use in posterior teeth has been recommended for more than 20 years [3]. In recent years, the demand for posterior resin composite restorations has dramatically increased because of their ability to match tooth color, absence of mercury, biocompatibility and bond to tooth structure [4]. Modern posterior resin composites undergo 2.6 to 7.1 % volumetric contraction during polymerization [5]. This shrinkage can result in a gap formation between the composite material and tooth structure, particularly if the restoration margin is placed in dentine or cementum [6]. Bacteria, fluids, molecules, or ions can pass through this gap between the resin composite and the cavity wall, a process called microleakage³. Microleakage is thought to be responsible for hypersensitivity, secondary caries, pulpal pathoses and failure of restorations [7]. Microleakage can lead to staining around the margins of restoration, post operative sensitivity, secondary caries, restoration failure, pulpal pathology or pulpal death, partial or total loss of restoration. Microleakage is usually associated with invasion from the external environment through the margins of the restoration, but microleakage can also occur internally [8]. When a resin composite restoration is cured, it bonds to the walls and the floor of the cavity preparation. During polymerization the restorative resin shrinks and pulls the opposing walls and floor of the cavity closer together. The magnitude of this phenomenon depends upon the configuration of the cavity and, hence, is called the cavity configuration factor or C-factor [9]. The configuration factor has been defined as the ratio of the bonded surface area to the free surface area of the cavity [7]. Higher C-factors have been reported to produce higher contraction stresses by limiting the flow capacity of the resin composites. Class I cavities have high C-factor values with possible high contraction stresses [10]. Seventh-generation systems were introduced in late 2002. All-in-one adhesives are user- friendly in that fewer steps are required for the bonding protocol. The elimination of separate etching and rinsing steps simplified the bonding technique, making these systems more popular in daily practice [11]. The use of flowable composites as a liner in restoration appeared to reduce, but did not completely eliminate, the microleakage at the gingival margins to the cement-enamel junction [12]. The use of an incremental placement technique has been

reported to reduce microleakage with resin based composite restoration [13].

Recently used LED curing lights offer many advantages than conventional halogen curing units as most of the energy radiated from the LED light falls within the absorption spectrum of champhoroquinone photoinitiators and they are more effective for polymerizing composite resins and they emit less heat and have longer life with minimal decrease in output overtime [14]. A dye penetration measurement on sections through restored teeth is one of the most common techniques used for microleakage evaluation because it is simple and fast .This method allows the production of sections showing leakage in contrasting colors to both tooth and restoration without the need for further chemical reaction or exposure to potentially hazardous radiation [15].

Methods and Materials

A total ninety freshly extracted human maxillary first permanent premolars with complete root formation were selected for the study. Immediately after extraction teeth were cleaned and stored in saline solution (0.9%) at room temperature. Preparation of samples: Occlusal surfaces were ground with coarse diamond bur, under profuse water cooling, to produce a flat surface perpendicular to the long axis of the tooth, without removing whole of occlusal enamel. Standardized Class-I cavity preparation of 3 mm in length, 2 mm in width and 3 mm in depth was prepared using straight fissure bur (FG 111, 012, Horico, Germany), with a high speed hand piece and copious amount of water. Width, depth and length of cavity were confirmed with vernier caliper. All teeth were restored with composite restorative material (Filtek Z-350, A2 shade) with Xeno V adhesive system using different composite placement technique as follows.

Serial No	Groups	No of samples	Placement technique
1	Group I	30	Horizontal placement technique
2	Group II	30	Scoop shaped concavity
3	Group III	30	Split horizontal placement technique

The specimens were divided into three experimental group, with 30 teeth each.

Group I: Consisted of 30 teeth, the first increment of thickness 1.5 mm was inserted in a horizontal direction and cured for 20 seconds, followed by placement of the

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second increment of the same thickness and similarly light cured.

Group II: Consisted of 30 teeth, the first increment of 2 mm thickness was inserted and a ball burnisher was used in a rocking motion to spread the resin. A concavity was created and then cured for 20 seconds. The second increment was inserted to fill the cavity and cured for 20 seconds.

Group III: Consisted of 30 teeth, the cavity was filled with resin, short of the occlusal surface and two cuts (mesiodistal and buccolingual) were made with a Teflon coated plastic instrument (Rotex), through the condensed resin, and cured for 20 seconds. Each cut extended down to the entire cavity depth, gap created during cuts was filled with Flowable composite and cured for 20 sec and then second increment was inserted to fill the cavity and cured for 20 seconds.

Immediately after curing, each restoration was contoured with finishing burs operated at high speed, using air-water coolant. After finishing, the teeth were stored in distilled water at room temperature (30°C-36°C) for three months and then were subjected to 1000 thermal cycles between 5° and 15°C water baths. Dwell time was one minute, with five seconds transit time between baths. After thermocycling, the apices of teeth were sealed with acrylic and all tooth surfaces, except for 1mm wide zone around the margins of each restoration, were sealed with two coats of nail polish (Lakme, India). The teeth were then immersed for 24 hours in a 0.5% solution of methylene blue dye. After staining the teeth were rinsed and then sectioned longitudinally in a mesiodistal direction, coincident with the centre of the restoration, using slow speed diamond disc (Brasseler Dental Products, Savannah, GA) cooled with water in NSK, Japan straight hand piece (Figures 1-6).





Figure 2: 90 samples of maxillary first premolars.



Figure 3: Class I Cavity.



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Sample showing microleakage score = 4 Group I (Horizontal placement technique)





Sample showing microleakage score = 2 Group II (Scoop shaped concavity technique)





Sample showing no microleakage Group III (Split increment horizontal placement technique)

Figure 5: Samples showing dye penetration.

Observation and Result

The two hemisections of each tooth showing the cleanest dye penetration was selected and examined at



Group I (Horizontal placement technique).



Group II (Scoop shaped concavity technique).



Group III (Split increment horizontal placement technique).

Figure 6: Samples and Groups after complete experiment.

20X magnification, under stereomicroscope (Zeiss) (Table 1-3).

Scores	Criteria
0	No evidence of dye penetration at the tooth restoration interface
1	Dye penetration along the cavity wall, up to $1/3^{rd}$ of the cavity depth
2	Penetration>1/3 rd but<2/3 rd of the cavity depth
3	Penetration>2/3 rd of the cavity depth, but not along the dentinal tubules
4	Penetration to cavity depth and along the dentinal tubules

Table 1: Scoring Criteria.



Group	N	Mean	Std.	Std.	95% Confidence Interval for Mean		Chi-	p-value
			Deviation	EIIUI	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Square	
Group I	30	3.4	0.72	0.13	3.12	3.67		0
Group II	30	2.53	0.57	0.1	2.32	2.74	69.79	S,p<0.05
Group III	30	0.36	0.49	0.08	0.18	0.54		

Table 2: Comparison of mean leakage score in three groups. Descriptive Statistics (Kruskal Wallis Test).

Comparison	Z-value	p-value		
Group I Vs Group II	4.28	0 S,p<0.05		
Group I Vs Group III	6.86	0 S,p<0.05		
Group II Vs Group III	6.88	0 S,p<0.05		

Table 3: Comparison between groups. Mann-Whitney U test.



Discussion

Microleakage is defined as the clinically undetectable passage of bacteria, fluids, molecules, or ions between a cavity wall and the restorative material applied to it Kidd [16]. Composite restorations have become a popular alternative to amalgam restorations in posterior teeth. Because of esthetic demands and mercury hygiene. Composite resins have undergone through a tremendous amounts of research and series of developments. Composite resins have been introduced into the field of conservative dentistry to minimize the drawbacks of the acrylic resins that replaced silicate cements (the only aesthetic materials previously available) in the 1940s. In 1955, Buonocore [17] used orthophosphoric acid to improve the adhesion of acrylic resins to the surface of the enamel. In 1962 Bowen [18] developed the Bis-GMA monomer in an attempt to improve the physical properties of acrylic resins, as their monomers only allowed linear chain polymers to be formed. The most common problems which are being encountered with composite resins is the polymerization shrinkage resulting in microleakage. Several factors have been cited related to microleakage studies indicating that these problems can be attributed mainly to the physical properties of composite resin materials and the technique of placement. Composite resin has an initial polymerization shrinkage ranging from 1.67-5.68%. This shrinkage leads to the pulling of the resin materials from the walls of the preparations and results in a gap between

the restoration and the tooth structure. The other factors which effecting Microleakage directly is the difference between co-efficient of thermal expansion of the resin and tooth structure. Temperature change also causes varying volumetric changes in the resin and tooth structure leading to marginal leakage [19]. The geometric configuration of the cavity plays an important role in the adaptation of resin composite restoration. Since then, several techniques have been suggested to improve marginal adaptation of high C-factor preparations, including adhesive systems that potentially resist composite shrinkage, placement techniques for resin composites, protocols for photopolymerization, and different cavity preparations. Feilzer, et al. [20] Cavity configuration factor (C-factor) is the ratio of the bonded surface area in a cavity to the unbounded surface area. This means that, in a box-like class I cavity there may be five times more bonded surface area than the unbounded surface area [21]. C-factors for dental restorations typically range from 0.1 to 5.0 with higher values (>1.5) indicating more likelihood of higher in facial stresses. A key effect on actual stress is dependent on the complexity of a dental restoration. For example, Class I and Class V cavities have high C-factor values with possible high contraction stresses Braga, et al. [22] demonstrated that shrinkage stress and microleakage were higher in restorations with larger diameters and depths. In addition, they stated that high stresses may be translated into a more severe microleakage or low bond strength, depending on the variable tested. However, microleakage

seemed to be related to restorations volume, but not to its C factor. After cavity preparation self etch adhesive-Xeno V was applied to the cavity wall and cure with LED for 20 sec. Various generation of adhesive system available in market. Seventh-generation systems were introduced in late 2002 in which etchant, primer, and adhesive are combined in a single bottle, eliminating an additional mixing and/or placement step over the sixth-generation systems. It also known as "all-in-one" and "self etch adhesive".

Xeno V has the lowest pH among the three self-etch adhesives. Xeno V has pH <2 which makes it "intermediatory strong" self-etch adhesive Vineeta Nikhil [23]. After the application of adhesive bond 20 sec curing was done with blue light LED light. In recent years, several new polymerization techniques and curing units have been introduced in an attempt to affect polymerization shrinkage. Conventional quartz halogen curing lights with higher intensities, plasma arc curing lights, blue light emitting diode curing lights, and argon lasers are used for polymerization of direct resin-based restorative materials Manhart, et al. [24]. The thermo cycling and dwell times in microleakage evaluation of bonded restorations. They stated that although a simple review of the literature in the last few years would tend to support limited or no effects of the thermal insult for composite restorations thermocycled with short dwell times, evaluation of microleakage must include thermocycling in order to simulate intraoral conditions. However, the relationship between thermal expansion and the duration of the temperature exposure is an important factor in evaluating the Microleakage potential of a restorative material [25]. After application of xenoV cavity was restored with Filtek Z-350XT (3M ESPE, USA). Filtek™ Z350 XT Nano Hybrid Universal Restorative is a visible light-activated nanohybrid composite. The resin technology is based on this restorative resin, replacing some of the TEGDMA with PEGDMA to moderate shrinkage so it exhibits a low shrinkage relative to competitive composites in this class of materials. Thermal stresses can be pathologic in two ways. Firstly, differential thermal changes induce mechanical stresses that can cause crack propagation through the bonded interface. Secondly, gap volume changes associated with changing gap dimensions pump pathogenic oral fluids in and out of the gaps with possible pulpal complications Gale & Darvell [26]. Dye penetration method was used to evaluate the Microleakage because ethylene blue dye penetration method provides the evaluators with a perfect and easy visualization of the prepared cavity in the digital images which provide the evaluators with a clear reference point from which to score. The dye also

Conclusion

- a. Split horizontal placement technique scored the lowest mean Microleakage value and was comparatively better than horizontal placement technique and was statistically significant.
- b. Scoop shaped concavity technique scored the less mean Microleakage value, but less effective than split increment horizontal technique and was statistically significant.
- c. Horizontal placement technique scored highest mean Microleakage value among the experimental groups. It was less effective composite placement technique and was statistically significant.

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provides an excellent contrast with the surrounding environment.

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