

MICROLEAKAGE OF CAVITY CLASS V RESTORED BY GLASS IONOMER RESTORATIONS IN PRIMARY MOLARS CONDITIONED BY Er,Cr:YSGG LASER VERSUS CONVENTIONAL METHOD (AN IN VITRO STUDY)

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: In the field of pediatric dentistry the use of Er,Cr:YSGG laser in cavity preparation in deciduous molars has many advantages as fast procedures and patient comfort. The purpose of the present study is to compare between the effect of Er,Cr:YSGG laser and conventional conditioning on the microleakage in cavity class V restored by glass ionomer (GI) and resin modified glass ionomer (RMGI) in deciduous molars.

Materials and methods: A standard class V cavity were prepared at the buccal or lingual surface of forty-eight freshly extracted caries-free human deciduous molars which were divided into 2 groups according to the mode of conditioning: group 1: by using Er,Cr:YSGG laser; group 2: by using conventional conditioning. The samples were subjected to thermocycling and dyeing step.

Results: No statistically significant difference between median microleakage scores of the two conditioning methods with RMGI or GI, while RMGI showed statistically significantly lower median microleakage scores than GI.

Conclusion: Er,Cr:YSGG laser have adverse effect on the microleakage of cavities restored by RMGI and GI. RMGI showed statistically significantly lower median microleakage scores than GI. Application of the Er:YAG laser, beneath the RMGIs and GI may be an alternative to acid etching

KEYWORDS: Microleakage, Er,Cr:YSGG laser, Glass ionomer, Resin Modified Glass ionomer.

INTRODUCTION

Alternative techniques for cutting and finishing of dental tissues during cavity preparation have been suggested for preservation of tooth structure and taking the advantages of new bonding systems¹. New devices and materials, which put in

consideration quick procedures and patient comfort specially the pediatric patient^{2,3}. For seeking a more comfortable, gentle, and conservative excavation of caries lead to developing recent techniques in order to provide less vibration, pain, minimal thermal changes, and infected dentine removal only⁴.

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The Federal Drug Administration (FDA), in 1997 give the approval to use the Er: YAG laser in hard tissues, and after two years later, also approved to be used in Pediatric Dentistry. The Er,Cr:YSGG laser was also approved later for cavity preparation in hard tissue, which causes less trauma and therefore aid in behavior management of child patient^{3,5-7}. The Er:YAG (2.94 μm) and Er,Cr:YSGG (2.78 μm) lasers have several merits, which includes minimum noise, vibration and minimal or no need for local anesthesia administration than the conventional high-speed handpiece during cavity preparation, because their wavelength are absorbed well by the hydroxyapatite, and also coincide with the main absorption band of water⁸⁻¹⁵.

Several researches for many years, found that laser was applicable for cavity preparation, tooth structure preservation, and caries prevention as it is potentially used to increase acid resistance and effectively reduce micrororganisms^{16,17}. When using laser for cavity preparation, the quality of margins of the restoration should be high to effectively ensure marginal seal which is important for longevity of the restorative material and hence reducing the possible gaps between the tooth-restoration interface^{12,18-22} leading to movement of fluid and bacteria resulting in hypersensitivity, pulpal irritation, patient discomfort, and recurrent caries²³.

Many adhesives systems and composite resin restorations have been used to enhance the bonding of composite resin restorations. In the field pediatric dentistry, GI cements are used as an another alternative to composite resin materials due to their adhesion ability to tooth structure, biocompatibility, low polymerization shrinkage, fluoride release, minimal microleakage, recurrent caries reduction, and acceptable esthetics²⁴⁻²⁶, where RMGI cements was introduced as a further development of the conventional GI, to improve its handling and working characteristics²⁷.

Several researches has been done on cavity preparation by Er:YAG laser in relation to

microleakage and adhesion in both permanent and primary teeth, but the studies concerning the laser parameters and quality of cavities prepared with Er:YAG and Er,Cr:YSGG lasers and restored with different GI cements in primary teeth are sparse. So, the aim of this study was to assess the conditioning effect of Er,Cr:YSGG laser versus conventional conditioning on marginal microleakage in class V cavities prepared by Er,Cr:YSGG and restored by RMGI.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Sample size calculation

This power analysis is for a 2 x 2 fixed effects analysis of variance; the first factor (Material) includes 2 levels and the second factor (Conditioning) includes 2 levels. Based upon the results of Luong E and Shayegan A (2018)⁶ the effect sizes for the two factors were found to be (0.2 and 0.55, respectively), using alpha (α) level of (5%) and Beta (β) level of (20%) i.e. power = 80%; the study will include a minimum of 12 specimens per cell for a total of 48 specimens. Sample size calculation was performed using IBM® SPSS® SamplePower® Release 3.0.1

Forty-Eight human unidentified deciduous molars were used according to inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Inclusion criteria:

- 1) With at least intact one surface buccal or lingual.
- 2) Exfoliated either due to physiologic reason.
- 3) Indicated for extraction.

Exclusion criteria:

- 1) Teeth with caries on both buccal and/or lingual surfaces.
- 2) Fractured crown due to extraction.
- 3) Hypoplastic, hypocalcified.
- 4) Any developmental anomaly.

The teeth were washed under running water, cleaned of residual tissue and debris, then autoclaved and stored in distilled water at 4°C for not more than one week^{28,29}. Forty-Eight teeth were divided randomly into 2 groups according to the mode of conditioning: group 1: Er,Cr:YSGG laser and group 2: conventional conditioner and each group was further divided into 2 subgroups according to the adhesive restorative material. Ethical approval was obtained from the Institutional Review Board of Misr International University (MIU) (MIU-IRB #1718-056).

Sample Preparation

A standard class V cavity were prepared at the buccal or lingual surface of each tooth by using Er,Cr:YSGG laser (Waterlase iPlus, Biolase; Irvine, CA,USA) using a Waterlase iplus Gold handpiece and a MGG6 tapered sapphire tip having a fiber core diameter of 600 µm till yellow dentin was seen. The laser settings were 6 W (peak power), frequency 15 Hz, air pressure 60%, and water pressure 80%, used in noncontact mode with distance of 2mm which were controlled by the aid of marked ruler, where the occlusal margin was in enamel and the gingival margin was on cemento-enamel junction. The dimension of the cavity was 2 mm in height, width, and depth which was adjusted by using a pre-marked periodontal probe.

Conditioning of the enamel and dentin

In group 1 (24 teeth), conditioning with Er,Cr:YSGG laser (Waterlase iPlus, Biolase; Irvine, CA,USA) using a Waterlase iplus Gold handpiece and a MGG6 tapered sapphire tip having a fiber core diameter of 600 µm. The laser settings were 4.5 W (peak power), frequency 50 Hz, air pressure 60%, and water pressure 80%, used in noncontact mode.

In group 2 (24 teeth), Dentin conditioner (GC Corporation, Tokyo, Japan) was applied on cavity surfaces, left for 20 seconds, then washed and dried slightly with a gentle stream of oil-free air to avoid desiccation.

Restorative Material Application

Group 1 (24 teeth) was subdivided into subgroup 1 containing 12 teeth, which were restored with a RMGI cement GC Fuji II LC Capsule (GC Corporation Tokyo, Japan) that was prepared according to the instructions of the manufacturer, and packed in the cavity then light curing for 20 seconds with light curing unit by light intensity of 1,500 mw/cm² (POLI LED Curing light, Faro, Italy) and subgroup 2 containing 12 teeth, which were restored by GI using Harvard ionoglass Cem (Harvard Dental International GmbH Margarentenstr, 2-4 15366 Hoppegarten, Germany).

Group 2 (24 teeth) was subdivided into subgroup 1 containing 12 teeth, which were restored with a RMGI cement GC Fuji II LC Capsule (GC Corporation Tokyo, Japan) that was prepared according to the instructions of the manufacturer, and packed in the cavity then light curing for 20 seconds with light curing unit by light intensity of 1,500 mw/cm² (POLI LED Curing light, Faro, Italy) and subgroup 2 containing 12 teeth, which were restored by GI using Harvard ionoglass Cem (Harvard Dental International GmbH Margarentenstr, 2-4 15366 Hoppegarten, Germany). Finishing and polishing of all the restorations were then done by finishing burs.

Microleakage Test

Restored samples were thermocycled for 700 cycles, where each cycle consists of a water bath at 5°C±2°C and 55°C with a 60-second of dwell time in each bath. By the aid of absorbent paper, the samples were superficially dried then sealed with 2 coats of nail varnish, and a window of 1 mm around the margins of the cavity restoration were left. To prevent penetration of the dye to the apical region, it was also sealed by epoxy glue. The samples were immersed in 2% buffered methylene blue solution for 4 hours at pH 7, after which rinsing all samples by tap water for 5 minutes were done and dried with absorbent paper. Sectioning of each restoration was

done by cutting it in the buccolingual direction and through the center of restoration by using low-speed and water-cooled diamond disc (KG Sorenesen). Scoring the degree of the dye penetration was done by the aid of a light stereoscope (Meiji 2000, Saitama, Japan) at X30 magnification 29) on a 4 grade scale as follows ²³:

- a) Score 0=no dye penetration
- b) Score 1=dye penetration along the interface to one third of the cavity depth
- c) Score 2=dye penetration along the interface to two thirds of the cavity wall depth
- d) Score 3=dye penetration to but not along the axial wall; and e. score 4=dye penetration up to and along the axial wall.

Statistical Analysis

Microleakage scores showed non-normal (non-parametric) distribution. Data were presented as median and range values. Mann-Whitney U test was used to compare between the two conditioning methods as well as the two materials. The significance level was set at $P \leq 0.05$. Statistical analysis was performed with IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 23.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp.

RESULTS

Comparison between conditioning methods:

Whether with RMGI or GI; there was no statistically significant difference between median microleakage scores of the two conditioning methods (P -value = 0.623, Effect size = 0.142) and (P -value = 0.623, Effect size = 0.142), respectively.

Comparison between materials:

Whether with Laser or dentin conditioner; RMGI showed statistically significantly lower median microleakage scores than GI (P -value = 0.050, Effect size = 0.537) and (P -value = 0.016, Effect size = 0.800), respectively.

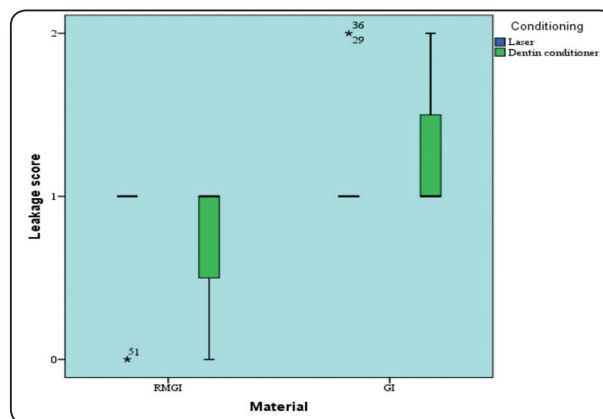


Fig. (1). Box plot representing median and range values for microleakage scores of the two cement materials with different conditioning methods (Stars represent outliers)

TABLE (1) The median, range values and results of Mann-Whitney U test for comparison between microleakage scores of the two conditioning methods and the two materials

| Material | Laser | | Dentin conditioner | | P-value | Effect size (d) |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|
| | Median | Range (Mean rank) | Median | Range (Mean rank) | | |
| RMGI | 1 | 0 – 1 (10.67) | 1 | 0 – 1 (9.88) | 0.623 | 0.142 |
| GI | 1 | 1 – 2 (14.33) | 1 | 1 – 2 (15.13) | 0.623 | 0.142 |
| P-value | 0.050* | | 0.016* | | | |
| Effect size (d) | 0.537 | | 0.800 | | | |

*: Significant at $P \leq 0.05$, Mean rank is for comparison between materials

DISCUSSION

The success of restorative treatment depends on the stability and longevity of the restoration which are affected by absence of suitable adhesion and microleakage between the tooth and the filling material, which are considered one of the main problems in adhesive restoration^{30,31}, where several researches studied the use of enamel beveling, adhesive application, incremental cavity filling, and more recent the use of erbium laser to reduce microleakage^{32,33}.

Several methods were used for measuring microleakage, but, the methylene blue solution used in this current study was the most common method used, due to its better penetration than other solutions because it has a smaller size than the smallest bacteria, inexpensive and easy handling^{23,34}.

A main concern is to provide chemical bonding between the filling material and the enamel or dentin tissue to prevent penetration of bacteria from saliva into the interface between the tooth and filling materials, which causes restoration failure, discoloration of tooth, recurrent caries, pulp reaction and sensitivity after treatment^{35,36}. For the pediatric patient, composite resins were replaced by glass ionomer as an ideal restorative material for class V cavities due to its, capability of forming strong bond to dental structures, biocompatibility, low shrinkage and the remineralization effect through constant fluoride release, which were the reasons for using glass ionomer in this study^{2,22}.

Due to the multidisciplinary nature of laser, it's used in pediatric dentistry for safety and comfort of child patient, because it can lead to ablation of hard dental tissue when optimum parameters and water spray are used results in carious lesion removal and healthy tooth structures preservation with no pulp damage^{6,10,37-41}.

Er,Cr:YSGG laser possess some advantages as, decreased noise due to lack of contact and vibration resulting in more conservation during cavity preparation and hence reduces the use

of local anesthesia allowing the technique to be less traumatic for the child patient and therefore more accepted^{3,4,39,42,43} also the scanning electron microscope images of cavities prepared by laser showed absence of smear layer, enamel rods exposure and opened dentinal tubules, which creates a microretentive pattern that favors retention of adhesive materials, also, the enamel prisms showed a honeycomb-like appearance caused by photomechanical ablation of Er:YAG laser, in addition to ablation of the intertubular dentin rich in collagen due to the photothermal effect which results in degradation and collapsing of collagen fibers and sometimes melting collagen network^{26,27}.

In the present study, the results revealed no significant difference in microleakage of cavities when comparing the two conditioning methods, this may be attributed to the morphologic modifications of the dental substrate created by laser which results in a morphologic pattern in the form of irregular, microretentive surface that mimics that caused by acid etching². On the other hand, in a study carried on by Luong and Shayegan 2108, when acid etching was compared to laser etching, the later was found to be less technique sensitive and leads to higher control over the area needed to be etched precisely⁶.

In the current study RMGI showed statistically significantly lower median microleakage scores than GI, which was in accordance to the results of a study done by Luong and Shayegan 2108, and a study done by Pontes et al. 2014, have shown that resin-modified GI showed less leakage compared with conventional GI^{6,44}.

In a study conducted by Rossi et al. 2008, they concluded that the RMGIC Vitremer showed the statistically significant lowest degree of microleakage, compared with the Ketac Molar conventional CGIC, and was highly evident in the laser cavities², this may be attributed to that a larger part of CGIC adheres chemically to the tooth structure by ion exchanges between the carboxylate ions of the material and the calcium and phosphate

ions of the dental tissues in addition to little micromisalignment adhesion, while the RMGIC adhesion to dental tissues by misalignment of its resinous part in addition to chemical adhesion from its polyacrylic acid component and also, through the hybrid layer formation by the hydrophilic HEMA^{2,15}. Furthermore the modifications created by the laser which results in a morphologic pattern characterized by irregular and microretentive surface which is similar to that done by acid etching together with the additional morphologic alterations caused by laser which are absence of smear layer and opening of dentinal tubules enhances the micromisalignment and therefore the adhesion between the restorative material and the tooth surface².

On the contrary to the present study Chinelatti et al. 2006, demonstrated that the Er:YAG laser negatively affect the marginal seal of cavities in permanent teeth restored with RMGIC and this was attributed to the raised density of energy which may damage the morphologic structure, resulting in alteration of the collagen fibrils and negatively affect the adhesion of restorative material to the cavity¹⁵. the same results have been discovered by Corona et al. 2001, where they stated that laser had a negative influence on the marginal seal and leads to increase in the degree of microleakage of cavities restored by RMGIC²⁰.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the current study, it can be concluded that:

1. Er,Cr:YSGG laser have adverse effect on the microleakage of cavities restored by RMGI and GI.
2. RMGI is clinically preferred than GI as it showed statistically significantly lower median microleakage scores.
3. Application of the Er:YAG laser, beneath the RMGIs and GI may be an alternative to acid etching

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