Comparison of the Effects of Sugar-free Solutions, Cola, Mouthwash on the Surface Hardness and Roughness of Temporary Crown Materials

NURAN YANIÇOĞLU1 ORCID ID: 0000-0001-7677-1248,
ZEYNEP YESİL DUYMUS1, ORCID ID: 0000-0002-9767-0080
SEBAHAT FINDIK AYDINER2* ORCID ID:0000-0003-3476-5135

1Department of Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Atatürk University, Erzurum, Turkey
2Dentist, Ministry of Health Yıldırım Beyazıt University Yenimahalle Training and Research Hospital, Yenimahalle/Ankara, Turkey

Abstract: The aim of this study is to investigate the effect of polishing with different solutions on the surface roughness and hardness of two different polymethylmethacrylate temporary restoration materials. In the study, two different temporary crown materials prepared in the CAD / CAM system and prepared by the traditional method were used to test a total of 224 pieces of 10 mm diameter and 2 mm thickness. After the surface roughness and micro hardness values were measured, samples were randomly divided into seven groups among themselves; After waiting 24 h, 1 and 3 weeks, values were measured again. Data were evaluated using 3-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey HSD test. The temporary restorative materials' surface hardness and roughnesses are important to be able to stay in oral cavity without any changes. And it is also important to determine which of the materials (prepared by temporary conventional materiels or by the CAD/CAM) are less effected by the liquids in oral cavity.

Keywords: polymethylmethacrylate, temporary dental restorations, surface properties, mouthwashes, CAD-CAM, sugar acids

1.Introduction

A temporary restoration must be made immediately after tooth preparation to protect the cut tooth from thermal bacterial and chemical effects. These restorations must have the strength to withstand masticatory forces, have good marginal fit and esthetics, and be able to protect pulp and periodontium. Temporary restorative materials have low fracture resistance. Consequently, the use of restorations with improved physical properties is recommended, especially in cases of long-body fixed partial prosthesis, in the treatment of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) diseases requiring long-term treatment, in cases where the vertical dimension of the occlusion needs to be changed, in bruxism cases and in areas with excessive occlusal loads [1-4]. Materials with different chemical structures and improved physical properties are available for use in restorations. Polymethylmethacrylate, polymethylmethacrylate bis-acryl based, and micro-filled resins are used in the clinic as temporary restoration materials. Different studies have shown that polymethylmethacrylates have lower wear resistance and better esthetic properties than polymethylmethacrylate bis-acryl and micro-filled resins [5, 6].

The oral environment can be very corrosive for dental materials. Depending on his nutritional habits, the contents of the nutrients that an individual consumes and his saliva can react with the materials used in restorations, disrupting their structure and affecting their mechanical and physical properties. Other studies have determined that the resin matrix of dental composites exposed to organic acids and different nutrients softens and that these chemicals cause dissolution in the resin and filler interface [7, 8].

All kinds of foods and beverages in the oral environment can cause tooth discoloration, decay and wear depending on exposure time and the quality of oral hygiene. They can also create changes in the

*email: rona13_rona@hotmail.com
surface of restorative materials. Beverages, including water, can cause changes in micro-hardness, surface roughness and permeability as well as discoloration and reduced quality in restorative materials [9].

Surface hardness [10, 11] and surface roughness [12], which can be affected by various physical and chemical factors, should be considered in terms of the physical properties of restorative materials [10, 11]. Surface roughness, which can cause plaque retention and discoloration, also reduces clinical life [12, 13]. Polishing is applied to the surfaces of restorative materials to reduce surface roughness as much as possible. Surface roughness, which is the two-dimensional parameter of the material surface, can be measured with a device called a profilometer and expressed numerically [14].

The ability of a material to resist local deformation is defined as hardness [15]. In hardness tests performed by applying pressure for a certain time and with a certain amount of force on the surface of the material, the hardness value is calculated according to the depth and area of the trace created by the pressure. The hardness of the material changes inversely with the size of the trace; the hardness increases as the size decreases and decreases as the size becomes larger. The resulting measurements are expressed with the formula 'load/area' [16].

The pH in the mouth can drop to 5.5 with sugar consumption and it is recognized that this situation increases the microorganisms that cause decay [17]. The effect of this acidic environment on the surface roughness and hardness of fixed temporary restorative materials needs to be evaluated.

This study aimed to examine roughness and hardness values on the polished and unpolished surfaces of fixed temporary restorative materials caused by acidic drinks such as Coke, the addition of sugar to daily beverages such as tea and coffee, and mouthwash.

The hypothesis of the study is that preparing the material using different methods, solutions, holding periods in solutions and polishing processes would affect the surface hardness and roughness of fixed temporary restoration materials.

2. Materials and methods

A 10 mm diameter metal sheet with a 2 mm thick hole was used to prepare samples, which were chemically polymerized, cadmium-free polymethylmethacrylate (Imicryl Imident, Konya, Turkey). Powder and liquid were mixed at the rate of 10 mL/24 g for one minute in each of the molds on the metal placed on the cement glass, as recommended by the manufacturer. To obtain a smooth shape, pressure was applied lightly on the cement glass to facilitate polymerization and 112 samples were obtained.

For specimens with CAD/CAM, 112 samples were prepared from the block (Bornova, Izmir, Turkey) with one dent 10 mm in diameter and 2 mm thick. Half of the chemically polymerized samples prepared with CAD/CAM were polished in line with the manufacturer's recommendations while half were left unpolished.

After the samples were numbered, the roughness (Profilometer device Surtronic 25; Taylor Hobson, Leicester, U.K.) and microhardness (Vickers Hardness Tester; TMTek HV1000B, TMTek Manufacturing Limited, Beijing, China) values were measured. The average values taken with three measurements from each sample surface were used for surface roughness (Ra). Vickers hardness test was performed by applying 1.96 N force for 15 s. Samples were randomly divided into seven groups (n=8). Samples of Coke (Coca-Cola Company, Turkey), distilled water, tea with/without sugar (Lipton Yellow Label, Corlu, Turkey), Turkish coffee with/without sugar (Kurukahveci Mehmet Efendi, the TS 3117, Y. Dudullu, Istanbul) and mouthwash (Listerine® Cool Mint, Johnson and Johnson Plumbing Supplies San. and Tic. Ltd. Sti., Turkey) were kept in 100 mL plastic containers for 24 h, one week and three weeks. Subsequently, roughness and microhardness values were measured again.

The tea solution was prepared by immersing five prefabricated doses of tea in 500 mL of boiling water for 10 min. Turkish coffee was prepared by boiling 5-7 g powder in 65 mL cold distilled water for a few min. Tea and coffee with sugar were prepared by adding 10 g sugar per 300 mL of tea or coffee [18]. Distilled water was used as the control. During this study, all solutions were refreshed once a week [19].
Statistical evaluations of data and multiple comparisons between groups were made using 3-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey HSD test, respectively.

3. Results and discussions

As a result of variance analysis made for data evaluation, it was statistically determined that the type of material used is significant \( p<0.05 \), the surface treatment applied is very significant \( p<0.001 \), the holding periods in solutions are significant \( p<0.01 \), the storage solution is insignificant \( p>0.05 \), the surface treatment interaction with the material used is very significant \( p<0.001 \), the surface treatment with the holding time and the solution kept for the holding period is very significant \( p<0.01 \), the triple interaction of storage time/material used/surface preparation method is very significant \( p<0.001 \), the storage type and solution and the interaction between storage type and solution is significant \( p<0.001 \), and the storage type and other interactions are insignificant (material-storage solution, surface process-solution, material-surface process-solution, storage time-surface process-storage solution and storage type/used material/surface process-storage solution). The data obtained for roughness mean and standard deviation ratios are in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( \text{Table 1. The Means and standard deviation results of the data obtained for roughness (Ra) (n=8)} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface treatments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polished CAD/CAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea with sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee with sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouthwash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpolished CAD/CAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distilled water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea with sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee with sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouthwash</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The highest roughness values were seen in the graded samples while the lowest were in the polished samples prepared by traditional methods. The highest roughness value (2.75 Ra) was detected in the measurements of samples prepared with Imicryl Imident unpolished and kept for 24 h in tea, followed by the samples kept in Coke for three weeks (2.60 Ra).
The lowest roughness value after holding (0.52 Ra) was measured in samples with polish prepared with Imicryl Imident and kept in Coke for one week.

It was noted that the initial roughness values (1.53 Ra) of polished samples prepared with CAD-CAM and kept in mouthwash decreased after 24 h (1.42 Ra) but increased one week later (2.04 Ra). The lowest increase from the initial value was observed with 0.04 Ra after three weeks (1.57 Ra). The maximum increase in value (1.11 Ra) from the initial value up to three weeks was seen in polished samples prepared with Imicryl Imident and kept in coffee. It was determined that the initial roughness values (1.20 Ra) increased after 24 h (1.17 Ra), one week (1.16 Ra) and three weeks (2.31 Ra).

The lowest decline in value, 0.03 Ra, was seen in samples kept in tea with sugar, prepared with Imicryl Imident unpolished. It was determined that the initial roughness values (1.61 Ra) decreased after 24 h (1.13 Ra), increased one week later (1.84 Ra) and decreased three weeks later (1.58 Ra) in the samples kept in tea with sugar.

The maximum decrease value, 1.02 Ra, was seen in samples kept in distilled water prepared with Imicryl Imident unpolished. It was determined that the initial roughness values (2.15 Ra) decreased after 24 h (1.85 Ra), increased one week later (2.23 Ra) and decreased three weeks later (1.58 Ra).

In general, it was noted that the roughness values of the samples prepared with Imicryl Imident were higher.

The distribution of the roughness changes of polished and unpolished samples according to time and solution is shown Figures 1,2,3 and 4.

**Figure 1.** Roughness changes of polished samples prepared with CAD/CAM according to solution and time

**Figure 2.** Roughness changes of Unpolished samples prepared with CAD/CAM according to solution and time
As can be seen in the variance analysis table, the applied surface treatment was statistically highly significant \((p<0.001)\), holding times in solutions were statistically significant \((p<0.01)\), and the type of material used, the holding solution and interactions were statistically insignificant \((p>0.05)\).

The Means and standard deviation results of the hardness values obtained are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Means and standard deviation results of the hardness values (HV) \((n=8)\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Surface treatments</th>
<th>Storage solutions</th>
<th>Storage time</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAD/CAM</td>
<td>Polished</td>
<td>Coke</td>
<td>Beginning time</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coke</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sd</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coke</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>8.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Distilled water</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>4.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tea with sugar</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee with sugar</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>21.3</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mouthwash</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>3.04</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coke</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The highest hardness value, 58.2 HV, was seen in the measurements after one week in the samples that were graded, prepared with CAD/CAM, and kept in Coke. That was followed by 55.8 HV taken after 24 h of samples prepared with Imicryl Imident grading and kept in mouthwash.

The lowest hardness value (10.00 HV) was seen in the measurements of polished samples prepared with Imicryl Imident and kept in mouthwash for three weeks.

It was noted that initial hardness values (15.5 HV) of samples kept in tea with sugar, polished and prepared with CAD-CAM increased after 24 h (16.3 HV), increased one week later (17.1 HV), and three weeks later (16.6 HV) there was the least increase in the hardness value from the initial value with 1.1 HV. The highest hardness value increase (6.7 HV) up to three weeks after the initial value was seen in the samples kept in Coke, polished, and prepared with Imicryl Imident. It was determined that the highest changes from the initial hardness values (13.5 HV) were after 24 h (14.5 HV), after one week (24.0 HV) and after three weeks (20.2 HV).

The least decline value, 0.4 HV, was seen in samples that were polished, prepared with Imicryl Imident and kept in distilled water. It was determined that the initial hardness values (14.9 HV) increased after 24 h (15.9 HV) after one week (16.1 HV) and showed the least decrease compared to the initial value after three weeks (14.5 HV).

The maximum decrease value, 33.5 HV, was seen in samples prepared with Imicryl Imident grading and kept in coffee with sugar. It was found that the initial hardness values decreased after 24 h (41.6 HV) after one week (38.7 HV) and after three weeks (23.0 HV).

The distribution of the average hardness values of the samples according to holding solution and time is shown in Figure 5.
Figure 5. Hardness values of temporary restorative materials

According to the statistical results, the difference between the materials is not significant ($p > 0.05$) and the surface treatment is highly significant ($p < 0.001$).

In dentistry applications, it is important to know the physical and mechanical properties of materials so the right one can be selected to meet treatment needs. Proper material selection increases treatment success rates [10]. The roughness value of the surface of the restorative materials used in dentistry is an important factor that can cause discoloration, bacterial colonization and irritation in the gingiva, deterioration of the edge integrity and erosion of the material. Accordingly, finishing and polishing processes before cementation in the mouth will significantly increase the patient's satisfaction and ensure successful restoration [20, 21].

As a result of this study, part of the hypothesis was accepted since it was determined that polishing affects the surface hardness and roughness of the fixed temporary restoration material whereas differences in the kept solution do not.

Tekce et al. [22] reported that the surface roughness of restorative materials produced with CAD/CAM was significantly reduced when polished.

Bollen et al. [23] emphasized that the average surface roughness value of the materials used in the mouth should be below 0.2 µm. It was stated by Biçer et al [24] that the average surface roughness value of the restorative material should be lower than 1 µm in order to exert an optically smooth restoration surface.

Many researchers studying PMMA report that the degree of conversion of the monomer structure to polymer is related to the mechanical properties. Based on this, they emphasize that the transformation degree can be measured easily by knowing the hardness of the materials [10, 25, 26]. It is argued that resins in which polymerization is provided by the conversion of the monomer will have fewer residual monomers [27]. At the same time, it has been reported that the abrasion resistance is higher in resins where this transformation is more intense [25]. When the conversion degree of monomer to polymer decreases, water absorption increases and resistance to abrasion decreases with the increase of residual monomer released into the environment [28]. Stawarczyk et al [29] studied CAD/CAM resin blocks and reported that the surface properties and hardness of the resin are critical factors that cause erosion in antagonist teeth.
Surface hardness is a numerical expression of measurement of material resistance against the pressure that is generated by immersing a conical or spherical tip in the material [30]. Hardness measurements can be made with the Brinell, Rockwell, Vickers, and Knoop methods. It has been reported that Vickers and Knoop tests can be used for many of the materials in dentistry [31-33]. In this study, surface hardness was measured with the Vickers hardness test. The amount of load used to press the material is important in all hardness tests [34, 35]. Applying excessive force to stretchable materials can cause cracks, which may result in incorrect results [36]. Consequently, in this study, 1.96 N force was applied for about 15 s.

The diamond tip of the profilometer used in the measurement of surface roughness can move on the sample surface and measure small surface variations [37]. The "Ra" parameter was used for the profilometer used in the studies for the roughness of dental materials [37, 38]. Measurements with the same type of device allow comparison with the many other studies in the literature [10]. The devices used for hardness and roughness measurements in the current study are those devices most frequently reported to have been used in such measurements by other researchers [11, 12, 35].

The acid type and ratio in the beverage, the concentration of the beverage, the duration and frequency of contact between the prosthetic material and the beverage, the content of the prosthetic material, the type of hardness tester, the load applied during measurement and the holding time are factors affecting the surface hardness of the materials [35, 39].

Lee et al [40] obtained information about the transformations of autopolymerizing acrylic resins that polymerize under different temperatures and pressures by comparing their hardness values. They stated that resins polymerized in water at high temperatures are harder. Since the polymerization of the superficial layer where oxygen contact cannot be interrupted is less than the lower layers, the abrasion of this layer [21] as a result of finishing and polishing processes provides harder surfaces. The result is a more durable and esthetic restoration surface [41, 42]. All materials used in prosthetic dental treatment are exposed to decomposition caused by bacteria that use debris left from the food and beverages consumed during the day and the effects of the acidic environment that results [43]. It has been reported that the surface hardness of many restorative materials decreases due to this exposure [44].

It has also been reported that one week after opening acidic beverages such as Coke the pH does not change but the beverage loses its gas [44]. In this study, a new Coke (330 mL) was used for each measurement.

Chung and Yap [45] reported in their study that the finishing and polishing process applied to composite and compomer restorative materials had no effect on surface hardness and roughness [46]. On the other hand, Lee et al [40] applied three-year aging to composite samples and reported that the surface polished composite materials made a difference but there was no significant difference in the surface roughness of different types of composites.

In a study comparing traditionally prepared and CAD/CAM temporary crowns, the CAD/CAM-produced temporary crowns showed improved color stability and physical and mechanical properties [47]. However, Burdurğlu [10] reported in a study on the mechanical properties of CAD/CAM and heat-polymerized temporary crowns that in the long-term CAD/CAM materials had no significant mechanical advantage over traditional materials. He recommended that transients requiring long-term use should be heat-polymerized [10]. It is important that all materials used in such studies have standard properties [31]. Therefore, the materials we standardized in terms of thickness and diameter were prepared in one color (A2). The materials used in the assessment of surface hardness and roughness are generally prepared in the form of a disc with a flat surface. However, no surface is flat in the mouth environment. The polishing process is also more easily effected on flat surfaces. One of the limitations of our study is that it is not possible to polish recessed surfaces, especially on the occlusal surfaces of the teeth. However, the use of flat surface materials in all in vitro studies is important in terms of being comparable [10].
It has been reported that changes in hardness values caused by the exposure of composite resins to different solutions occur within the first seven days [48]. This period is a long time considering the instant contact of the teeth with food during eating. However, these chemical agents can accumulate on the margins and joints of temporary dentures with poorly polished and rough surfaces. In addition, existing calculus and additions in margins can significantly increase exposure time by creating host sites well-suited to the accumulation of the chemical agents in question. It should also be recognized that in clinical conditions patients have to use temporary teeth for several months. In a study by Güler et al. [49], it was stated that the liquid could be in contact with the tissues in the mouth for 15 min for each cup of coffee consumed, and an average consumption of 3.20 cups per day was mentioned. With that in mind, the 24 h holding period will simulate the consumption of the beverage for more than one month. However, there may be substantial differences in the consumption of food and beverages among different people. While some individuals consume no coffee or tea, they might consume a lot of Coke. During periods when nothing is consumed in the oral environment, moisture and temperature can affect materials. It is important to know how the surface properties are affected when temporary materials stay in the oral environment for much longer than one day. In this respect, it is important to have longer holding periods than the one day, one week and three weeks in the present study. Limitations of our study include not using artificial saliva and not being able to imitate the mouth environment.

The surface polishing quality of restorative materials closely affects their resistance to chemical solutions [50]. The surface polishes of test samples that did not have the polishing process applied were standardized by polymerizing between glass plates. In the current study, the highest increase in surface roughness was observed in materials kept in coffee and with polish prepared by the traditional method. The highest hardness value was seen in materials prepared with CAD/CAM, unpolished and kept in Coke for one week. The materials whose hardness values varied the least according to time and solution were materials prepared with CAD/CAM to which polishing was applied. In this respect, acrylic resin samples prepared with the traditional polishing method were in second place. This suggests that polished materials prepared with CAD/CAM may have a longer life. At the same time, it can be said that the polishing process applied to the surface is quite significant.

There are studies reporting that food and beverages affect the mechanical properties of polymers in the mouth by causing structural degradation and softening [48, 51, 52]. It is accepted that acids behave differently in dissolving dental materials and tissues. Although it contains phosphoric acid, it has been suggested that the phosphate ions in Coke can play a role in preventing dissolution by reducing the dissolution from the tooth [18, 53-58]. In the present study, the hardness values of the samples kept in Coke increased in the first week and started to decrease after three weeks of measurements. While the three-week hardness values were lower than the initial value in the samples prepared with CAD/CAM, conversely the hardness increased in the samples prepared by the traditional method. This makes us think that the material type is important in being affected by Coke. A comparison of the initial and three-week results of the surface roughness values showed an increase except for the CAD/CAM polished groups. This suggests that the polishing process applied to materials prepared with CAD/CAM against acidic beverages such as Coke may increase the mechanical properties.

4. Conclusions
According to the statistical results, it can be said that the material type and polishing process are more significant than holding solutions in the present study. However, when we evaluate each group within itself, it can be said that the hardness value decreases more through sugar addition compared to sugar-free tea and coffee at the initial and third-week values. It was determined that the hardness value of the samples kept in mouthwash solution decreased, and this decrease was more in materials without surface treatment. It was found that the addition of sugar did not have a significant effect on the change of roughness values. Although the roughness of the samples kept in mouthwash increased, it decreased
in the unpolished CAD/CAM samples. This suggests that the solution contents may be insignificant in roughness values.

Within the limits of this study, the materials tested were affected by storage solutions. Materials produced with CAD/CAM were found to be more resistant to chemical solutions.

We believe that patients should be warned about their diet, especially when long-term temporary restoration is required.

References


