

EFFECTS OF ADDING SILVER NANOPARTICLES ON THE BONDING OF ADHESIVE SYSTEM TO CEMENT GLASS FIBER POSTS

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ABSTRACT

Objective: The present study was conducted to evaluate effects of adding silver nanoparticles with 0.5% nanoparticles on the bonding of adhesive system to cement glass fiber posts.

Materials and methods: Twenty human maxillary canines were selected, the coronal portion was sectioned and teeth were endodontically instrumented and obturated with gutta percha. Gutta percha was removed using Largo drills, and then root canal walls of each sample were enlarged with the low-speed burs provided by the manufacturers. The depth of the post space preparation was 10 mm, measured from the cemento-enamel junction. The samples were randomly divided into two groups according to adhesive system used. Group A: Adhesive system without additives and Group B: Adhesive system containing 0.5% nanoparticles of silver (NAg). Clearfil SE bond applied without and with additives of (NAg) then cured for 20 seconds using light emitting diodes. RelyX ARC resin cement was introduced into canal and posts were positioned and light-cured for 40 seconds then tensile test was done and recorded values of bond strengths in (MPa) were collected, tabulated and statistically analyzed. One way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's tests were used for testing the significance between the means of tested groups which are statistically significant when the P value ≤ 0.05 .

Results: Tensile strength of adhesive system containing (NAg) (group B) [11.42MPa] had a statistically higher value than adhesive system without (NAg) (group A) [7.99MPa].

Conclusions: The results indicate that (NAg) with concentration 0.5% increase tensile bond strength of the adhesive system.

INTRODUCTION

Root canal filled teeth had a greater loss of tooth structure, resulting from caries, earlier restorations, fractures, and endodontic access preparation.

The use of posts in endodontically treated teeth with insufficient coronal tooth structure is a universal accepted procedure¹.

Initial post systems were retentive to root canals mechanically; therefore, there is much loss of tooth

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structure². Cast metal posts were traditionally used for intraradicular retention and have shown high survival rates after 10 years³.

As metal posts have been hypothesized to have high elastic moduli in comparison with that of dentin, which could increase the risks of root fracture and catastrophic failure⁴, glass fiber posts were introduced as an alternative. As the mechanical properties of these posts are similar to that of dentin, the risk of catastrophic failure is reduced⁵ and most failures related to their use involve post debonding⁶. With the evolution of adhesive systems and resin cements endodontically treated teeth began to be reconstructed conservatively⁷⁻¹¹. Nevertheless, obtaining an effective adhesion to root canals is a challenge, considering their unfavorable geometry and the limitations inherent to the physical-chemical properties of adhesive materials¹².

Many of limitations are related to polymerization shrinkage that often exceeds the bond strength of adhesives to dentin, resulting in gap formation along the surfaces with the weakest bonds¹³.

In order to place intraradicular posts in root canals, which are completely filled, gutta percha should be removed with hand or rotary instruments. In both methods, mechanical removal of sealer-impregnated dentin from canal walls is recommended before cementing the posts. Otherwise a fresh surface for resin cement to penetrate and to bond will not be obtained and the retention of cements will be compromised^{14,15}. Removal of this impregnated dentin produces a smear layer rich in sealers. This layer should either be removed or penetrated through by the adhesive system. Some studies recommend removal of this layer by chemical irrigants like EDTA and sodium hypochlorite. However, these agents may affect bonding of resin cement to radicular dentin^{16,17}.

The resin containing NAg inhibit not only bacteria on its surface, but also bacteria in the culture medium away from its surface due to Ag ion¹⁸. NAg

was recently incorporated into dental resins¹⁹. Their small particle size and large surface area could enable them to release more Ag ions at a low filler level, thereby reducing Ag particle concentration necessary for efficacy^{20,21}.

The purpose of this study was to to evaluate effects of adding silver nanoparticles with 0.5% nanoparticles on the bonding of adhesive system to cement glass fiber posts to root dentin.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Tooth preparation:

Twenty human maxillary canines with similar root lengths and fully formed apices and without caries, cracks, or previous endodontic treatment were selected for this study with a mean length of 15 mm and cervical diameter ranging from 5 to 5.5 mm in the mesiodistal direction and 7 to 7.5 mm in the buccolingual direction. The teeth were stored in 0.1% thymol solution (Pharmacia Medicamenta, Campinas, Brazil) and the soft tissue deposits were removed with a hand scaler. The coronal portion of each tooth was sectioned using a diamond double-faced disk in a slow-speed handpiece, cooled with air/water spray. The roots were embedded in self-curing acrylic resin (Palavit G, HeraeusKulzer, Wehrheim, Germany) in plastic cylinders to allow for standardized and secure placement during testing.

The teeth were endodontically instrumented at a working length of 0.5 mm from the apex to a size #35 master apical file. A step-back technique was used with stainless steel K files (Dentsply Maillefer, Ballaigues, Switzerland), Solutions of 2.5% sodium hypochlorite and 17% ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) were used alternately to irrigate the canals throughout the instrumentation procedure. The canals were filled with gutta percha cones and epoxy resin/calcium hydroxide sealer (Sealer 26; Dentsply Maillefer) with the lateral condensation technique²².

A 10-mm-deep post space was created to receive a prefabricated glass fiber reinforced post with parallel walls and tapered tip (Reforpost No. 2; Angelus Dental Products, Londrina, Brazil) as follows: a heated instrument was introduced into the root canal to remove the gutta percha, and then # 3 and #4 intracanal drills (Reforpost drills #3 and 4; Angelus Dental Products) were used in a slow speed handpiece to standardize the internal geometry of the root walls.

The samples were randomly divided into two groups of 10 samples each according to the type of bonding agent used. Group A: adhesive system without additives and Group B: adhesive system containing nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5%. [Nanox Clean® (Nanox Technology S.A., São Carlos, SP, Brazil)]

The self-etch 2-step adhesive system Clearfil SE bond (Kuraray) was applied on the intraradicular preparations. Initially, Clearfil SE primer was introduced to the canal space with the aid of a microbrush and spread for 20 seconds. The excess material was removed by a paper point and Clearfil SE bond applied without and with additives of nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5%. The adhesive was light cured for 20 seconds using light emitting diodes (LED) [BG-light-LTD, 4002 Plovdiv, 430-490nm, Bulgaria].

RelyX ARC resin cement (3M Espe, St. Paul, MN, USA) was manipulated according to the manufacturer's instructions and introduced into the canal with a Lentulo spiral drill #60 (Dentsply/Maillefer, Ballaigues) in a low-speed handpiece. The posts were positioned and light-cured for 40 seconds. Cement excess was removed with a microbrush before light-curing. The samples were stored in a humid environment at 37°C for 7 days²³ before testing.

Tensile bond test

For the tensile bond test, an acrylic resin cylinder fitted on top with a metallic loop was made over the coronal portion of the post (Fig. 1). The

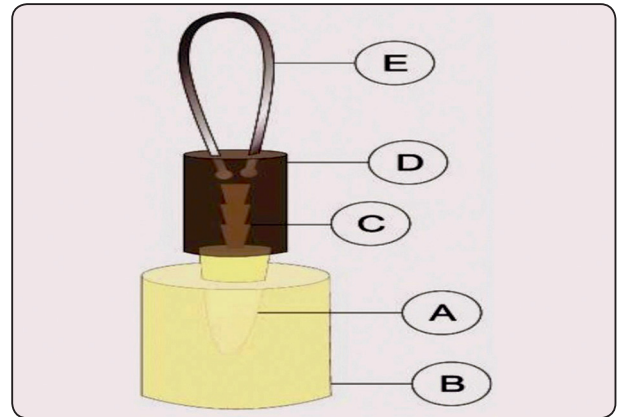


Fig. (1) A, human root; B, acrylic resin; C, glass fiber post; D, acrylic resin cylinder; E, metallic loop.

test specimen was placed in a Universal Testing Machine (model LRX plus II. Fareham, England), and an axial tensile load was applied at 0.5 mm/min until failure.

The tensile bond was calculated by dividing the imposed force at time of failure (F) by the bonded area (mm²) which calculated by digital caliper (Schnelltaster, Dentaureum, Germany).

Statistical analysis

The loads at failure were recorded and the strength values were calculated and analyzed by one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's tests were used for testing the significance between the means of tested materials which statistically significant when the P value ≤ 0.05 .

RESULTS

The means of tensile bond strength for the tested adhesive system without additives and adhesive system containing nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5% are presented in table 1.

The adhesive system containing nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5% (group B) showed the statistically significant highest mean tensile bond strength (11.42 MPa) than adhesive system without additives (7.99 MPa) group A.

The results of tensile bond strength showed significant difference ($P < 0.05$) between group B and group A. Tensile bond strength was increased for the specimens containing nanoparticles of silver (NAg).

TABLE (1) Means of tensile bond in (MPa) for the tested adhesive systems.

Group A		Group B		P-value
Mean (MPa)	SD	Mean (MPa)	SD	
7.99 ^a	0.14	11.42 ^b	0.19	0.001*

*Significant at $P \leq 0.05$, Means with different letters are significantly different according to Tukey's test.

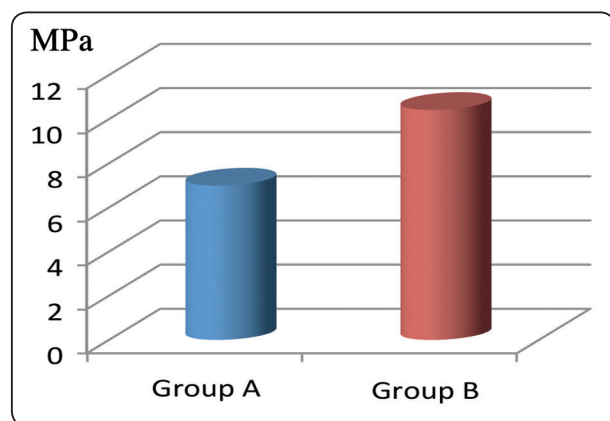


Fig. (2) Mean tensile bond in (MPa) of the tested bond adhesive system groups (group A and group B).

DISCUSSION

The use of glass fiber-reinforced posts has gained popularity in contemporary oral rehabilitative procedures because of their similar elastic modulus as the modulus of elasticity of human radicular dentin²⁴⁻²⁷.

Post retention is considered to be a significant factor in the long term success of the definitive restoration²⁸.

The need for the adhesive luting of glass fiber posts has engendered debates^{29,30}. It has been reported that the bonding of glass fiber posts to the dental structure may be related more to the friction of the post along the canal walls than to the adhesive bonding to root dentin²⁹. The use of resin cements, however, has been found to significantly increase the retention of fiber posts and improve the fracture resistance of the bonded structures when compared to other cements^{31,32}. Adhesive cementation has also been shown to better withstand functional forces³⁰, improve marginal adaptation with better apical sealing, increase retention with reduced post length³³, and optimize the fracture patterns in case of failures³⁴.

Although promising results for the use of fiber posts have been reported³⁵, problems associated with cementation, bond integrity, and interface stability have not been entirely solved³⁶. No agreement has been reached as to the ideal system for achieving a strong and durable adhesive interface between glass fiber-reinforced posts and root dentin³⁷. Ideally, an interface between the post and dentin should be free of gaps³⁸ to produce a homogeneous single unit (monobloc), a situation which was originally thought to occur but which remains a theoretical concept³⁹. However, the lack of integrity in the entire length of the adhesive interface between the post and dentin has been observed to be more pronounced in the apical portion³⁶.

The results of the present study demonstrated a significant increase in tensile bond strength of adhesive system containing nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5% than adhesive system without additives. This may be contributed to NAg-containing bonding agent has antibacterial activity not only on its surface, but also away from its surface. This indicates that NAg-containing resin has a long-distance killing capability, likely due to the release of Ag ions⁴⁰. It was stated that when NAg are dispersed in bonding agent at low concentrations, thermal and mechanical properties,

as well as biological stability and antibacterial action, are improved⁴¹, which reduce or eliminate the interfacial stress concentration within adhesive bonding resin complex⁴².

Improvement of strength with addition of nanoparticles of silver (NAg) may have been due to inherent characteristics of the NAg particles. NAg possesses strong ionic interatomic bonding, giving rise to its desirable material characteristics that is tensile strength.

One limitation of this study is that it is an *in vitro* investigation, which does not fully replicate oral conditions. In addition, this study presents outcomes limited to a single-load test; thus, further studies should add thermal, load cycling, and water storage aging methods to challenge the adhesive interface.

Finally, all proposed luting cements and all adhesive strategies for bonding glass fiber-reinforced posts to root dentin merit further clinical trials to investigate their long-term clinical performance.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of this study, we can conclude that:

Addition of nanoparticles of silver (NAg) with concentration 0.5% on bond adhesive increase tensile bond strength.

Further studies are needed to investigate its effect on other mechanical and physical properties with different concentrations.

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