

The effect of two finishing and polishing systems on the surface roughness of two composite resins

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Abstract

Background and objective: The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effect of two finishing and polishing systems on the surface roughness of two different types of composite resins.

Methods: Forty samples of 6 mm in diameter and 2 mm in depth were prepared, 2 types of composite resins were used (nanocomposite and hybrid composite resin). Twenty samples of each type of material were prepared and divided into two main groups and then each main group subdivided randomly into two subgroups of 10 samples each. Ten samples of each material were submitted to finishing by finishing disc. While the other 10 samples of each material were submitted to finishing by finishing bur. Both finishing systems were used with a slow-speed hand piece in a dry field and with a light intermittent pressure for about 15 seconds for each disc and bur. After storage of the samples for 48 hours; the analysis of the surface roughness was carried out, three readings were made on each surface using a stylus tip, and the extension of each reading was 2 mm stroke.

Results: There was non significant difference between the groups except there was a significant difference between the two finishing systems when used with hybrid composite.

Conclusion: Finishing discs gave best results on nano composite and hybrid composite when compared with finishing diamond bur, with highly significant effect on nano composite.

Keywords: Nano composite, Hybrid composite, Finishing bur, Finishing disc.

Introduction

Regardless of the cavity class and location, a smooth surface finish is clinically important, as it determines the esthetics and longevity of composite resin restorations¹. It has been reported that achieving a restorations surface smoothness is vital for its success². Finishing and polishing of composite resin restorations are essential steps in restorative dentistry³. The esthetics and life span of tooth-colored restorative materials are dependent on the quality of the surface finish⁴. Polishing is the process carried out after the finishing procedure to remove minute scratches from the surface of a restoration and obtained a smooth, light reflective luster⁵. In general, a variety of instruments are commonly used for finishing and polishing tooth-coloured restorative materials, finishing is

performed with diamonds of varying abrasive particle sizes and tungsten carbide finishing burs. For years, a set of flexible discs coated with aluminum oxide and other rotary instruments were used for polishing resin restorations⁶. The final polishing result depends on the filler size, shape, and loading in the resin composite⁷. The various types of filler now in use affect the handling characteristics and also the physical properties of the composite resins. Along the years, composites containing macro-, micro- and nano particles have been proposed. Nowadays, only few macrofile composites are still in use, because of their inadequate surface condition⁸. In recent years, manufacturers have improved resin based composites by reducing particle size, increasing filler quantity, improving adhesion between the

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filler and the organic matrix, and using low-molecular-weight monomers to improve handling and polymerization⁹. Due to the differences in filler size and type, alternative polishing concepts were applied in this study. This study was undertaken to determine the effectiveness of two polishing systems on two types of composite resin aesthetic materials by evaluating surface roughness using a profilometer.

Methods

40 samples were prepared by pouring a plastic tube 2.5cm in diameter and 2cm in height with cold cure acrylic resin. The cylindrical cavities of 6mm in diameter and 2mm in depth were cut at the center of cold cure acrylic resin blocks, by placing a metal mold on the acrylic resin at the dough stage of setting of acrylic resin. Two types of composite resins were used, 20 samples of each type of material were prepared. Specimens were randomly divided into two groups and each group then subdivided into two other groups of 10 samples each. Composite resin was inserted into the mold, a celluloid strip and a glass slab were placed over the composite resin under the load of 200 gm¹⁰ to remove excess material. Then after removal of the glass slab, the sample will be light cured by halogen light curing device for 40 second according to manufacturer instructions between all

steps of the procedure. The samples were stored in distilled water in an incubator at 37C°^{10,11}. Ten Samples of each material were submitted to finishing and polishing with aluminum oxide finishing disc (Rihani int, USA), on a low speed hand piece without water-cooling. The following discs were used in sequence: coarse (white), medium (blue), fine (yellow) and superfine (pink) each for 15sec.. The other 10 samples were polished with finishing bur. Then after storage for 48 hours; the analysis of the surface roughness was carried out all specimens were individually positioned in a surface recorder profilometer to verify the roughness (Ra) values of the material surface. Three readings were made on each surface using a stylus tip, and the extension of each reading was 2mm stroke.

Results

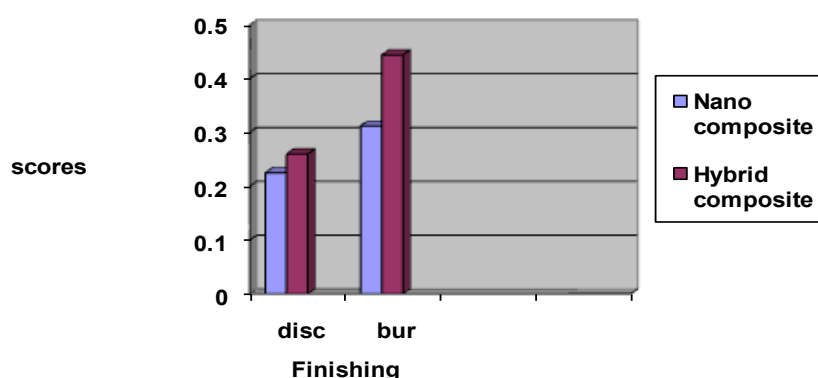
By using paired t- test, there was non significant difference between all the groups at $p > 0.05$, except there was significant differences between the two finishing systems when used with hybrid composite at $p < 0.05$, Table 1, 2 and Figure 1. Generally groups of nano composite gave best results than groups of hybrid composite, especially when nano composite group finished by finishing disc.

Table 1: The descriptive statistic of roughness reading

composite	Finishing system	No. of samples	Mean of scores	SD	Std. Error Mean
Nano	Finishing bur	10	0.312	± 0.065	0.020
Nano	Finishing disc	10	0.225	± 0.054	0.017
Hybrid	Finishing bur	10	0.444	± 0.198	0.062
Hybrid	Finishing disc	10	0.260	± 0.087	0.027

Table 2: t-test for difference between the groups

Groups	techniques differences	df	t-statistic	P-value	Sign.
Nano	Finishing disc - Finishing bur	18	-3.276	0.004	HS
Hybrid	Finishing disc - Finishing bur	18	-2.687	0.015	S
Finishing bur	Nano - Hybrid	18	-1.990	0.062	NS
Finishing disc	Nano- Hybrid	18	-1.077	0.296	NS

**Figure 1:** Bar chart showing the roughness difference between the groups

Discussion

Proper finishing and polishing of dental restorations are important aspects of clinical restorative procedures that enhance the longevity of restored teeth¹²⁻¹⁵, establish a functional occlusal relationship and a contour physiologically in harmony with supporting tissues. In addition, proper contour and high gloss give the restoration the appearance of natural tooth structure¹⁶. Residual surface roughness associated with improper finishing and polishing of dental restorations can result in clinical problems for both patient and the clinician. These problems include excessive plaque accumulation, gingival irritation, increased surface staining, and poor or less than optimal esthetic of the restored teeth^{14,17}. In dentistry, surface roughness measurements

are usually carried out with the help of a profilometer^{18,19}. In the current study, the profilometer was used to determine surface roughness. Arithmetical surface roughness average (Ra) is the most commonly used parameter in the assessment of surface roughness²⁰⁻²². The inherent surface roughness of a restoration must be equal to or lower than the surface roughness of enamel on enamel-to-enamel occlusal contact (Ra= 0.64)⁶. It has been suggested that the degree of polymerization of resin composites affects the hardness of the resin matrix. The greater the conversion rate of carbon double bonds, the higher the hardness value^{23,24}. In the current study, in order to obtain adequate polymerization, all samples were polymerized according to the manufacturers' instructions using a halogen curing light with

constant time. Smoother composite surfaces are obtained when the material was cured against a polyester matrix²⁵⁻³⁰. Even if care is taken in the placement of the matrix, removal of excess material and re-contouring of restorations are frequently necessary. However, these procedures significantly increase surface roughness. Thus, a large number of polishing techniques is available for composites³¹. Composite surface roughness is basically dictated by the size, hardness, and amount of filler which influences the mechanical properties of the resin composites. It is also influenced by the flexibility of the finishing material, the hardness of the abrasive and the grit size^{16,18,32,33-34}. The hypothesis of this study was that the polishing technique and filler content of the composite resin would affect surface roughness. The results of this study support the research hypothesis. The results revealed that Composan bio-esthetic nano composite finished with aluminium oxide finishing disc showed lower surface roughness average value ($Ra=0.225Mm$), due to their small filler particle size and their filler arrangement. The average size of nano composite filler particle is 25 nm and nano aggregates of approximately 75 nm³⁵. While Composan ceram hybrid composite finished with diamond bur showed the higher surface roughness average value ($Ra= 0.44Mm$), due to their harder and larger filler particle size 0.6 to 1 Mm³⁵. In addition, it has been suggested that filler size and load have the potential to influence the surface characteristics of a resin composite³⁶. Filler particles should be situated as close as possible in order to protect the resin matrix from abrasives. Reduced inter particle spacing in resin composites is achieved by decreasing the size and increasing the volume fraction of fillers³⁷. Harder filler particles are left protruding from the surface during polishing as the softer resin matrix is preferentially removed. Resin composites with larger filler particles are expected to have higher Ra value after polishing. Therefore, nano composite can be finished to a smoother

surface than the hybrid composite evaluated in this study. The present results corroborate with those found by Vera et al³⁸, Gulati and Hegde⁵ and Vera et al.³⁹ who demonstrated that nano composites finished with aluminum oxide disc showed the lower surface roughness and this fact is related to the small fillers size, highly loaded and more homogenously distributed in matrix. In addition to the capacity of discs to reduce fillers and matrix evenly. Also this study corroborated with Duygu et al³⁷. Who demonstrated that hybrid composite showed high roughness average value Ra, possibly due to the size of the filler particles that were exposed after polishing or dislodge. The capacity of discs impregnated with aluminum oxide particles produces smooth surfaces is related to their ability of equally removing particles and organic matrix. Previous studies have reported that aluminum oxide disks provided the smoothest surface on resin restoratives which is related to their tendency to abrade filler particles and resin matrix equally without dislodgment the filler particles and gouging into the material^{6,40}. Overall, the diamond burs were less effective than aluminum oxide finishing discs for finishing the composites. These findings are in accordance with Halim et al.⁴¹ and Andre et al⁴², who reported higher values of surface roughness for polishing with diamond burs. As expected, the diamond finishing bur produced rough surfaces on both composites. The rougher surfaces produced by the diamond burs might be related to their grain sizes and scratches might be created on the surfaces of composites. Andre et al⁴², reported that when diamond bur were applied, scratches and some pitting were observed on the surface of the composite, which may have been due to plucking of the filler particles during polishing. The pits were proportional to filler sizes. Also in the present study, Composan bio-esthetic nano composite showed a highly significant differences when finished with aluminum oxide finishing discs, while Composan ceram hybrid composite

showed a significant differences using the same finishing discs system when compared with a diamond finishing bur. This means aluminum oxide finishing discs produced smoothest surfaces for the two materials when compared with finishing bur. Furthermore, the finishing disc has more efficiently finished the composite surfaces for the same reasons as previously mentioned. Authors also underlined that the disc system is able to remove the surface scratches created by the finishing bur^{6,43}. Kreistine et al.⁴⁰, reported that each resin behaves according to polishing system used. Tamayo et al.³⁶, reported that the effect of polishing systems on surface finish was material dependent. While, Vera et al.³⁸, reported that the final surface texture was material and technique dependent. In the present study the final polish obtained on a composite restoration would be determined by two factors; composition of composite with the relation to matrix and filler particles and the type of polishing system used.

Conclusion

Nano composite gave best results than hybrid composite, especially when nano composite finished by finishing disc.

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