

EFFECT OF SURFACE TREATMENTS ON THE COLOR CHANGE AND SHEAR BOND STRENGTH OF PORCELAIN LAMINATE VENEER

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KEYWORDS

Co2 laser,
Hydrofluoric acid,
Lithium disilicate.

ABSTRACT

Aim of the study: the purpose of this In-vitro study was to evaluate the effect of surface treatments on the color change and shear bond strength of lithium disilicate glass ceramic veneers. **Materials & Methods:** Twenty square samples with dimensions (8x8x2) and another twenty samples with smaller dimensions (4x4x2) were cut from five IPS e-max CAD blocks of shade A3. The discs were divided into two groups: 1) Half of the small and large blocks were subjected to hydrofluoric acid (HF); 2) the other half was subjected to Co2 laser irradiation. The conditioned samples were subdivided according to the bonding agent: A) Silane application for 60 seconds; B) Single bond universal light cured for 10 seconds. Each small sample was cemented on the top of a large sample using RelyX veneer cement with translucent shade. The color change was measured using spectrophotometer. The shear bond strength was tested using a universal testing machine. **Results:** HF resulted in higher bond shear bond strength and ΔE than Co2 laser. Single bond universal resulted in higher shear bond strength values than silane. **Conclusion:** HF followed by either single bond universal or silane could be the best surface treatment for e-max CAD ceramic. However, Co2 laser could be a promising alternative surface treatment.

INTRODUCTION

Patients demand to restore the lost natural appearance is one of the most critical topics in the dental practice. Recently, ceramic veneer restorations have been proposed as a satisfying treatment option for a wide range of clinical cases including hypoplasia, fluorosis, tetracycline discoloration and diastema closure ⁽¹⁾.

IPS e-max CAD is the machineable form of lithium disilicate glass ceramic that was introduced in 2007 by Ivoclar Vivadent to be milled using CAD/CAM technology. It has become always the material of choice to fabricate esthetic restorations especially ceramic veneers because of its light diffusion property which is capable of replicating the natural tooth structure. However, there are many requirements for success of veneers. The most fundamental requirements are ensuring proper color selection, perfect bond strength and proper cementation ⁽²⁾.

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Many conventional methods were used to improve the bond strength of ceramic veneers to the resin cement such as air-particle abrasion with aluminum oxide particles and etching with hydrofluoric or phosphoric acid. Hydrofluoric acid etching is the most commonly used surface conditioning method together with the use of bonding agents such as silane primer and single bond universal to improve bond strength between resin cement and ceramic prior to cementation⁽³⁾.

Recently many types of lasers have been proposed to be used to enhance the shear bond strength of resin cement to glass ceramics including neodymium: yttrium aluminum garnet (Nd:YAG), erbium (Er):YAG, erbium, chromium: yttrium, scandium, gallium, garnet (Er,Cr:YSGG) and carbon dioxide (CO₂) laser. The term laser stands for "light Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation". This study evaluated the effect of carbon dioxide laser irradiation and hydrofluoric acid etching on the shear bond strength and color changes of IPS e-max CAD ceramic⁽⁴⁾.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

20 square samples with dimensions (8x8x2) and another 20 samples with smaller dimensions (4x4x2) were cut from five IPS emax CAD blocks of shade A3 with low translucency. The blocks were sectioned in the blue state before crystallization using a low speed cutting saw machine. A diamond disk of 0.6 mm thickness was used with cutting speed 2500 rpm and feeding rate 10mm/ min under water cooling. The thickness of each sample was checked with a digital caliper & then sintered at 850°C in Ceramill furnace. Crystallization process ranges from 20-30 min. and then the samples were allowed to cool down in room temperature after completing the process.

The samples were divided into two groups according to the conditioning technique: **Group 1:** Ten large and small samples and were acid etched from one side by hydrofluoric acid (8%) for 60 seconds. All the discs were rinsed after surface conditioning in distilled water and then dried using oil free compressed air. **Group 2:** Ten large and small samples were subjected to laser irradiation using Co2 laser source in a circular movement to the sample surface at distance 1mm. The Co2 laser was used at power setting of 5Watt for 20 seconds in a continuous mode. Each sample group was divided into 2 subgroups as follows: **Subgroup A:** Silane coupling agent was applied to the conditioned surfaces of each five small and large samples for one minute and then dried with an oil free compressed air & **Subgroup B:** Single bond universal was applied to the conditioned surfaces of each five small and large samples. It was then air dried and light cured for 10 seconds.

Cementation: Each small sample was cemented on the middle of a large samples using Rely-x translucent veneer cement according to manufacturer recommendations. A 1-kg weight was placed on the top of the samples to ensure a uniform thickness of cement and excess cement was removed then light cured for 20 seconds.

Evaluation of colour changes (ΔE) of the cemented specimens:

The cemented specimens were placed on a white sheet to act as a constant background. The change in colour (ΔE) between the selected shade A3 of the cemented specimens and the resulted shade after the surface conditioning was measured using digital spectrophotometer (Vita Easy shade). The tip of the probe was held at the centre of the specimens and the probe tip was maintained perpendicular to the surface of each specimen. After that either (Good), (Fair) or (Adjust) will be displayed on the screen. This process was repeated three times for each specimen in the four subgroups and after each reading the easy shade was recalibrated.

Evaluation of shear bond strength of the cemented specimens:

The shear bond strength of each specimen was measured using a universal testing machine. A shear force was applied using the chisel metallic rod placed at the cement interface between the two cemented samples and the machine was operated a cross-head speed of 0.5 mm/min. The results were displayed on a computer screen with a diagram for each specimen showing the fracture point. The load at which failure occurred was recorded in Newton (N) and then transformed into Megapascals (MPa).

Samples were viewed under scanning electron microscope (SEM) before and after surface conditioning to evaluate the surface roughness & surface morphology.

Statistical analysis

The color change (ΔE) and shear bond strength results were tabulated and statistically analysed. Analysis of variance test (ANOVA) was used to calculate the results of the four subgroups.

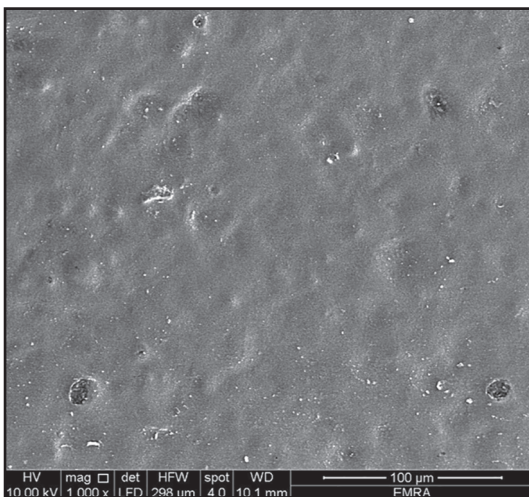


Fig. (1) Surface view under SEM before surface conditioning.

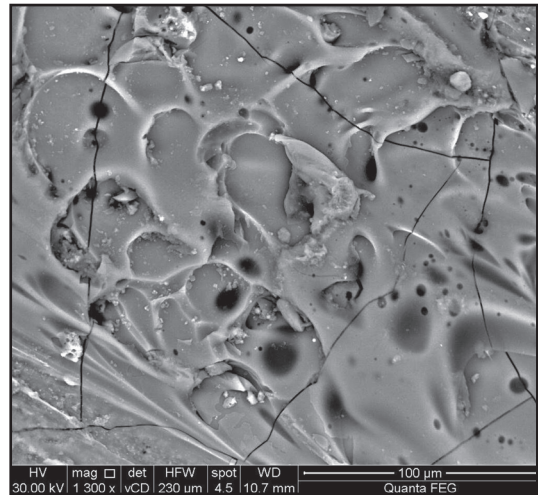


Fig. (2) Surface view under electron microscope after surface conditioning with Co2 laser.

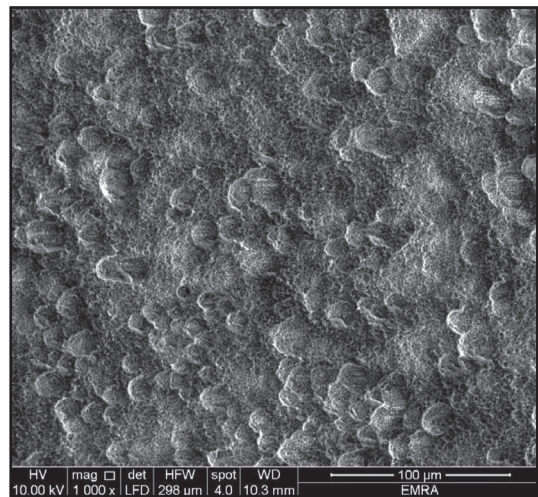


Fig. (3) Surface view under electron microscope after surface treatment with hydrofluoric acid.

RESULTS

Analysis of variance test (ANOVA) was used to calculate the results of the four subgroups.

Color change ΔE

The mean ΔE of the subgroup A1 showed higher value than subgroup A2. The statistical analysis of ΔE of both subgroups A1 & A2 revealed a statistically significant difference (P value = 0.009)

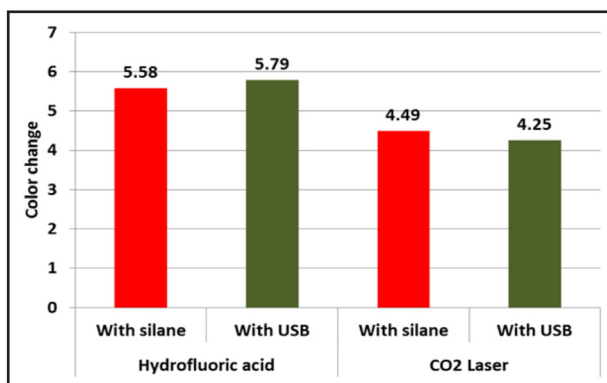
as shown in table 1. The mean ΔE of the subgroup **B1** showed higher value than subgroup **B2** of value. The statistical analysis of ΔE between both subgroups **B1** and **B2** revealed a statistically significant difference (P-value= 0.009) as shown in table 2. All results were represented in graph 1.

Table (1): Mean and SD of Color change of subgroup A1 & A2

Color change	Hydrofluoric acid with silane (subgroup A1)	CO2 Laser with silane (subgroup A2)	p-value
Mean \pm SD	5.58 \pm 0.59	4.49 \pm 0.19	0.009

Table (2): Mean and Standard deviation (SD) of Color change between subgroup B1 & B2

Color change	Hydrofluoric acid with universal single bond (B1)	CO2 Laser with universal single bond (B2)	p-value
Mean \pm SD	5.79 \pm 0.4	4.25 \pm 0.38	0.009



Graph (1): Color change ΔE with different surface treatments.

Shear bond strength

The mean shear bond strength of subgroup **A1** showed higher value than subgroup **A2**. The statistical analysis of mean and standard deviation of both

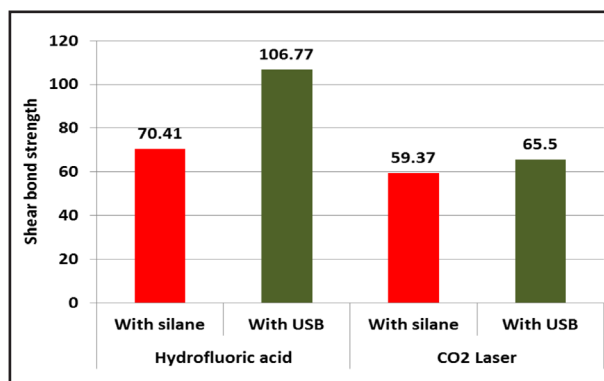
subgroups revealed that there was no statistically significant difference between the two subgroups (P-value=0.08) as shown in table 3. The mean shear bond strength of subgroup **B1** showed higher value than subgroup **B2**. The statistical analysis of mean and standard deviation of both subgroups **B1** & **B2** revealed a statistically significant difference (P value = 0.009) as shown in table 4. All results were represented in graph 2.

Table (3): Mean shear bond strength between A1 and A2.

Shear bond strength	Hydrofluoric acid with silane (subgroup A1)	CO ₂ Laser with silane (subgroup A2)	P-value
Mean \pm SD	70.41 \pm 46.62	59.37 \pm 17.11	0.08

Table (4): Mean shear bond strength between B1 & B2.

Shear bond strength	Hydrofluoric acid with universal single bond (subgroup B1)	CO ₂ Laser with single bond universal (subgroup B2)	p-value
Mean \pm SD	106.77 \pm 74.53	65.5 \pm 24.95	0.009*



Graph (2): Shear bond strength with different surface treatments.

DISCUSSION

In the current study, Co₂ laser was chosen to be an alternative surface treatment method for hydrofluoric acid because it might be hazardous for both the operator and patient. The operator must be protected from skin and eye damage, and any remaining HF acid must be removed completely with before cementation^(5,6). At the same time, Co₂ laser irradiation is a relatively safe and easy surface treatment method. Carbon dioxide laser has the highest power beam of infrared light with the principal wavelength 10.6 micrometers (10600 nm) compared to other types of lasers (Erbium:YAG lasers: 2940 nm, Nd-YAG Lasers: 1068 nm and Diode lasers: 800 nm). It was applied at a power setting 5W. This power is able to create smooth and shallow depressions and pores in ceramic surface that are adequate for proper micro mechanical adhesion with minor crack formation^(7,8).

Samples treated with hydrofluoric acid in both subgroups (silane and SBU) produced higher values of mean shear bond strength than those subjected to Co₂ laser irradiation subgroups. This could be related to the different mechanisms of action of both hydrofluoric acid and Co₂ laser irradiation in altering the morphology of the ceramic veneers. IPS e-max CAD material consists of two crystalline phases; the main crystalline phase consists of elongated lithium disilicate crystals while the second crystalline phase consists of lithium orthophosphate and a glass matrix surrounds both crystalline phases⁽⁹⁻¹¹⁾. Hydrofluoric acid was capable to remove the glass matrix and the lithium orthophosphate crystalline phase exposing only lithium disilicate crystals, which create an irregular rough surface thus increasing the surface area favorable to a good micro-mechanical adhesion⁽¹²⁻¹⁴⁾. This could explain why HF samples under SEM represented much rough surface with porous appearance.

On the other hand, Co₂ laser caused thermal vaporization of the substrate by absorbing laser light allowing laser energy to convert to thermal energy thus creating thermo-mechanical effects on the ceramic substrates⁽¹⁵⁾. Laser energy discharge irradiation worked out by fusing and melting the thin most superficial layer of ceramic surface and its re-solidification forming micromechanical retention pattern which is different from the other surface treatments^(16,17).

In this study specimens subjected to application of Single Bond Universal exhibited the higher shear bond strength when compared to those treated with silane. This could be contributed to the fact that both universal single bond and silane have different chemical composition.

Silanes are bifunctional hybrid organic compounds that could be used to increase the physical, chemical and mechanical adhesion through the creation of a chemical covalent siloxane bond (Si-O-Si) with the hydroxyl groups on the ceramic surface.⁽¹⁸⁻²⁰⁾

On the other hand, Single Bond Universal adhesives contain 10-methacryloxydecyl dihydrogenphosphate monomer (MDP), vitrebond copolymer, silane, Bisphenol A-glycidyl methacrylate (Bis-GMA), hydroxyl ethyl methacrylate (HEMA), together with fillers and water⁽²⁰⁾. MDP is a functional monomer that is embedded in an aqueous solution. It possesses the ideal bonding agent property where the polar phosphate group of functional monomer is initially hydrophilic and becomes more hydrophobic after polymerization. When it is applied the hydrogen group of the phosphate monomer and the oxygen group of the ceramics slowly react to produce water molecules and form a stable covalent bond that provide a low PH environment at the interface and allow the adhesive bond (self-etching property)^(21,22). Vitrebond copolymer is a

type of methacrylate-modified polyalkenoic acid copolymer. This component may contribute to less technical sensitivity and its use could result in improved application procedures by allowing bonding to moist or to dry surface and thus it could manage the hydrophobicity of MDP after polymerization⁽⁹⁾. Bis-GMA increased the viscosity and the mechanical strength of the coupling layer applied.^(21, 23) HEMA is a co-polymer which could improve the bond strength through acting as a solvent preventing the separation of both the hydrophilic and hydrophobic phases⁽²⁴⁾.

Some authors suggested that silane available in the universal adhesives does not play a role in adhesion of resin cement to ceramic. This could be in agreement with **Yao et al (2017)**⁽⁹⁾ who reported that single bond universal containing silane resulted in higher shear bond strength than silane free universal adhesives, but with no statistically significant difference. They reported that the higher results could be contributed to the other components (monomers) in single bond universal not to silane.

There was no statistically significant difference between the shear bond strength of samples subjected to silane application after Co₂ laser and those subjected to single bond universal. This is because Co₂ laser enhanced the effect of silane coupling agent on shear bond strength. It has been reported by **Chen (2010)**⁽²⁶⁾ that heat induced from Co₂ laser effectively achieved this goal because it was able to consolidate three layers of silane into a monolayer without any inter-phase layer. This heat generation could successfully be induced through the Co₂ irradiation where the mechanism of adhesion enhancement between ceramic veneers and resin cement using both chemical process achieved with silane and mechanical processes done by Co₂ irradiation.

Changes in the surface texture and roughness as a result of the applied surface treatments could significantly affect the optical properties of ceramic.

When a surface was smooth the light reflected at the same incidence and direction⁽¹⁰⁾. However, when the surface was rough diffuse reflection occurs and light reflects in different directions. The interpretation of the color of any object is affected by the nature of this object as it may transmit, reflect or absorb light⁽²⁶⁾. If most of the light passes through this material is scattered and reflected, the object will appear opaque. If only part of the light is scattered and most of it is transmitted, the object will appear translucent⁽²⁷⁾. Hydrofluoric acid etching could affect the translucency of ceramic where it became less translucent due to the loss of the glassy matrix and therefore less light will pass through the ceramic⁽²⁸⁻³⁰⁾. This could explain why hydrofluoric acid showed higher values of ΔE .

Single bond universal subgroup showed more color changes than the silane subgroup but with no statistically significant difference. This could be related to the oxidative reactions between the camphorquinone and the amines present in the SBU composition which resulted in yellowish color effect that could affect the translucency of ceramic^(31,32).

CONCLUSION

Within the limitations and conditions of this in vitro study, it could be concluded that:

1. IPS e-max CAD ceramics conditioned with hydrofluoric acid showed higher shear bond strength values than those conditioned with Co₂ laser. However, Co₂ laser conditioning showed acceptable shear bond strength.
2. IPS e-max CAD ceramics bonded with single bond universal showed higher shear bond strength than those conditioned with silane.
3. Hydrofluoric acid conditioning accompanied with the use of bonding agents changed the color of e-max CAD ceramics more than Co₂ laser conditioning accompanied with the use of bonding agents.

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