

UNIVERSIDADE DE SÃO PAULO
FACULDADE DE ODONTOLOGIA DE BAURU

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**Anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral
elements around restorative materials**

**Potencial anticariogênico e quantificação dos elementos minerais
do esmalte ao redor de materiais restauradores**

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Anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials

Potencial anticariogênico e quantificação dos elementos minerais do esmalte ao redor de materiais restauradores

Dissertação constituída por artigo apresentada a Faculdade de Odontologia de Bauru da Universidade de São Paulo para obtenção do título de Mestre em Ciências no Programa de Ciências Odontológicas Aplicadas, na área de concentração Dentística.

Orientadora: Prof^a. Dr^a. Juliana Fraga Soares Bombonatti

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FOLHA DE APROVAÇÃO

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Em gratidão, dedico este trabalho à minha família, que sempre foi o alicerce da minha vida...

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Muito obrigada!

*“O futuro pertence àqueles que
acreditam na beleza de seus sonhos.”*

Eleanor Roosevelt

ABSTRACT

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Anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials

Objective: The aim of this in vitro study was to evaluate the anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials after pH-cycling, through the analysis of the microhardness of the enamel as well as the evaluation of Ca/P/F ratio by Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy analysis (EDS). **Methods:** Ninety blocks of bovine enamel after polishing were submitted to analysis of the microhardness and analysis of the composition in EDS, and sequentially randomly divided into six groups according to the treatment used (n=15): F IX (Fuji IX Extra - GC Corporation); IZ (Ion Z - FGM); F II (Fuji II LC GC Corporation); B II (Beautifil II - Shofu); F250 (Filtek Z250 XT - 3M ESPE); and C (Control - No treatment). The specimens were subjected to pH-cycling for 7 days. Subsequently, they were analyzed by EDS, and the final evaluations of the microhardness at standard distances from the treatment material. **Results:** The EDS findings revealed that there was a significant increase in Fluor concentration and decrease in Calcium in Group BII after pH-cycling. The values of the surface microhardness in F IX, IZ and F II were higher than those in B II, F250 and C at different distances of the materials. **Conclusion:** According to the methodology used, it can be concluded that restorative materials F IX, IZ and F II were able to partially inhibit enamel demineralization under a dynamic pH cycling model. The giomer B II system demonstrated an intermediate anticariogenic potential and incorporation of fluoride in the enamel with statistical difference between Z250 and C, which did not show difference between them.

Key words: Dental enamel. Demineralization. Fluoride. Glass Ionomer Cement. Composite Resin.

RESUMO

RESUMO

Objetivo: O objetivo deste estudo in vitro foi avaliar o potencial anticariogênico e quantificação dos elementos minerais do esmalte ao redor de materiais restauradores após ciclagem de pH, através da análise da microdureza de superfície do esmalte e da avaliação do Ca/P/F por análise quantitativa em espectroscopia de energia dispersiva (EDS). **Métodos:** Noventa blocos de esmalte bovino após polimento foram submetidos a análise da microdureza superficial e análise da composição em EDS, e sequencialmente divididos aleatoriamente em seis grupos em função do tratamento empregado (n=15): F IX (Fuji IX Extra - GC Corporation); IZ (Ion Z - FGM); F II (Fuji II LC GC Corporation); B II (Beautifil II - Shofu); F250 (Filtek Z250 XT - 3M ESPE) e C (Controle - Sem tratamento). Os espécimes foram submetidos à ciclagem de pH por sete dias. Posteriormente, a análise em EDS e microdureza de superfície final foi realizada em distâncias padronizadas em relação ao material de tratamento. **Resultados:** A análise em EDS demonstrou que houve aumento significativo na concentração de flúor e diminuição do cálcio para o grupo B II após ciclagem de pH. Os valores da microdureza de superfície do esmalte em F IX, IZ e F II foram maiores que os de B II, F250 e C nas diferentes distâncias dos materiais. **Conclusão:** De acordo com a metodologia utilizada, pode-se concluir que os materiais restauradores F IX, IZ e F II, foram capazes de inibir parcialmente a desmineralização do esmalte submetido a um modelo dinâmico de ciclagem de pH. O sistema giomer B II demonstrou um potencial anticariogênico intermediário e incorporação de flúor no esmalte com diferença estatística entre Z250 e C, os quais não apresentaram diferença entre si.

Palavras-chave: Esmalte dental. Desmineralização. Flúor. Cimento de ionômero de vidro. Resina composta.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1 INTRODUCTION

Restorative Dentistry in the XXI century is based on the improvement of restorative materials, based on new technologies, prioritizing the association of aesthetics, function and integrity of dental structure with the challenges of the oral environment. Despite this evolution, the caries disease, multifactorial and diet / dependent, still represents a public health problem, since white spot lesions, the first clinical sign of the disease, appear with great frequency in the dental offices (COSTA et al., 2012; MARCENES et al., 2013, ZERO, 1999).

In this situation, promotion of oral health is a key to reduce population incidence of caries (WIEGAND et al., 2007, STECKSE N-BLICKS et al, 2007; BEHNAN et al, 2010). A considerable number of studies, aimed to understanding the development and progression of carious lesions, so research are conduct to know carious behavior and its relation with restorative materials (LIPPERT et al., 2015).

Fluoride releasing restorative materials have an anticariogenic potential, a fundamental property to reduce the risk of mineral loss, to control the recurrence of caries in the dental structure adjacent to the restoration and to contribute to a reduction in the incidence of caries. Thus, the attempt to develop restorative materials with the ability to release fluoride is a goal to control the evolution of the carious lesion (CURY et al., 2016; ASKAR et al., 2017).

The positive effect of fluoride in caries control disease was discovered in the early decades of the twentieth century, since then, this has been a great ally in Dentistry. The rational use of fluoride aims to make the most of their effect on caries control, with minimal adverse effects. The same will act by interfering with the demineralization and remineralization processes acting in post-irruptive mineralization, and inhibit bacterial metabolism (BUZALAF et al., 2013).

Glass ionomer cements (GICs) are widely used for their anticariogenic action and their ability to release and recharge fluoride, being capable to increase the fluoride ions available in oral environment (FORSTEN, 1995; GARCIA-CONTRERAS et al., 2015). It is known that a continued low concentration of fluoride ions in mouth could help reducing demineralization and enhancing remineralization (TEN CATE; FEATHERSTONE, 1991; CURY et al., 2016).

Therefore, hybrid materials had been developed to combine the benefits of GIC, to release and recharge fluoride, biocompatible and chemical adhesion and the esthetic of a resin composite (WIEGAND; BUCHALLA; ATTIN, 2007) with the addition of hidroxietil-methacrylate (HEMA) or bisfenolglycidilmethacrylate (BisGMA) in a resin modified glass ionomer cement (GARCIA-CONTRERAS et al., 2015). These materials had improved the mechanical properties of the GIC, without interfering with its release of fluoride.

The class of resins composite materials was building up because its good clinical, due to its mechanical properties and aesthetics (FERRACANE, 2011). However, resins composite do not exhibit anticariogenic properties for the reason that it could not have the ability to release fluoride.

Consequently, in a search for developing new varieties of restorative materials, giomers was accomplished to match the release properties of fluoride and aesthetics of composite resins. (HOTWANI et al., 2013). The giomers are formed by acid / base reaction between glass particles (fluoride, boron, aluminum silicate filaments) and polyalkenoic acid in a prior presence of water before being inserted in the resin, designed a surface pre-reacted glass (S-PRG) filler (NAOUM et al., 2011).

Considering the importance of the described issue, there is a need to develop strategies for the control of cariogenic activity using fluoride materials.

Thus, the objective of this in vitro study was to evaluated the anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials, testing the following null hypotheses:

I- There will be no difference in the anticariogenic potential of the restorative materials evaluated submitted to analysis of the microhardness;

II- There will be no difference in the quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials submitted analysis of the composition in EDS.

2 ARTICLE

2 ARTICLE

The article presented in this Dissertation was written according to the Operative Dentistry instructions and guidelines for article submission (Annex A).

ANTICARIOGENIC POTENTIAL AND QUANTIFICATION OF THE ENAMEL MINERAL ELEMENTS AROUND RESTORATIVE MATERIALS

ABSTRACT

Objective: The aim of this in vitro study was to evaluate the anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials after pH-cycling, through the analysis of the microhardness of the enamel as well as the evaluation of Ca/P/F ratio by Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy analysis (EDS). **Methods:** Ninety blocks of bovine enamel after polishing were submitted to analysis of the microhardness and analysis of the composition in EDS, and sequentially randomly divided into six groups according to the treatment used (n=15): F IX (Fuji IX Extra - GC Corporation); IZ (Ion Z - FGM); F II (Fuji II LC GC Corporation); B II (Beautifil II - Shofu); F250 (Filtek Z250 XT - 3M ESPE); and C (Control - No treatment). The specimens were subjected to pH-cycling for 7 days. Subsequently, they were analyzed by EDS, and the final evaluations of the microhardness at standard distances from the treatment material. **Results:** The EDS findings revealed that there was a significant increase in Fluor concentration and decrease in Calcium in Group BII after pH-cycling. The values of the surface microhardness in F IX, IZ and F II were higher than those in B II, F250 and C at different distances of the materials. **Conclusion:** According to the methodology used, it can be concluded that restorative materials F IX, IZ and F II were able to partially inhibit enamel demineralization under a dynamic pH cycling model. The giomer B II system demonstrated an intermediate anticariogenic potential and incorporation of fluoride in the enamel with statistical difference between Z250 and C, which did not show difference between them.

KEYWORDS: Dental enamel. Demineralization. Fluoride. Glass Ionomer Cement. Composite Resin.

INTRODUCTION

Restorative Dentistry in the 21st (XXI) century is based on the improvement of restorative materials, based on new technologies, prioritizing the association of aesthetics, function and integrity of dental structure with the challenges of the oral environment. Despite this evolution, the caries disease, multifactorial and diet / dependent, still represents a public health problem, since white spot lesions, the first clinical sign of the disease, appear with great frequency in the dental offices.^{1,2,3}

In this situation, promotion of oral health is a key to reduce population incidence of caries.^{4,5,6} A considerable number of studies, aimed to understanding the development and progression of carious lesions, so research are conduct to know carious behavior and its relation with restorative materials.⁷

Fluoride releasing restorative materials have an anticariogenic potential, a fundamental property to reduce the risk of mineral loss, to control the recurrence of caries in the dental structure adjacent to the restoration and to contribute to a reduction in the incidence of caries. Thus, the attempt to develop restorative materials with the ability to release fluoride is a goal to control the evolution of the carious lesion.^{8,9}

The positive effect of fluoride in caries control disease was discovered in the early decades of the twentieth century, since then, this has been a great ally in Dentistry. The rational use of fluoride aims to make the most of their effect on caries control, with minimal adverse effects. The same will act by interfering with the demineralization and remineralization processes acting in post-irruptive mineralization, and inhibit bacterial metabolism.¹⁰

Glass ionomer cements (GICs) are widely used for their anticariogenic action and their ability to release and recharge fluoride, being capable to increase the fluoride ions available in oral environment.^{11,12} It is known that a continued low concentration of fluoride ions in mouth could help reducing demineralization and enhancing remineralization.^{13,8}

Therefore, hybrid materials had been developed to combine the benefits of GIC, to release and recharge fluoride, biocompatible and chemical adhesion and the esthetic of a resin composite⁴ with the addition of hidroxietil-methacrylate (HEMA) or bisfenolglycidilmethacrylate (BisGMA) in a resin modified glass ionomer cement.¹²

These materials had improved the mechanical properties of the GIC, without interfering with its release of fluoride.

The class of resins composite materials was building up because its good clinical, due to its mechanical properties and aesthetics.¹⁴ However, resins composite do not exhibit anticariogenic properties for the reason that it could not have the ability to release fluoride.

Consequently, in a search for developing new varieties of restorative materials, giomers was accomplished to match the release properties of fluoride and aesthetics of composite resins.¹⁵ The giomers are formed by acid / base reaction between glass particles (fluoride, boron, aluminum silicate filaments) and polyalkenoic acid in a prior presence of water before being inserted in the resin, designed a surface pre-reacted glass (S-PRG) filler.¹⁶

Considering the importance of the described issue, there is a need to develop strategies for the control of cariogenic activity using fluoride releasing materials.

Thus, the objective of this *in vitro* study was to evaluated the anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials, testing the following null hypotheses:

I- There will be no difference in the anticariogenic potential of the restorative materials evaluated submitted to analysis of the microhardness;

II- There will be no difference in the quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials submitted analysis of the composition in EDS.

METHODS

Desing experimental

An *in vitro* study was conducted to evaluate the anticariogenic potential and quantification of the enamel mineral elements around restorative materials (Table 1), with the variation factor restorative system on 6 levels F IX (Fuji IX Extra - GC Corporation), IZ (Ion Z - FGM), F II (Fuji II LC GC Corporation), B II (Beautifil II - Shofu), F250 (Filtek Z250 XT - 3M ESPE) and C (Control - no treatment) through the

analysis of the microhardness of enamel and quantitative analysis of the enamel composition by EDS (Fig. 1).

Selection and preparation of enamel blocks

Ninety blocks (4x4mm) were obtained from bovine incisors, which were selected after cleaning, removal of debris, and exclusion of units with cracks, fractures, hypocalcifications, and excessive wear of the incisal third.

The crowns were cut with a precision cutting machine (Isomet low-speed saw; Buehler, Lake Bluff, IL, USA) using two double-sided diamond disks (Extec Diamond Wafering blade; 5" x 0.015" x 1/2"; Extec Corp, Enfield, CT, USA). The cuts were processed at speed of 300 rpm under cooling with deionized water.

Enamel polishing

The dentin surface was planned to obtain specimens of 2 mm thickness, with the surface enamel and dentin parallel to each other.

After the blocks were repositioned and mounted on a metallographic polisher (Aropol 2V; Arotec, Cotia, SP, Brazil), they were polished using # 600 and # 1200 grit sandpaper discs (CarbiMet paper discs; Buehler, Lake Bluff, IL, USA) sequentially. The final polishing was performed using a felt disc with a 1- μ m diamond suspension (Buehler, Lake Bluff, IL, USA) at a high speed under a weight of 172 g.

At each change of grit as well as at the end of the polishing process, the specimens were ultrasonicated in deionized water for 2 min using an ultrasonic device (USC 750; Unique Group, Indaiatuba, SP, Brazil) in order to remove any residue from polishing.

Ca/P/F ratio by Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy analysis (EDS).

A micro-analytical technique employed to estimate quantitatively the amount of mineral of the enamel using a Scanning Electron Microscope (Personal SEM [PSEM] eXpress; Aspex Corporation) equipped with an energy-dispersive spectrometer. Thus, Ca/P/F ratios were analysed for the groups before and after pH-cycling.

Hardness measurements

Surface hardness (Knoop) was determined using a microhardness tester (MicroMet 6040, Buehler, LAKE BLUFF, IL, USA) under a 25 g for 10 s, coupled to an image analysis software (CAMS-WIN; NewAge Industries, Southampton, PA, USA).

The hardness values were calculated from the arithmetic mean of five indentations, 100 μm apart, were made in the centre of enamel samples (Fig. 2). To establish the homogeneity of the samples, specimens with average surface hardness $> 10\%$ or $< 10\%$ 350 KHN were excluded.

Treatment of specimens

After block randomization and sample homogeneity, ninety blocks (4x4mm) was divided into two areas, each of 2 mm width and 2 mm length, measurements with digital caliper, delimiting the area where there will be a standardized cavity preparation (3mm by 1.5mm) with the diamond tip N° 1093/1093F (Fig. 3). Sequentially, half the specimen was secured with tape for the treatment of enamel with the tested materials limiting the experimental area. The resins were inserted incrementally covered by polyester strip and pressed with a glass slide, to delimit the thickness of the material, by digital pressure and photopolymerized with photopolymerizer DB-685 (DABI ATLANTE, São Paulo, Brazil) light intensity of 961mW / cm^2 , both resins and Fuji II LC, was photoactivated for 20 seconds. The area designated as the cross-sectional hardness control was also covered with nitrocellulose lacquer base. Following treatment, the tape protecting was removed and the specimens were stored for 24 h in relative humidity at 37°C. In the control group was not be realized cavity preparation and half of the specimen was covered with lacquer nitrocellulose base, protecting this region of pH cycling (Fig. 4).

pH-cycling

The specimens were subjected to a dynamic model of pH-cycling for 7 days at 37°C. During the first 5 days, the specimens were immersed in a demineralizing solution (pH 4.7) for 6 h followed by immersion in a remineralizing solution (pH 7.0)

for 18 h (Fig. 5). On the final 2 days of the protocol, the specimens were immersed in the remineralizing solution.¹⁷

The specimens were immersed in the solutions separately. Each specimen was stored in a plastic container to avoid the sum effect of the fluoride ions released by the materials. In order to ensure total immersion of the specimens in the solutions, the volume of the solution in each container was maintained at 30 ml. Following pH-cycling, the specimens were stored at $37^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$.

At each solution exchange, the specimens were washed under running deionized water, and the moisture was removed using blotting paper, before they were transferred to the next solution, which would have been stored in an incubator for 1 h prior to transfer.

Analysis of the final surface hardness (SHf)

Following the same method used in the analysis of the initial hardness (SHi) after pH-cycling, the final surface hardness of each of the specimens was evaluated at standard distances of the indentations. The final hardness was performed with 5 indentations at standard distances of 150 μm , 300 μm , and 450 μm from the treatment area, with a separation of 100 μm between each indentation (Fig. 6).

Statistical Analysis

The statistical analysis was determined by Statistic Program (SPSS - 17) and test of normality - Kolmogorov Smirnov.

Surface hardness

The effects of treatments on the final surface hardness were compared from a Variance analysis for repeated measures. The results indicated that the treatment was significant at the final hardness. To perform pairwise comparisons of treatment effects was made Tukey tests ($p < 0.05$).

Energy-dispersive X-ray analysis (EDS)

For initial and final multiple comparisons within each group was used Paired t-tests ($p < 0.05$) to evaluate the calcium level, phosphorus and fluoride.

RESULTS

Surface hardness measurements

The means and standard deviations of the surface hardness of the experimental groups are shown in Table 2.

Following pH-cycling, the treated groups, F IX, IZ and F II, showed the highest values of hardness at the three distances evaluated with a significant statistical difference in relation to the other groups, 150, 300 and 450 μm ($p < 0.001$), were able to maintain a surface hardness standard.

The giomer B II system demonstrated an intermediate behavior with a significant statistical difference between GICs and RM-GIC, Z250 and C (no treatment) with significantly higher hardness values than the Z250 composite resin and C (no treatment) at the three distances evaluated.

The composite resin Z250 was the material that presented the lowest hardness results without significant statistical difference in relation to the C (no treatment) in the 3 distances evaluated.

In the intragroup analysis (repeated measures analysis and Tukey tests) all the evaluated materials presented a decrease of the hardness values as the distance of the restoration increased.

Energy-dispersive X-ray analysis (EDS)

The means values and standard deviations of the evaluated elements at the initial condition and after pH-cycling are shown in Table 3.

For initial and final multiple comparisons within each group, Paired t-tests was used, with a significance of (p-value < 0.05).

In the analysis of enamel elements minerals, B II showed a significant loss ($p=0.003$) for calcium and a significant increase ($p=0.003$) of fluoride in the enamel adjacent to the restoration.

For the evaluated materials and C (no treatment) no significant alteration of the elements calcium, phosphorus and fluoride after pH cycling occurred.

DISCUSSION

The present study was conducted to determine the anticariogenic potential efficacy and quantify enamel mineral elements around commercial restorative materials - three glass ionomer cements, F IX (GIC), F II (RM-GIC) and IZ (GIC), a fluoride-releasing composite, B II (giomer), a composite resin, Z250 and C (no treatment). According to the results of this study, the null hypothesis that the materials tested could not inhibit enamel demineralization in dynamic cycling-pH challenge was rejected.

The glass ionomer cements (F IX, IZ and F II) were chosen for evaluation in this study, as their anticariogenic potential effectiveness, been reported by several studies.⁹

The anticariogenic potential and the quantification of enamel elements Ca/P/F around restorative materials was estimated using *in vitro* models. Artificial enamel caries lesions are created to simulate the development of caries *in vivo*.¹⁷ The production of enamel caries lesions models *in vitro* is able to simulate the dynamics of loss and gain of minerals, allowing a better understanding of the interaction between demineralization and remineralization processes.^{18,19}

Caries is a multifactorial, biofilm-dependent sugar disease.²⁰ Thus, biofilm accumulation is the main factor and sugar exposure is the negative determinant for caries progression on any intact or restored dental surface. The pH is the driving force that regulates the loss or gain of Ca and P from the mineral structure of the teeth.^{21,8}

According to some studies, the enamel hardness is related to the mineral concentration in enamel, indicating a high correlation of the microhardness with

microradiography analysis results, considered as a gold standard for the evaluation of mineral loss.^{22,23,24,19}

Surface hardness analysis results, in the present study, showed that glass ionomer cements (GICs and RM-GIC) were able to partially inhibit enamel demineralization at a greater extent. Among them, there was evidence that Beautifil II showed an intermediate behavior between F IX, IZ, F II, Z250 and C (no treatment), with a significantly higher hardness values than Z250 and C (no treatment).

The mechanism in which glass ionomer cements release fluoride ions into an oral environment is proposed by two processes. Process I is a short-term reaction involving a fast dissolution of fluoride in the medium. The process II is more gradual and results in a diffusion of fluoride through the cement.^{25,26,4,27} In the present study, the release of F IX, IZ and F II (GICs and RM-GIC) was probably due to an initial "burst" of fluoride release from the glass particles, which occurred when the fluoride-containing glass powder reacted with polyalkanoic acid, so the enamel surface hardness averages were higher in comparison to B II and Z250.

Resin-modified glass ionomer cements (RM-GIC) were created to have a potential for fluoride release in amounts equivalent to conventional GICs. However, this potential is affected by several variables: the presence of fluoride compounds and their interaction with polyalkanoic acids, as well as the type and amount of resin used for the polymerization reaction.^{28,29,27}

Among fluoride releasing materials, the distance of 150 µm from the F II (RM-GIC) showed the greatest hardness, but there was no statistical difference between GICs.

A possible explanation for these results is that when more distant the restorative material be, the surface hardness decreases, but F IX, IZ and F II maintain a high hardness standard.

Giomers are presented in B II, a universal nanohybrid composite resin, composed by a surface pre - reacted glass (S-PRG) fillers. This S-PRG filler is formed by an acid/base reaction between glass particles (fluoride, boron, aluminum silicate filaments and polyalkanoic acid) in the presence of water, prior to being inserted into the resin and function as a filler in the resin matrix. Thus, B II differ from compomers, because the glass ionomer hydrogel inside compomers are formed after contact with water, that occur after polymerization.¹⁶ In addition to being an aesthetic

material it is also indicated for restorations of cervical lesion, bonding of orthodontic brackets and patients who are at high risk for caries. The hardness results of B II and Z250 composite resins were statistically smaller compared to GICs and RM-GIC, and larger than C (no treatment). These results, could confirm hydroxyapatite dissolution and minerals loss in the medium in the absence of remineralizing agents.

The hardness loss demonstrated by C (no treatment) was important for validation the pH cycling used in this study,¹⁷ demonstrated that bovine enamel demineralization had occurred, providing the proposed cariogenic challenge.

Some research gathered evidence to show the importance of fluoride mechanism and its topical effect to delay the progression of the lesion.^{30,21} Fluoride works at the point of acid attack to inhibit demineralization and stimulate remineralization. It inhibits the progression of bacterial metabolism and the progression of caries.^{31,10}

Therefore, the inhibition of secondary caries associated with fluoride-releasing materials is attributed to a maintenance release of fluoride ions around restoration margins.^{32,27,9}

Among the conditions of this study, the EDS analysis did have proved to be a sensitive and effective method to detect minor alterations of Ca/P/F mineral content as likewise occurred in the surface hardness evaluation.

However, the results of the EDS analysis after pH cycling showed that (GICs and RM-GIC) F IX, IZ and F II presented similar results, without statistical difference of calcium, phosphorus and fluoride ions percentages between the groups. This result was in agreement with previous findings.^{33,27}

In contrast, B II suffered a significant loss for calcium and a significant increase of fluoride in the enamel adjacent to the restoration. For Z250 and C (no treatment) there was no significant change in calcium, phosphorus and fluoride after pH cycling.

Based on our findings, the glass ionomer-based materials evaluated could release fluoride at a sufficient doses that partially inhibit the formation of new lesions during the pH cycle.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the methodology used and results analysis it could be concluded that:

I - The fluoride releasing restorative materials tested were able to partially inhibit enamel demineralization when subjected to a dynamic pH cycling model, with the best behavior of the glass ionomer cement, followed by giomer. The composite resin did not present an anticariogenic potential.

II – Quantifying enamel mineral elements around restorative materials, the giomer Beautifil II presented calcium ions loss and a greater incorporation of fluoride ions in enamel.

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FIGURE CAPTIONS

Fig 1. Schematic drawing of the experimental steps (1. Selection of teeth, section crowns and obtaining blocks; 2. Initial surface hardness and EDS; 3. Treatment of the specimens; 4. pH-cycling; 5. Final surface hardness and EDS)

Fig 2. Schematic representation of the surface microhardness at standard distances

Fig 3. Schematic representation of the specimen division – Material area.

Fig 4. Schematic representation of the specimen division – Control area.

Fig 5. Table showing the composition of the chemical solutions used for pH-cycling

Fig 6. Schematic representation of the surface microhardness at different areas of the specimen showing the standard distances to the material.

Fig 7. Graphical representation of initial and final surface hardness of the groups at different distances from restorative materials

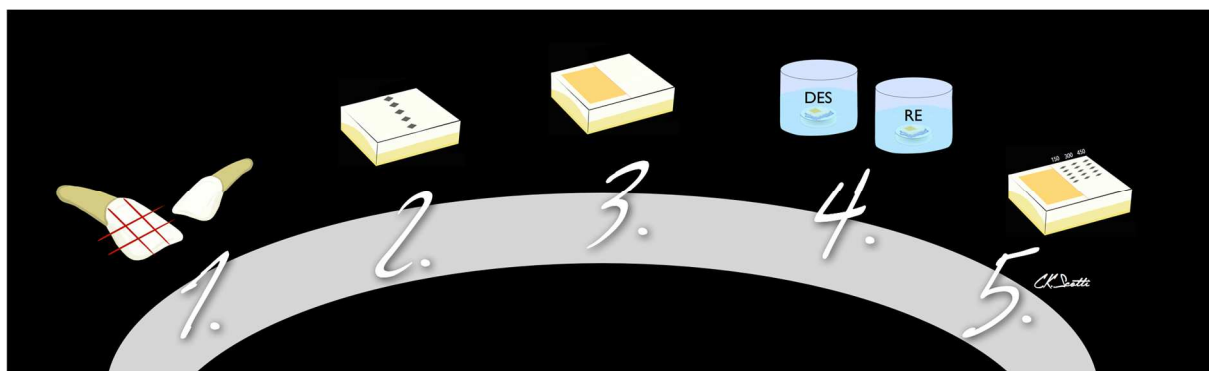


Fig 1

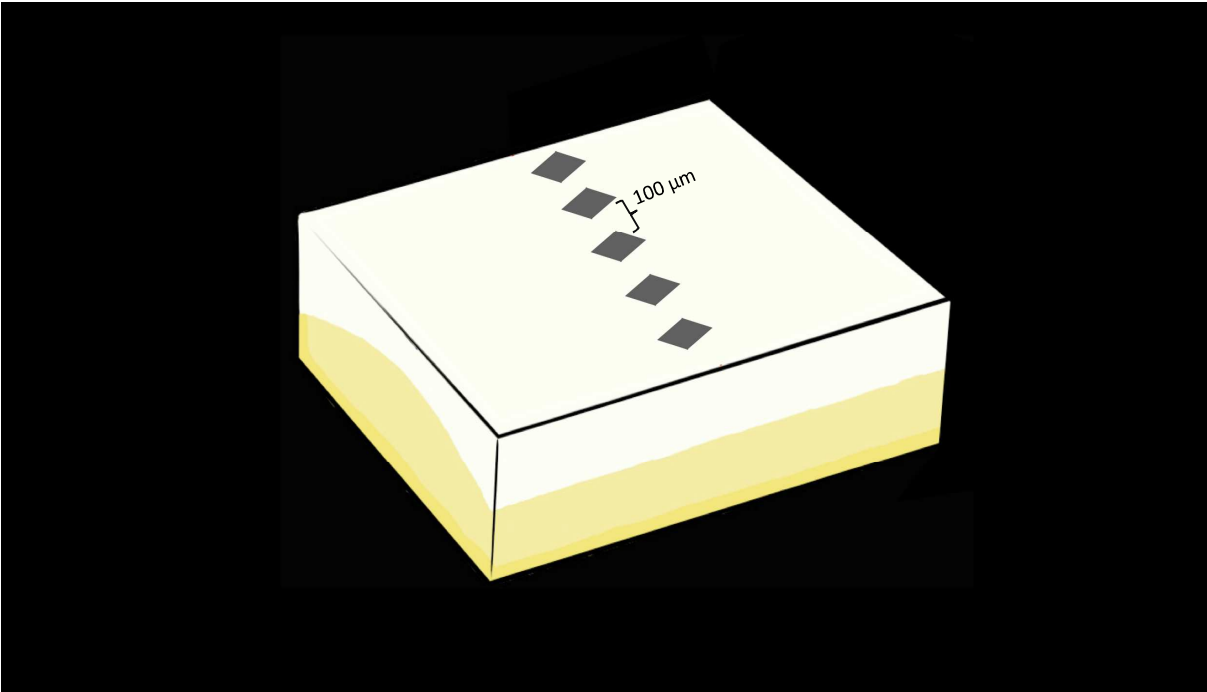


Fig 2

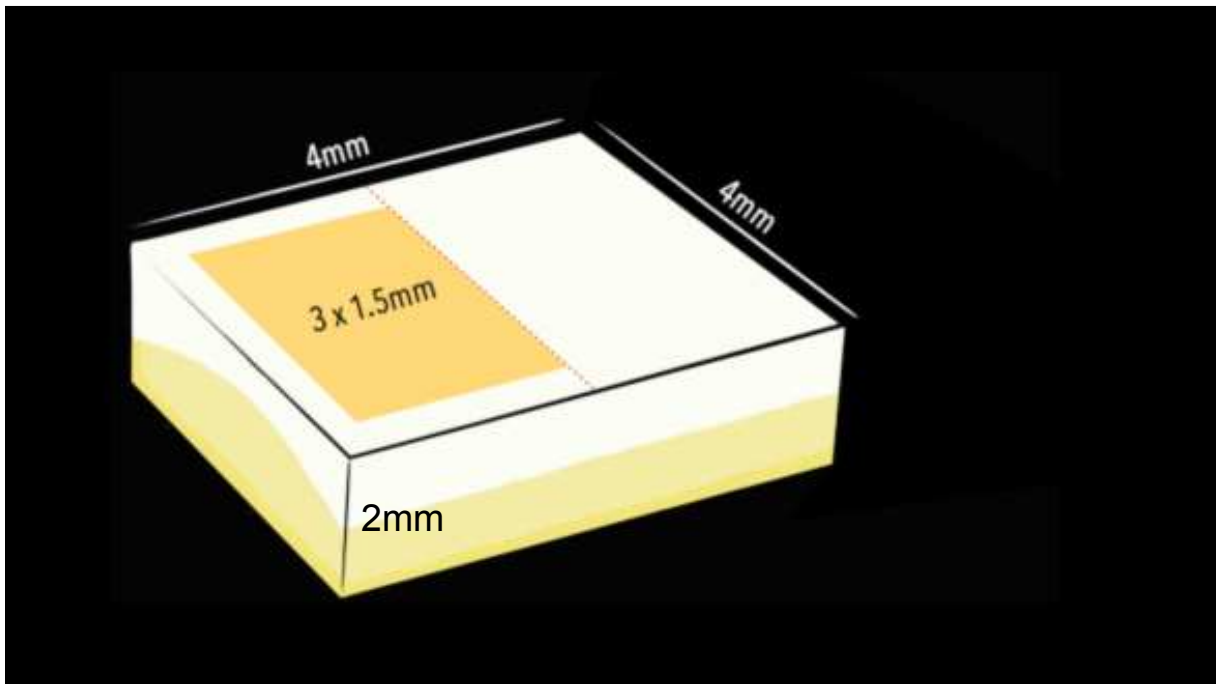


Fig 3

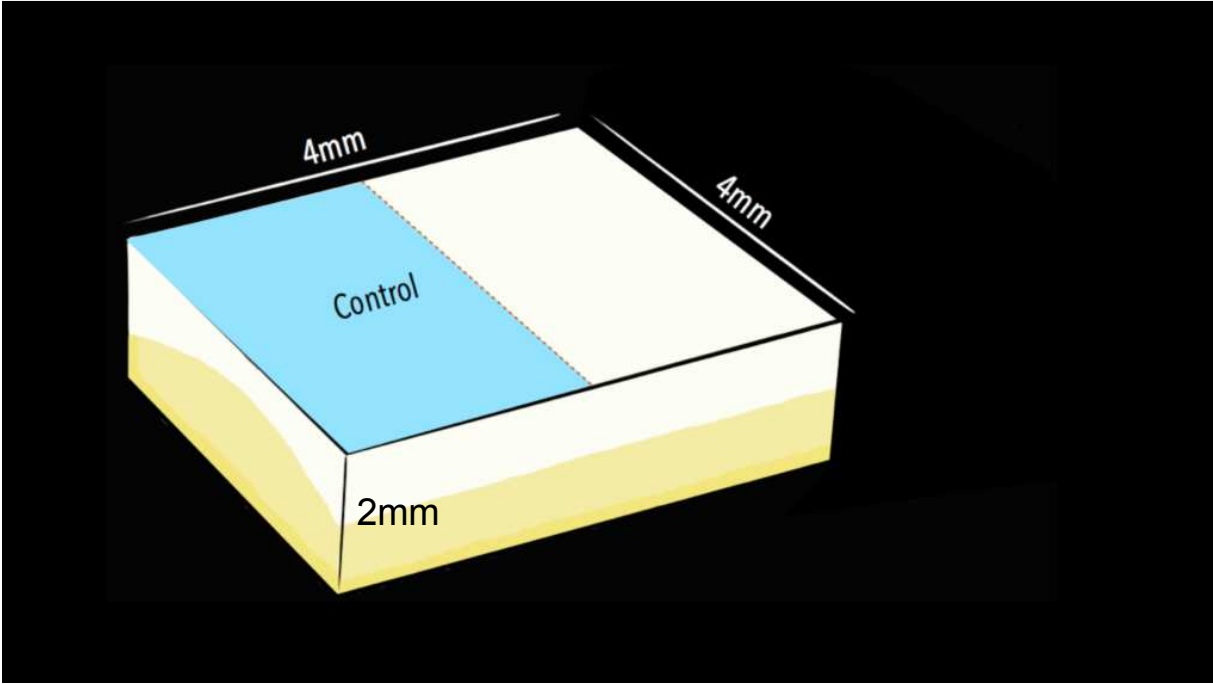


Fig 4

Chemical composition	
DES/RE Cycling	Demineralizing solutions: 2.0mM $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 2.0mM $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 0.077mM acetate buffer, 0.02 ppm F. pH 4.7
	Remineralizing solution: 1.5mM $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 0.9mM $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, 150mM KCl, 0.1mol/l Buffer tris, 0.03 ppm F. pH 7.0

(Vieira et al., 2005)

Fig 5

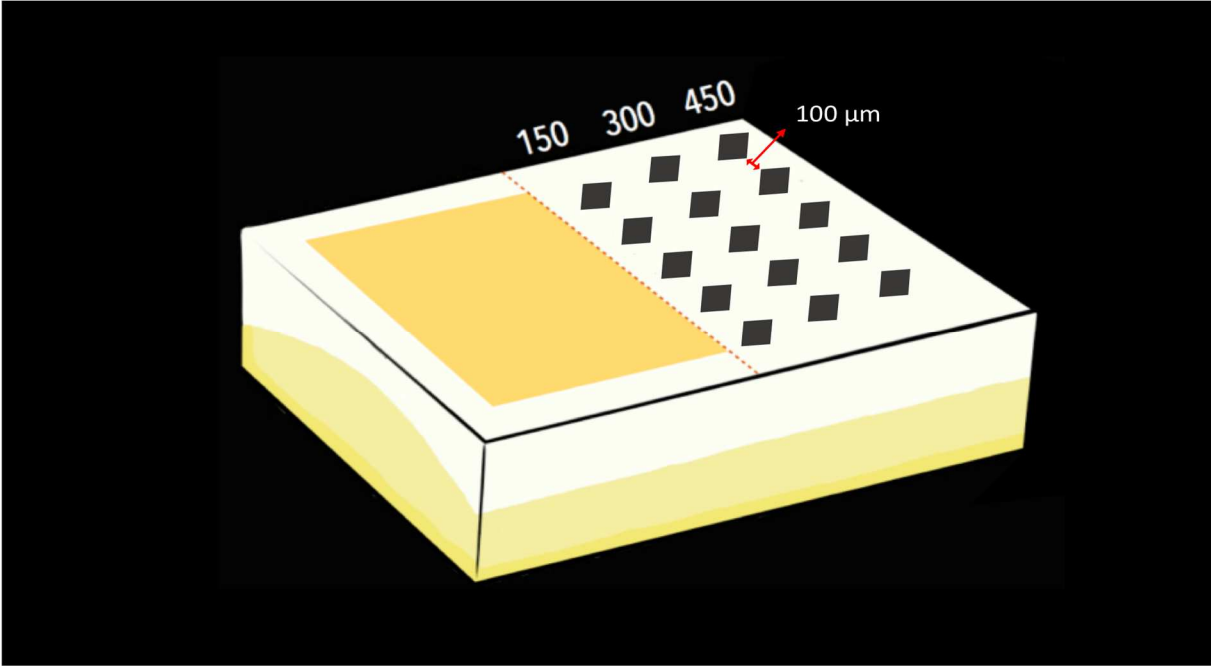


Fig 6

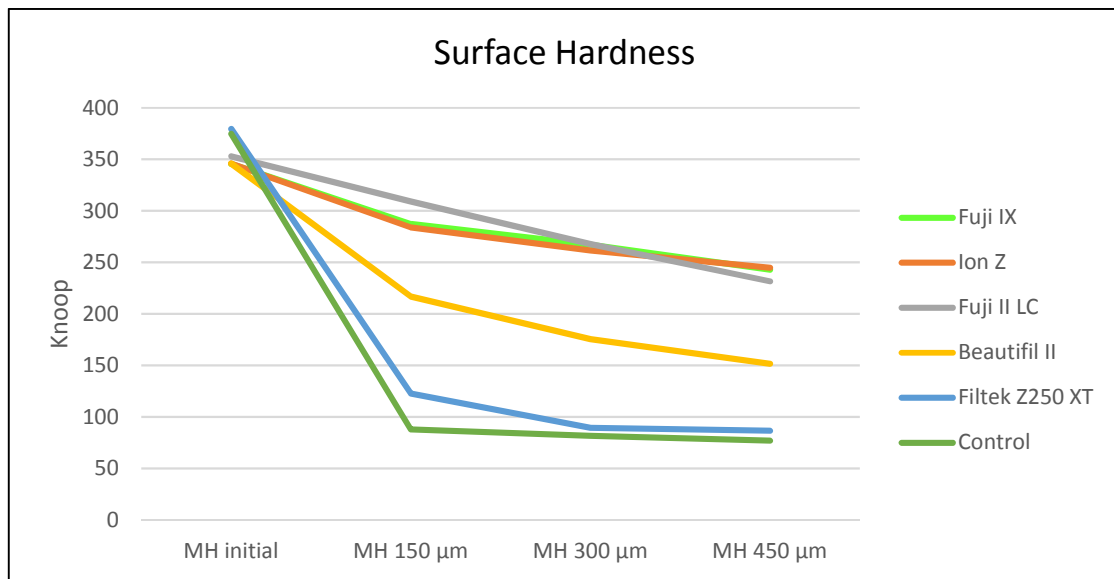
**Fig 7**

Table I. Materials evaluated:

Materials	Classification	Composition
Beautifil II (<i>Shofu</i>)	Composite resin - fluoride-containing resin composite (Giomer system)	Glass particle S-PRG ^a , glass fluoride - aluminum - borosilicate particles, TEGDMA ^b , Bis-GMA ^c , particles' size 20-40 nm.
Filtek Z250 (<i>3M ESPE</i>)	Composite resin (Negative control)	BisGMA, UDMA ^d , BisEMA ^e (zirconia/silica), particles' size 0,01 – 3,5µm.
Fuji IX Extra (<i>Shofu</i>)	Conventional Glass Ionomer Cement (Positive control)	Fluoride - aluminum - silicate glass, potassium persulphate and ascorbic acid.
Fuji II LC (<i>Shofu</i>)	Modified glass ionomer cement (Positive control)	Fluoride - aluminum - silicate calcium glass particles, composite monomers and photo initiators.
Ion Z (<i>FGM</i>)	Conventional Glass Ionomer Cement (Positive control)	Glass of calcium-aluminum-zinc-fluoride-silicate, polycarboxilic acid, deionized water, titanium dioxide, iron oxide.

^aS-PRG: surface pré-reacted glass;

^bTEGDMA: triethyleneglycoldimethacrylate.

^cBisGMA: 2,2-Bis[4-(2-hydroxy-3-methacryloxypropyl-1-oxyphenyl)propane

^dUDMA: urethanedimethacrylate;

^eBISEMA: 2,2-Bis[4-(2-methacryloxyethoxy) phenyl]propane.

Table II. The means, standard deviation and comparison of the surface hardness of the experimental groups.

Group	MH initial	MH final 150	MH final 300	MH final 450
F IX Fuji IX	345.53 Aa ±36.74	287.40 Ba ±57.78	267.07 BCa ±58.29	242.93 Ca ±63.32
I Z Ion Z	346.00 Aa ±35.59	284.00 Ba ±39.08	261.53 BCa ±47.93	244.80 Ca ±46,22
F II Fuji II LC	352.93 Aa ±31.04	309.13 Ba ±29.67	267.80 Ca ±23.02	231.73 Da ±35.85
B II Beautiful II	345.93 Aa ±33.70	216.87 Bb ±45.63	175.67 Cb ±31.41	151.73 Cb ±32.32
F 250 Filtek Z250 XT	379.60 Aa ±24.55	122.67 Bc ±22.21	89.67 Cc ±11.69	86.67 Cc ±20.28
C Control	374.80 Aa ±32.23	88.13 Bc ±6.48	81.80 Bc ±6.28	77.07 Bc ±9.31

- Different capital letters in same row mean statistically significant differences (p<0.05) - Repeated Measures Analysis of Variance and Tukey tests
- Different small letters in same column mean statistically significant differences (p<0.05) - Analysis of Variance and Tukey tests
- Surface hardness measurements Knoop 350 KHN

Table III. The means, standard deviations and intragroup comparison (paired t tests) of each evaluated element in percentage (Ca/P/F) at the initial condition and after pH-cycling

Group	Ca initial	Ca final	P initial	P final	F initial	F final
F IX Fuji IX	54.05 ±0.95	53.60 ±0.83	37.09 ±0.21	37.16 ±0.15	1.55 ±0.15	1.60 ±0.15
I Z Ion Z	53.80 ±0.95	53.89 ±0.93	37.12 ±0.13	37.20 ±0.26	1.58 ±0.17	1.55 ±0.14
F II Fuji II LC	54.01 ±0.77	53.29 ±1.04	37.11 ±0.15	37.2 ±0.32	1.52 ±0.13	1.62 ±0.14
B II Beautifil II	54.05* ±0.69	53.13* ±0.75	37.16 ±0.19	37.11 ±0.27	1.51* ±0.10	1.67* ±0.12
F 250 Filtek Z250 XT	53.65 ±0.92	52.89 ±1.52	37.35 ±0.17	37.39 ±0.34	1.52 ±0.15	1.54 ±0.16
C Control	53.69 ±1.02	53.82 ±1.51	37.37 ±0.25	37.41 ±0.26	1.55 ±0.15	1.52 ±0.24

* Statistically significant (P<0.05)

3 DISCUSSION

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showed an intermediate behavior between F IX, IZ, F II, Z250 and C (no treatment), with a significantly higher hardness values than Z250 and C (no treatment).

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Therefore, the inhibition of secondary caries associated with fluoride-releasing materials is attributed to a maintenance release of fluoride ions around restoration margins (Dijkman; Arends, 1992; Dionysopoulos et al., 2013; ASKAR et al. 2017).

Among the conditions of this study, the EDS analysis did have proved to be a sensitive and effective method to detect minor alterations of Ca/P/F mineral content as likewise occurred in the surface hardness evaluation.

However, the results of the EDS analysis after pH cycling showed that (GICs and RM-GIC) F IX, IZ and F II presented similar results, without statistical difference of calcium, phosphorus and fluoride ions percentages between the groups. This result was in agreement with previous findings (YAP et al., 2002; DIONYSOPOULOS et al., 2013).

In contrast, B II suffered a significant loss for calcium and a significant increase of fluoride in the enamel adjacent to the restoration. For Z250 and C (no treatment) there was no significant change in calcium, phosphorus and fluoride after pH cycling.

Based on our findings, the glass ionomer-based materials evaluated could release fluoride at a sufficient doses that partially inhibit the formation of new lesions during the pH cycle.

4 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

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Based on the findings of this *in vitro* study, the fluoride releasing restorative materials tested were able to partially inhibit enamel demineralization when subjected to a dynamic pH cycling model, with the best behavior of the glass ionomer cement, followed by giomer. The composite resin did not present an anticariogenic potential and the quantifying enamel mineral elements around restorative materials, the giomer Beautifil II presented calcium ions loss and a greater incorporation of fluoride ions in enamel. However, considering the limitations of this study, further long-term analysis and *in vivo* studies are required to determine the efficacy of these materials in the control of caries lesions.

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ANNEXES

ANNEX A – Guidelines for Operative Dentistry submissions:



INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

New Instructions as of 20 September 2008

Operative Dentistry requires electronic submission of all manuscripts. All submissions must be sent to Operative Dentistry using the [Allen Track upload site](#). Your manuscript will only be considered officially submitted after it has been approved through our initial quality control check, and any problems have been fixed. You will have 6 days from when you start the process to submit and approve the manuscript. After the 6 day limit, if you have not finished the submission, your submission will be removed from the server. You are still able to submit the manuscript, but you must start from the beginning. Be prepared to submit the following manuscript files in your upload:

- A Laboratory or Clinical Research Manuscript file must include:
 - a title
 - a running (short) title
 - a clinical relevance statement
 - a concise summary (abstract)
- Introduction, methods & materials, results, discussion and conclusion
- references (see Below)
- The manuscript **MUST NOT** include any:
 - identifying information such as:
 - Authors
 - Acknowledgements
 - Correspondence information
 - Figures
 - Graphs
 - Tables
- An acknowledgement, disclaimer and/or recognition of support (if applicable) must in a separate file and uploaded as supplemental material.
- All figures, illustrations, graphs and tables must also be provided as individual files. These should be high resolution images, which are used by the editor in the actual typesetting of your manuscript. Please refer to the instructions below for acceptable formats.
- All other manuscript types use this template, with the appropriate changes as listed below.

Complete the online form which includes complete author information and select the files you would like to send to Operative Dentistry. Manuscripts that do not meet our formatting and data requirements listed below will be sent back to the corresponding author for correction.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- All materials submitted for publication must be submitted exclusively to Operative Dentistry.
- The editor reserves the right to make literary corrections.
- Currently, color will be provided at no cost to the author if the editor deems it essential to the manuscript. However, we reserve the right to convert to gray scale if color does not contribute significantly to the quality and/or information content of the paper.
- The author(s) retain(s) the right to formally withdraw the paper from consideration and/or publication if they disagree with editorial decisions.
- International authors whose native language is not English must have their work reviewed by a native English speaker prior to submission.
- Spelling must conform to the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, and SI units for scientific measurement are preferred.
- While we do not currently have limitations on the length of manuscripts, we expect papers to be concise; Authors are also encouraged to be selective in their use of figures and tables, using only those that contribute significantly to the understanding of the research.
- Acknowledgement of receipt is sent automatically. If you do not receive such an acknowledgement, please contact us at editor@jopdent.org rather than resending your paper.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please add our e-mail address to your address book on your server to prevent transmission problems from spam and other filters. Also make sure that your server will accept larger file sizes. This is particularly important since we send page-proofs for review and correction as .pdf files.

REQUIREMENTS

• FOR ALL MANUSCRIPTS

- CORRESPONDING AUTHOR** must provide a WORKING / VALID e-mail address which will be used for all communication with the journal.
NOTE: Corresponding authors **MUST** update their profile if their e-mail or postal address changes. If we cannot contact authors within seven days, their manuscript will be removed from our publication queue.
- AUTHOR INFORMATION** must include:
 - full name of all authors
 - complete mailing address **for each author**
 - degrees (e.g. DDS, DMD, PhD)
 - affiliation (e.g. Department of Dental Materials, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan)
- MENTION OF COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS/EQUIPMENT** must include:
 - full name of product
 - full name of manufacturer
 - city, state and/or country of manufacturer
- MANUSCRIPTS AND TABLES** must be provided as Word files. Please limit size of tables to no more than one US letter sized page. (8 ½" x 11")
- ILLUSTRATIONS, GRAPHS AND FIGURES** must be provided as TIFF or JPEG files with the following parameters
 - line art (and tables that are submitted as a graphic) must be sized at approximately 5" x 7" and have a resolution of 1200 dpi.
 - gray scale/black & white figures must have a minimum size of 3.5" x 5", and a maximum size of 5" x 7" and a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and a maximum of 400 dpi.
 - color figures must have a minimum size of 2.5" x 3.5", and a maximum size of 3.5" x 5" and a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and a maximum of 400 dpi.
 - color photographs must be sized at approximately 3.5" x 5" and have a resolution of 300 dpi.

• OTHER MANUSCRIPT TYPES

- CLINICAL TECHNIQUE/CASE STUDY MANUSCRIPTS** must include:
 - a running (short) title
 - purpose
 - description of technique
 - list of materials used
- LITERATURE AND BOOK REVIEW MANUSCRIPTS** must include:
 - a running (short) title
 - a clinical relevance statement based on the conclusions of the review
 - conclusions based on the literature review...without this, the review is just an exercise
 - references (see below)

• FOR REFERENCES

REFERENCES must be numbered (superscripted numbers) consecutively as they appear in the text and, where applicable, they should appear after punctuation.

The reference list should be arranged in numeric sequence at the end of the manuscript and should include:

- Author(s) last name(s) and initial (ALL AUTHORS must be listed) followed by the date of publication in parentheses.
- Full article title.
- Full journal name in italics (no abbreviations), volume and issue numbers and first and last page numbers complete (i.e. 163-168 NOT attenuated 163-68).
- Abstracts should be avoided when possible but, if used, must include the above plus the abstract number and page number.
- Book chapters must include chapter title, book title in italics, editors' names (if appropriate), name of publisher and publishing address.
- Websites may be used as references, but must include the date (day, month and year) accessed for the information.
- Papers in the course of publication should only be entered in the references if they have been accepted for publication by a journal and then given in the standard manner with "In press" following the journal name.
- DO NOT** include unpublished data or personal communications in the reference list. Cite such references parenthetically in the text and include a date.

EXAMPLES OF REFERENCE STYLE

- Journal article: two authors
Evans DB & Neme AM (1999) Shear bond strength of composite resin and amalgam adhesive systems to dentin *American Journal of Dentistry* **12(1)** 19-25.
- Journal article: multiple authors
Eick JD, Gwinnett AJ, Pashley DH & Robinson SJ (1997) Current concepts on adhesion to dentin *Critical Review of Oral and Biological Medicine* **8(3)** 306-335.
- Journal article: two authors
Evans DB & Neme AM (1999) Shear bond strength of composite resin and amalgam adhesive systems to dentin *American Journal of Dentistry* **12(1)** 19-25.
- Journal article: multiple authors
Eick JD, Gwinnett AJ, Pashley DH & Robinson SJ (1997) Current concepts on adhesion to dentin *Critical Review of Oral and Biological Medicine* **8(3)** 306-335.
- Journal article: special issue/supplement
Van Meerbeek B, Vargas M, Inoue S, Yoshida Y, Peumans M, Lambrechts P & Vanherle G (2001) Adhesives and cements to promote preservation dentistry *Operative Dentistry (Supplement 6)* 119-144.
- Abstract:
Yoshida Y, Van Meerbeek B, Okazaki M, Shintani H & Suzuki K (2003) Comparative study on adhesive performance of functional monomers *Journal of Dental Research* **82(Special Issue B)** Abstract #0051 p B-19.
- Corporate publication:
ISO-Standards (1997) ISO 4287 Geometrical Product Specifications Surface texture: Profile method – Terms, definitions and surface texture parameters *Geneve: International Organization for Standardization 1st edition* 1-25.
- Book: single author
Mount GJ (1990) *An Atlas of Glass-ionomer Cements* Martin Duntz Ltd, London.
- Book: two authors
Nakabayashi N & Pashley DH (1998) *Hybridization of Dental Hard Tissues* Quintessence Publishing, Tokyo.
- Book: chapter
Hilton TJ (1996) Direct posterior composite restorations In: Schwarts RS, Summitt JB, Robbins JW (eds) *Fundamentals of Operative Dentistry* Quintessence, Chicago 207-228.
- Website: single author
Carlson L (2003) Web site evolution; Retrieved online July 23, 2003 from: <http://www.d.umn.edu/~jcarlson/cms/evolution.html>
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National Association of Social Workers (2000) NASW Practice research survey 2000. NASW Practice Research Network, 1. 3. Retrieved online September 8, 2003 from: <http://www.socialworkers.org/naswprn/default>