# Comparison of marginal adaptation of epoxy resin based sealer (AH Plus) and MTA based sealer (MTA Fillapex) at dentin sealer interface at apical one third of the root canals

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# Abstract

Background: Pulp necrosis denotes the cessation of the metabolic processes of this tissue, with consequent loss of its structure, as well as its natural defenses. A great variety of endodontic sealers are available commercially and they are divided into different groups according to their chemical composition (Eg: Zinc oxide eugenol based, MTA based, Epoxy resin based). Hence; the present study was undertaken for comparing the marginal adaptation of epoxy resin based sealer (AH Plus) and MTA based sealer (MTA Fillapex) at dentin sealer interface at apical one third of the root canals.

Materials & methods: 50 Straight maxillary central incisors (each root with curvature less than 5°), free from any open apices, cracks, calcified canals, canal curvature, and resorptive defects teeth were used. The canals were dried with absorbent paper points and were randomized into two groups of 25 teeth each, as following. Group 1: Obturation using AH PLUS, and Group 2: Obturation using MTA fillapex. All the sample teeth were obturated using single cone obturation technique. All specimens were dehydrated using aqueous ethanol and then were gold sputtered. Specimens were observed under Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). Overall average gaps at this interface were calculated for each sample and results were tabulated.

Results: Mean marginal adaptation at the apical end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 1.86 and 0.53 respectively. Mean marginal adaptation at the coronal end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 2.86 and 0.56 respectively. While analysing statistically, it was seen that mean marginal adaptation was significantly among specimens of group 1 in comparison to group 2.

Conclusion: Marginal adaptability of AH PLUS was significantly higher in comparison to specimens of MTA fillapex group. Key words: MTA, FIllapex, Marginal adaptation

### Introduction

Pulp necrosis denotes the cessation of the metabolic processes of this tissue, with consequent loss of its structure, as well as its natural defenses. In these cases, the recommended endodontic treatment is known as necropulpectomy.<sup>1, 2</sup>

The key to success for endodontic treatment is thorough debridement of the root canal system of necrotic or infected pulp tissues, microorganisms, and complete sealing of the root canal space. This will prevent the persistence of infection and reinfection of the root canal space. The failure of endodontic treatment can be determined on the basis of clinical signs and symptoms and radiographic findings of root canal treated tooth. The literature shows that many factors are considered responsible for endodontic treatment failure. These includes residual necrotic pulp tissue, presence of peri-radicular infection, periodontal disease, root fractures, broken instruments, mechanical perforations, root canal overfillings, root canal underfillings, missed canals or unfilled canals.<sup>2, 3</sup>

A great variety of endodontic sealers are available commercially and they are divided into different groups according to their chemical composition (Eg: Zinc oxide eugenol based, MTA based, Epoxy resin based). Epoxy resin based sealers were introduced in endodontics by Schroeder and current modifications of the original formula are widely used nowadays. Epoxy resin sealers have been used because of their reduced solubility better apical seal and micro-retention to root canal dentin. The manufacturers of AH26 set out to develop an improved product named AH PLUS which has better technical, clinical and cytotoxic characteristics than the original AH26.<sup>4, 5</sup> Hence; the present study was undertaken for comparing the marginal adaptation of epoxy resin based sealer (AH Plus) and MTA based sealer (MTA Fillapex) at dentin sealer interface at apical one third of the root canals.

#### Materials & methods

50 Straight maxillary central incisors (each root with curvature less than 5°), free from any open apices, cracks, calcified canals, canal curvature, and resorptive defects teeth were used. Teeth were washed under tap water to remove blood and debris. They were stored in normal saline before treatment. The length of the roots was standardized to  $12 \pm 1$  mm by the removal of the crown of each tooth with a diamond disc. The working length of the root canal was determined with a K file by inserting until it is just visible at the apical foramen using radiography and then subtracting 1mm from the before mentioned measurement. The root canals were prepared using crown down technique with ProTaper NiTi rotary files until size 40; 0.06 till working length. EDTA was used as the final rinse before root canal obturation. The canals were dried with absorbent paper points and were randomized into two groups of 25 teeth each, as following.

Group 1: Obturation using AH PLUS

Group 2: Obturation using MTA fillapex

All the sample teeth were obturated using single cone obturation technique. All specimens were dehydrated using aqueous ethanol and then were gold sputtered. Specimens were

observed under Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). Overall average gaps at this interface were calculated for each sample and results were tabulated.

## Results

Mean marginal adaptation at the apical end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 1.86 and 0.53 respectively. Mean marginal adaptation at the coronal end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 2.86 and 0.56 respectively. While analysing statistically, it was seen that mean marginal adaptation was significantly among specimens of group 1 in comparison to group 2.

Group	Mean	SD
Group 1	1.86	0.36
Group 2	0.53	0.16
p- value	0.00 (Significant)	

**Table 1:** Mean marginal adaptation at the apical end

Group	Mean	SD
Group 1	2.86	0.22
Group 2	0.56	0.08
p- value	0.01 (Significant)	

**Table 2:** Mean marginal adaptation at the coronal end

# Discussion

In the present study, mean marginal adaptation at the apical end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 1.86 and 0.53 respectively. Mean marginal adaptation at the coronal end among the specimens of group 1 and group 2 was 2.86 and 0.56 respectively. Huang Y et al analysed the ability of multiple compounds to seal the dental tubules using scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and micro-computed tomogra-phy (micro-CT). Twenty-four single-root human mandibular premolars were selected and instrumented with nickel-titanium rotary file and the final file size was #40/06. They were then randomly allocated into 2 groups, and all samples were filled with single cone gutta-percha (#40/06) and one of the tested sealers (AH Plus and EndoSequence BC sealers). According to SEM, both root canal sealers showed sufficient adaptation to dentin along the whole length of the root canal, though the coronal sections presented superior sealing than the apical sections. By using the single cone technique, neither EndoSequence or AH Plus pro-vides a porosity-free root canal filling.<sup>10</sup> Baruah K et al compared the apical sealability of mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA) Fillapex and Endosequence BC sealer at three different lengths of remaining gutta-percha after postspace preparation. There was a statistically significant difference in leakage at 3 mm and 5 mm level in both groups. Although less microleakage occurred, the bioceramic sealers could not totally eliminate leakage.<sup>11</sup>

In the present study, while analysing statistically, it was seen that mean marginal adaptation was significantly among specimens of group 1 in comparison to group 2. Arikatla SK et al evaluated the interfacial adaptation and penetration depth of Bioroot RCS and MTA Plus sealers to root dentin. AH Plus sealer has shown significantly higher depth of penetration and minimum gaps than bioceramic sealers. MTA Plus sealer exhibited significantly more interfacial gaps and less penetration depth than Bioroot RCS. At all root regions, AH plus sealer exhibited minimum gaps and more tubular penetration whereas MTA Plus sealer exhibited more gaps and less penetration.<sup>12</sup> Kumar B compared the marginal adaptation of EndoSequence BC sealer, MTA Fillapex & ProRoot ES root canal sealers to dentin by using SEM. They showed that Endosequence BC sealer along with C point group showed least microgap between root canal sealer and dentin when compared with MTA Fillapex sealer and ProRoot ES sealer groups.<sup>13</sup>

# Conclusion

Marginal adaptability of AH PLUS was significantly higher in comparison to specimens of MTA fillapex group.

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