

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Effect of Chlorhexidine on Bonding Strength of Quartz fiber Post in Dentin root

Ezatollah Jalalian <sup>1</sup>, Kimia Attar <sup>2</sup>, Hadi Kaseb Ghane <sup>3\*</sup>, Nazanin Samiei <sup>4</sup>, Reza Amiri <sup>5</sup>

1. Department of Fix Prosthodontics, Dental Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

2. Department of fix Prosthodontics, Dental Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

3. Department of Prosthodontics, Dental Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

4. Department of Periodontics, School of Dentistry, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

5. Dentist, Private Office, Iran

\* Corresponding Author: Hadi Kaseb Ghane

### ABSTRACT

Quartz fiber posts are an important clinical option to provide retention for coronal dental restorations. The de-bonding at the dentin/cement interface has been considered as a major cause of failure of fiber post restorations. One of the factors affecting the bond strength of fiber post is irrigation regime used in post space surfaces prior to placement of fiber post. So, the aim of this study was to assess the effect of chlorhexidine 2% on bonding strength of quartz fiber post to root dentin. In this study a total 20 mandibular premolar were selected and de-coronated at the CEJ level of each tooth around 15mm. After biomechanical preparation of root canals, all specimens obturated with gutta prcha and AH26 sealer (dentsply, Germany), using lateral condensation technique. Specimens were randomly divided into 2 groups (n=10): group 1 normal saline and group 2, chlorhexidine 2%. The root canals were prepared for post space using peeso reamer to reach 10mm length for each root, and then RDT finishing drill used to optimize matching of fiber post with post space shape. The posts were cemented with dual cure resin Panavia F2 (Kuraray, Japan) according to manufacturer's instruction. After 24 h storage in 100 % moisture, 3 horizontal sections (1mm thickness) were cut from coronal, middle and apical third of each root. Specimens were subjected to the universal testing machine (Instron) for push-out test. Bond strength values were statistically analyzed t-test. According to the results, administration of chlorhexidine had no significant effect on binding strength of Quartz fiber post compared to control group ( $P>0.05$ ). Also, no significant difference detected on strength of Quartz fiber post in coronal, middle and apical sections in chlorhexidine-treated groups compared to the control group ( $P>0.05$ ). These results suggest application of 2% chlorhexidine in conditioning step was not able to improve the bonding strength of quartz fiber post to dentine root.

**Key words:** Chlorhexidine, Quartz fiber, Bonding strength, Dentin root

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## INTRODUCTION

Fiber posts were introduced in restorative dentistry as an alternative to cast posts or metal dowels. Their elastic modulus is claimed to be similar to that of the dentin and this feature reduces the risk of root fractures [1, 2]. Because debonding is a common cause of failure encountered with fiber posts, interface between root dentin and resin cement was the object of several studies, involving both bond strength tests and microscopic investigation. Some studies have considered post restoration relies on dental adhesion, the adverse effects caused by the root canal treatment [3-5].

In contrast to rigid posts, fiber posts do not need to be inserted to a length equal to or longer than the depth of the clinical crown in order to reduce the chance of root fracture [6, 7]. This is advantageous for short roots or for roots presenting a high degree of curvature. Once the fiber posts are adhesively luted into the canal, a high in-depth insertion into the root canal is not necessary to improve retention [8]. This is feasible because the bonding of the cement to dentin walls is more effective in the cervical region than

in the apical region [9, 10]. Despite the cited advantages, the mismatch between the diameters of the post space and the fiber post remains a clinical problem [11, 12].

Clinical studies have shown successful results with the use of quartz fiber-reinforced resin posts. However, there are some reports about failures, including failure of the cement- fiber-reinforced resin posts complex with debonding of the resin cement from dentin. Retention of the post is important for the long-term success of the definitive restoration and survival time of the tooth [13]. The post-cement-tooth system is susceptible to cohesive fracture of the tooth substance itself and failure at the interface between root canal dentin and luting cement as well as between the cement and post. Furthermore, failure of the post and fractures within the cement layer is possible [14].

Chlorhexidine is a potent antiseptic with a broad-spectrum antimicrobial action, substantively, and low grade of toxicity; therefore, is unable to dissolve pulp tissue. The application of chlorhexidine in the root canal is a procedure described in the literature; however, its application has been specifically to clean the canal before luting procedures. Chlorhexidine application to preserve the hybrid layer and, consequently, increase bond strength longevity, such as at coronal dentin, has not yet been evaluated for fiber post cementation, to the authors' best knowledge [15]. However, there are reports claim chlorhexidine has initial effect as adhesion of fiber-reinforced post to root canal [16]. One study has shown that the use of a saline coupling agent can increase bond strength of quartz fiber posts [17].

So, the aim of this study was to determine effect of chlorhexidine on bonding strength of Quartz fiber post in dentin root.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

To investigate the effect of chlorhexidine on bonding strength of Quartz fiber post in dentin root, this study carried out on 20 mandibular premolar teeth in department of fixed prosthodontics of Islamic Azad University, Dental Branch of Tehran in the 2014-15. The selected teeth had no fraction or decay in crown or root canal. Bucco-palatal (7-8 mm) and mesio-distal (5.5-6 mm) dimensions and root lengths of all teeth selected were measured using digital calipers (Digimatic Calipers, Mitsutoyo, Tokyo, Japan).

### *Sample preparing*

The mandibular premolar was de-coronated at the CEJ level of each tooth around 15mm using distiller water. All samples numbered using set back filing system up to 60 (K-file Mani, Japan). Also, the canals were numbered up to 35 (K-file Mani, Japan). The root canals were obturated with gutta-percha size 35. After the root canal treatments, the teeth underwent post space preparation to 2/3 of the root length by means of a preparation drill (D.T #3, Bisco Inc., Schaumburg, IL, USA). All teeth with the post preparation were reconstructed with one of the following three types of post-core restorations [18]. Specimens were randomly divided into 2 groups: group 1 normal saline and group 2, chlorhexidine 2% (n=10).

### *Fiber post group*

A quartz fiber post (D.T. Light Post #2, Bisco, Inc.) was luted into the post space using a self-etching primer (Tyrian SPE, Bisco, Inc.), a light-cured dentin adhesive (One-Step Plus, Bisco, Inc.) and dual-cured resin cement (Duo-Link, Bisco, Inc.). First, the self-etching primer was applied to the dentin surface of the post space followed by drying with a paper point to remove moist spots. The dentin adhesive was applied and light-cured for 10 s. The surface of the fiber post was also coated with dentin adhesive. Then, the dual-cured resin cement and fiber post were inserted into the post space, consecutively. After removal of excessive cement, the resin cement was cured by irradiation for 40 s [18].

The root canals were prepared for post space using peeso reamer to reach 10 mm length for each root, and then RDT finishing drill used to optimize matching of fiber post with post space shape. The posts were cemented with dual cure resin Panavia F2 (Kuraray, Japan) according to manufacturer's instruction. After 24 h storage in 100 % moisture, Mode of fracture was observed by visual inspection with the aid of trans-illumination, and internal crack propagation was detected by means of a digital radiograph system (SMX-1000, Shimadzu Co.). Crack propagation was classified into the three categories as follows; cervical, fracture extended to 1/3 depth longitudinally from cervical portion; middle, fracture extended between 1/3 and 2/3 from cervical toward apical portion; apical, fracture extended in 1/3 depth longitudinally in apical slat portion [18].

### *Statistical analysis*

Fracture loads among groups with different types of post-core systems and between the two types of loadings were compared using T-test at a 95% level of confidence.  $P < 0.05$  was considered as significant differences between treatments.

## RESULTS

The effect of chlorhexidine on bonding strength of Quartz fiber post in dentin root is presented in tables 1 and 2. According to the data, administration of chlorhexidine had no significant effect on binding strength of Quartz fiber post compared to control group ( $P>0.05$ ) (table 1).

**Table 1.** Results of binding strength of Quartz fiber post in Dentin root

Group	Min	Max	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>P Value</i>
Control (Saline)	19.2	54.3	36.2 $\pm$ 3.8	
Chlorhexidine	16.5	55.2	34.8 $\pm$ 10.5	0.08

n= 10 for each group.

As observed in the table 2, no significant difference detected on strength of Quartz fiber post in coronal, middle and apical sections in chlorhexidine-treated groups compared to the control group ( $P>0.05$ ).

**Table 2.** Results of binding strength of Quartz fiber post in different portions of Dentin root

Group	Portion of section		
	Coronal	Middle	Apical
Control (Saline)	46.7 $\pm$ 5.08	37.08 $\pm$ 4.3	37.08 $\pm$ 4.3
Chlorhexidine	45.6 $\pm$ 11.9	45.6 $\pm$ 11.9	45.6 $\pm$ 11.9
<i>P Value</i>	0.9	0.9	0.6

n= 10 for each group.

## DISCUSSION

The most relevant finding of the study was that the chlorhexidine had no significant effect on binding strength of Quartz fiber post compared to normal saline. Chlorhexidine belongs to a group of medicines called antiseptic antibacterial agents. Chlorhexidine is active against Gram-positive and Gram-negative organisms, facultative anaerobes, aerobes, and yeasts [19]. Chlorhexidine has been suggested as an irrigant in endodontic treatment due to its good antimicrobial properties and adhesion into root canal dentin [20]. Due to the substantive activity, chlorhexidine restricts bacterial ingress and penetration into dentinal tubules. While NaOCl irrigation, either alone or followed by EDTA, may reduce the immediate composite bond strength into pulp chamber or root dentin, [21] chlorhexidine irrigation has no such negative effect [22] chlorhexidine also improves the longevity of composite adhesive bonding to dentin by inhibition of hybrid layer collagen-degrading enzymes, matrix metalloproteinases [23].

However, in this study, chlorhexidine had no significant effect on binding strength of Quartz fiber but it is improved the apical and medial binding strength. Interestingly, Hiraishi et al. (25) also found reduced bond strength after chlorhexidine application with Panavia F2.0, a self-etching resin cement, as well as increased nanoleakage with RelyX Unicem. Several reports exist on effectiveness of chlorhexidine binding strength [16]. In a study, it is reported after 6 months, chlorhexidine application did not effectively arrest bond strength degradation of fiber posts cemented in human roots [15]. The reason for this difference may lay with different testing methods. With improved adhesive bond strength, the increase in shear stress may subject the sample dentin to higher forces, thus increasing the rate of dentin cohesive failures, as observed in this study.

Restorative dentistry and endodontics aim to preserve tooth structure with optimal function and esthetics. Endodontically treated teeth are structurally different from vital, non-restored teeth and require specific restorative treatments. Bond strength of bonding systems depends on the bond to wet, smooth and porous dentin surfaces. If resins cannot adequately bond to the collagen network in demineralized dentin, bond strength decreases. Factors such as the use of irrigating solutions, intracanal medicaments and endodontic sealers can also affect the bond strength [26].

The increasing use of fiber posts for restoring endodontically treated teeth with the loss of coronal tooth structure has been proved to be effective and the post in combination with resin cement and restorative material can form a structurally and functionally homogeneous complex with root dentin. Fiber posts are promoted due to their excellent biocompatibility, esthetic and mechanical properties. Fiber post systems that have a similar modulus of elasticity to root dentin are generally preferred to metal post systems and show less microleakage under dynamic loading and fracture patterns availing a retreatment of the fracture. Numerous *in vitro* studies have been done to investigate different adhesive systems and pre-treatments of dentin or posts for improving bond strength, and have shown that most failures of fiber posts are caused by bond failure between the post and the dentin [17]. Some studies have reported that the type of adhesive system and root region had a significant influence on the bond strength of the adhesive luting fiber posts. Based on this study, 2% of chlorhexidine had no significant effect on bonding

strength of Quartz fiber post in dentin root. We think further researches needed to investigate effect of other substances on bonding strength of Quartz fiber post.

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