

In-vitro Comparison of Dissolution Efficacy of Refined Orange oil over Xylene on Various Forms of Gutta Percha.

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Abstract: For successful endodontic re-treatment, complete removal of filling from the root canals is essential. Towards this end, solvents are indispensable. This study was carried out to compare and evaluate the dissolving capability of refined orange oil over xylene on various forms of gutta percha. ISO No. 40, 2% taper cones of Gutta Percha, Chlorhexidine Active points and Calcium hydroxide plus points each, were selected and placed in Group A, B and C respectively. Each group was further subdivided into two subgroups, which were treated with Xylene and Orange Oil solvent respectively, for 5 minutes, at room temperature. Each sample was weighed before and after immersion on a digital analytical scale. Data obtained was subjected to paired 't' test, one way ANOVA test and scheffe's test. Results shows that the weight loss of all types of gutta percha was more in Xylene than Orange oil but the difference was not statistically significant. Orange oil can be used as an effective gutta percha solvent.

Keywords: Calcium Hydroxide, Chlorhexidine, Gutta-Percha, Solubility, Solvents, Weight Loss

I. Introduction

In an obturated root canal, failure may arise because of coronal or apical leakage. This re-infection may lead to endodontic failure. To re-establish healthy periapical tissues, nonsurgical endodontic retreatment is required. Towards this end, adequate cleaning and shaping along with proper access, is mandatory to completely eliminate the pathogens and re-obturate the canal system. [1] Endodontic retreatment can successfully eliminate the pathology [2] and re-establish healthy periapical tissue.

Gutta percha (GP) is the most popular core material used for obturation that fulfills the majority of criteria but it lacks an effective seal and adhesion. This can result in contamination, bacterial penetration and iatrogenic failures that may contribute to the failure of the treatment. [3] Therefore it needs to be combined with a sealer to obtain a tight seal. For cases requiring intra-canal medication, two types of medicated GP are available commercially - Calcium hydroxide points or plus points (CaP), containing 58% calcium hydroxide and 42% gutta percha and Chlorhexidine active points (ChxP) that contain 5% Chlorhexidine diacetate. [4, 5]

In re-treatment situations, GP removal can be achieved by various conventional as well as advanced techniques, including rotary files, ultrasonic instruments, and hand files in combination with heat or chemicals. [6, 7] Use of chemical solvents as an adjunct in removal of root canal filling material is quite pervasive. With the use of medicated GP, as an intracanal medicament, for an extended period of time, their complete removal becomes difficult. [8] In such situations, use of a GP solvent is helpful. Some of the commonly used solvents are- Chloroform, Halothane, Tetrachloroethylene and Xylene. Out of these Xylene is the most widely used, having good efficiency but possessing side effects, like depression of CNS, irritability, insomnia, agitation, extreme fatigue, tremors, impaired concentration, heart and liver pathosis, fatal blood dyscrasias, skin erythema, drying and scaling of skin. [9, 10] Lately Orange oil, an extract of the peel of sweet orange fruit has been advocated as an effective GP solvent, [11] possessing least toxic potential. [12]. In order to test the efficacy of Orange oil over Xylene, as an effective GP solvent, this study was carried out.

II. Materials And Method

This in vitro study was carried out in the department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, R.K.D.F Dental College and Research Centre, Bhopal (M.P.) A total of 90, ISO No. 40, 2% taper cones were taken up in this study. They consisted of 30 cones of Gutta Percha (SureEndo, Korea), 30 Chlorhexidine Active points (Roeko, COLTENE, Germany) and 30 Calcium hydroxide plus points (Roeko, COLTENE, Germany). They were distributed in three groups- A, B and C, wherein Group A consisted of Gutta Percha, B of

Chlorhexidine active points and Group C of Calcium hydroxide plus points. Each group was further subdivided into two subgroups- 1 and 2. Samples in sub-group 1 were treated with Xylene solvent (Trulon, Ghaziabad, India) and those in sub-group 2 with Orange Oil solvent (Neelkanth, India) respectively. (Table 1)

Each sample was weighed initially, before immersing in the solvent, on a digital analytical scale (KEERO, JAPAN). Subsequently each sample was separately immersed, for a period of 5 minutes, in 5 ml of the respective solvent (as per the sub-group distribution) at room temperature, in a glass test tube. Each test tube was covered with aluminium foil to prevent evaporation of the solvent. Test tubes were placed on vibrator at a frequency of 3000 cycles/minute, to prevent clumping of the partially dissolved GP. Each sample was removed from the glass tubes after the specified immersion period, washed in 100 ml of distilled water, dried for 24 h at 37°C in a humidifier and was again weighted on the digital analytical scale.

The amount of mass lost from each sample was calculated by the formula:[1]

$$M = M_1 - M_2$$

[Where: M=Mass lost

M₁=Pre - immersion weight

M₂=Post - immersion weight]

Mass lost was calculated and data were subjected for statistical analysis. The average mean weight loss was analysed using software SPSS version 16.0. Paired t test was carried out to evaluate the pre and post immersion weight loss. One way ANOVA test was carried out for comparing the mean dissolution between groups. Multiple comparison of dissolution capability between individual subgroups was carried out by Scheffe's test.

III. Results

The average weight loss observed in GP, ChxP and CaP with Xylene was found to be 0.01627 gm, 0.01546 gm and 0.01827 gm, whereas with Orange oil, it was found to be 0.01333 gm, 0.01733 gm and 0.01547 gm respectively. The observed weight loss of all the three types in Xylene was greater than that in Orange oil but it was statistically non-significant. (Table 1) With Xylene, there was no statistically significant difference in weight loss between GP and ChxP but it was significant between CaP and the other types. (Table 2) In Orange oil solvent similar weight loss was observed between GP and ChxP, which was statistically not significant, whereas it was more and statistically significant between CaP and the other two. (Table 3) The weight loss observed across the three types of GP points was found to be greater with xylene than orange oil, through this weight loss was statistically nonsignificant.

IV. Discussion

The medicated gutta perchawhen placed within the root canal tend to release the respective medicament. Calcium and Chlorhexidine have been found to cleng on the dentinal wall even after repeated instrumentation and irrigation. In these situations use of a dissolving solvent is helpful. Similarly in endodontic re-treatment conditions, use of a solvent is helpful for complete removal of GP.[13] Easy GP removal achieved with the solvents varies depending upon the dissolution potential and removal capacity of the latter. Trying to balance the effectiveness and toxicity of the solvent, essential oils are mostly accepted because of easy availability and biocompatibility. [14] Among these, Orange oil has been found to be an effective GP solvent [15] with least toxic potential and possessing good biocompatibility. [16] Xylene dissolves the GP by disruption of covalent bonds among the carbon atoms. It produces overall better results as a solvent, by removal of residue. [17] It is not considered a potential carcinogen but has serious drawbacks in the form of producing irritation in the periapical tissues. [18,19] This toxic reaction arises due to an intermediate metabolic product like methyl benzaldehyde. [20] Orange oil has been suggested as a safer and effective alternative to Xylene. [21] It brings about dissolution of GP by penetrating and separating the polymer chains. [22] It is more biocompatible and displays less cytotoxicity than Xylene. [23, 24] In our study Xylene was found to possess better dissolution for all types of GP than Orange oil. Magalhães et al also found Xylene to have highest capability for dissolving GP.[25] Orange oil was also found to possess adequate dissolution capacity for resilon and GP cones.[26] Similar to our findings, Khedmat et al also found Orange oil to be an effective GP solvent. They also found Orange oil to be highly biocompatible with least cytotoxicity among the commonly used solvents and did not decrease the root microhardness.[27] Limonene is the active ingredient in Orange oil and is used as a less toxic substitute for Xylene in histopathology and microscopy. 3-cyclohexen-1-ol, 4-methyl-1-(1-methylethyl) which is the most abundant constituent and a derivative of limonene, is responsible for antimicrobial action.[28] Limonene reagents are advocated as potential substitute as dissolvent over Xylene with least biological hazards.[29] Considering the similarities and effectiveness of Xylene and Orange oil, Matros et al suggested use of latter over the former for dissolution of GP.[30]

This study had certain limitations that the dissolution procedure was carried out in-vitro, under near ideal conditions, whereas as in the oral cavity, conditions differ. Moreover within the root canal, the number of times solvent is placed, also varies, along with the use of endodontic instruments. Thus to simulate the oral conditions, this study needs to be carried out on patients, clinically, wherein the reaction of solvents on the periapical tissues can also be assessed. Based on the results of our in-vitro study, Orange oil can be suggested as an effective GP solvent.

V. Conclusion

Within the limitations of this in-vitro investigation, it can be concluded that Xylene and Orange oil have similar dissolving capability for Gutta percha, Chlorhexidine active points and Calcium hydroxide plus points. Orange oil can be used as a potent and safer alternative to Xylene.

VI. Figures And Tables

Group (ISO No. 40, 2% taper) (n = 30)	Subgroup 1(Xylene) (n= 15)	Subgroup 2 (Orange Oil) (n = 15)
A (Gutta Percha)	A1	A2
B (Chlorhexidine Active Points)	B1	B2
C (Calcium Hydroxide Plus Points)	C1	C2

Table1: Group distribution of different GP points dissolution

Sub groups	Number	Mean weight loss	Standard deviations	Significance(p<0.05)
A1	15	0.01627	0.00243	0.720
B1	15	0.01546	0.00229	0.475
C1	15	0.01827	0.00274	0.006

Table 2:- Weight loss of different GP points after Immersion in xylene solvent

Sub groups	Number	Mean weight loss	Standard deviations	Significance(p<0.05)
A2	15	0.01333	0.00244	0.645
B2	15	0.01733	0.00213	0.806
C2	15	0.01547	0.00141	0.118

Table 3: Weight loss of different GP points after Immersion in orange oil solvent

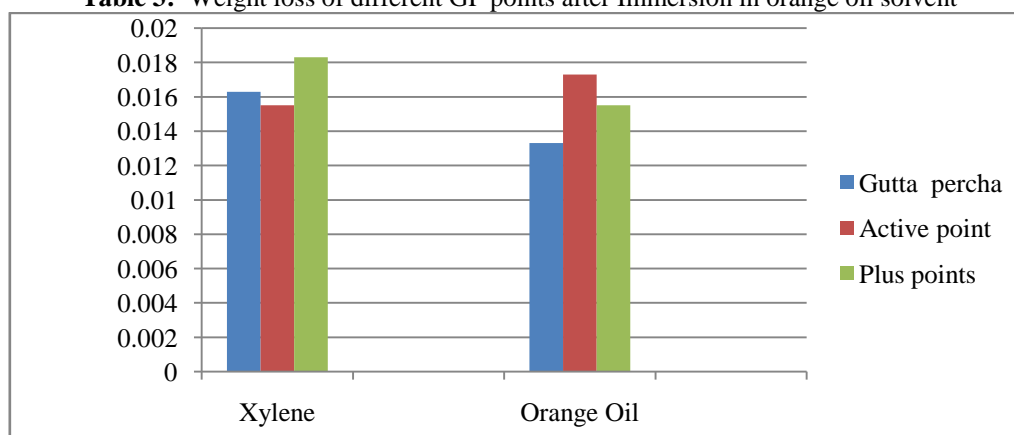


Fig 1: Comparison of solubility effect of Xylene and Orange oil on different GP points. Solubility is expressed as weight loss in grams.

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