

Role Of Organic Led And Quantum Dots In Light Cure- An Update

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Abstract: Dental curing light is a device that facilitates polymerisation in light cure resin based composites. Dental curing light polymerizes different materials that are curable by light. Due to the increase in need of Resin based composites with improved physical properties having less stress and marginal interface, recent advancements in light cure led to the introduction of Fourth generation LED, Organic LED and Quantum dots. Scanwave-MiniLed is the first fourth generation LED that can minimize heat effects thereby preventing the hotspots. Organic LED works on electric current wherein there is a formation of organic layer between the two electrodes. Organic LEDs can evenly irradiate all surfaces of photopolymerizable impression trays. Organic LEDs can cause photoinitiation in photocurable impression material, whose applications are Vital bleaching and veneer cementation. Quantum dots, on the other hand, are incorporated into photopolymerizable resin composite from where it allows curing from within. Transition of electrons from valence band to conduction band can cause photoinitiation and since the fluorescent properties of quantum dots closely match that of the natural human teeth, quantum dots are considered to have a good biocompatibility. Manufacture of Organic LEDs with flexibility, transparency and low energy light curing procedures and also quantum dot nanoshells in LED Light cure are the future scopes of this study. Hence, this study reviews the role of organic LED and quantum dots in light cure.

Keywords: Light Cure; Organic LED; Photopolymerization; Quantum dots; Resin based composite.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Photopolymerization has become a widely essential tool in 3D printing which is usually done with help of a cone beam computed tomography [1], construction of polymer electronics, optical materials, membranes, and coatings, and in surface modifications. The common photopolymerization monomers are cyclic epoxides (cationic) and acrylate-based monomers (radical) [2]. Post-operative sensitivity in teeth after doing a composite restoration is caused by residual stress buildup due to polymerization shrinkage resulting in de-bonding of the

restoration ensuing in an enamel crack, microleakage at the margins of the restoration and secondary caries resulting in postoperative sensitivity [3]. Acrylate-based photopolymers are important materials for cardiovascular applications, in vivo drug delivery, and for minimally invasive procedures. Dimethacrylate-based resins [4] have many applications in restorative dentistry, being used as adhesives and pit-and-fissure sealants, and can be combined with silane-coated glass fillers to render the most widely used esthetic direct restorative material, and can be used as cementation agents and veneering materials. Additionally, Restoration using direct composite resin is an excellent treatment option to conserve more tooth structure in root canal treated teeth. Direct restoration with composite resin provides more resistance against tooth fracture [5] than amalgam, as well as providing intracoronary reinforcement and previous studies suggest the foci of calcification and collagen fibre bundles formation are seen within 7 days of its restoration [6]. In a direct composite restoration, the shape is more important than the shade, hence the operator should concentrate more on the line angles which is the determining factor for shape [7]. The treatment of tooth wear caused by enamel erosion, abrasion and attrition is complex and demanding in terms of both the operator's time and cost to the patient. The main complication is that teeth with severe wear have short clinical crown height, treatment extremely challenging. Studies support the use of composites to restore worn anterior teeth. After stable occlusion has been achieved, the composite can be maintained by polishing and repairing, or it can be replaced with crowns. And recent studies have found that grape seed and cranberry extract can be used to prevent enamel corrosion [8]. Light-cured calcium hydroxide liners 56 A visible light-cured (VLC) calcium hydroxide liner consists of calcium hydroxide and barium sulfate dispersed in a urethane dimethacrylate resin containing initiators and accelerators activated by visible light. Calcium hydroxide is well known to be an intracanal medicament when it comes to root canal treatment [9]. Photopolymerization starts with exposure to a light source, the operation wavelength of which depends on the photoinitiator added. For the photopolymerization process to be effective, the spectral radiant power of the light-curing unit must fall within the spectral range required to activate the photoinitiator present in the resin. Dental curing light is a device that facilitates polymerisation in light cure resin based composites. Dental curing light polymerizes different materials that are curable by light. The light falls under the visible blue spectrum with a range of wavelengths for each type. The sources of Dental curing light are 4 basic types which are Tungsten halogen, Light Emitting Diode, Plasma arc and Lasers [2]. Due to the increase in need of Resin based composites with improved physical properties having less stress and marginal interface, the light curing has evolved with advancements. Recent advancements in light cure includes Fourth generation LED, Organic LED and Quantum dots. *Scanwave-MiniLed* is the first fourth generation LED that can minimize heat effects thereby preventing the hotspots. On the other hand, Organic LED uses electric currents and it is extremely flexible. Quantum dots are semiconductor nanostructures that can release more energy. Organic Light Emitting Diode emits light in response to electric current. This electric current enhances the formation of organic layer between the two electrodes and it is used as a light curing device for photocurable impression material [10]. Quantum dots encapsulation in polymers can improve the photoluminescence and stability of the device performance (in case of optoelectronic light emitting diode) leading to the release of more energy [11]. Quantum dots are incorporated into light curable resin composite. Zinc oxide quantum dots are non agglomerated nanoscale fillers for adhesive resins and are found to be biocompatible and these are incorporated into the dental resins. However, there is no clear data or information on the mechanism of how organic LED and quantum dots work. This study aims to determine the role organic LEDs and quantum dots in light cure. More than 100 articles were collected from bibliographic databases and 35 articles that were more appropriate with the title of this review article were selected to compile this review article.

2. RECENT ADVANCEMENTS IN LIGHT CURE:

Scanwave MiniLed is the first fourth generation LED light that has come to the market. It features patented wavelength scanning technology incorporated into its mode selection, allowing the operator to choose the most appropriate spectral output mode and radiation time for any possible material and clinical situation. It has four different diode wavelengths, the most of any dental LED to date, offering broad spectrum curing in 'Full scan' mode for all resin-based materials, irrespective of their photoinitiation chemistry. *Scanwave* helps in curing experimental curing with three common dental photoinitiators found in modern resin-based restorations [12].

Organic LED works on electric current. The name Organic is because of the organic layer formation between the cathode and the anode [13]. Organic LEDs can evenly irradiate all surfaces of the impression trays. It can polymerize photocurable impression material. Vital bleaching and cementation of veneers are two of its main applications. There are two main families of OLED: those based on small molecules and those employing polymers. Adding mobile ions to an OLED creates a light-emitting electrochemical cell (LEC) which has a slightly different mode of operation [14].

Quantum dots are incorporated into the photopolymerizable resin composite and they allow curing from within. Its fluorescence properties closely match that of the natural human teeth. Dental resin composites are tailored using CdSe/ZnS core shell quantum dots. In photocatalysis, electron hole pairs formed in the dot under band gap excitation drive redox reactions in the surrounding liquid. Generally, the photocatalytic activity of the dots is related to the particle size and its degree of quantum confinement. This is because the band gap determines the chemical energy that is stored in the dot in the excited state. An obstacle for the use of quantum dots in photocatalysis is the presence of surfactants on the surface of the dots. These surfactants (or ligands) interfere with the chemical reactivity of the dots by slowing down mass transfer and electron transfer processes. Also, quantum dots made of metal chalcogenides are chemically unstable under oxidizing conditions and undergo photo corrosion reactions [15].

3. ROLE OF ORGANIC LED:

Mechanism of Action:

An Organic Light Emitting Diode has an emissive electroluminescent layer and is composed of a film of organic compounds. Like any other LED counterparts, Organic LEDs produce light by the recombination of electrons and holes. When a voltage is applied across the device, electrons are injected at the cathode which provides electrons to the emissive layer. The conductive layer provides electrons to the anode, leaving holes within the layer [16]. These holes migrate to the emissive layer where they recombine with the excess of electrons, and as the electrons drop into the holes, they release energy in the form of light. The colour of the light emitted depends on the composition of the organic emissive layer [17]. Experimental research has proven that the properties of the anode, specifically the anode/hole transport layer (HTL) interface topography plays a major role in the efficiency, performance, and lifetime of organic light-emitting diodes. Imperfections in the surface of the anode decrease anode-organic film interface adhesion, increase electrical resistance, and affect its lifespan. Mechanisms to decrease anode roughness include the use of thin films and self-assembled monolayers. Also, alternative substrates and anode materials are being considered to increase OLED performance and lifetime [18].

Applications:

It is flexible and extremely thin and also their output level remains below LED chips. It is utilized in an impression tray with walls and floor lined up with these emitting films which is designed to evenly radiate all surfaces of photocurable impression material [19]. It is used in vital bleaching wherein the LED Light emits light that acts as a trigger for the gel that can enter the enamel and lift the stains. Organic LED is recently used for the cementation of veneers as the veneer crowns [20] are thin enough to transmit light. Organic LED fabricated on flexible plastic substrates, leading to the possible fabrication of flexible organic light-emitting diodes for other new applications.

Limitations:

Water can easily damage an organic LED curing device. They are highly moisture sensitive, their cost of production is high, life span is very low, organic LEDs are highly sensitive to ultraviolet rays, to avoid this, a protective layer or filter is used to block UV rays [21]. Degradation occurs because of the accumulation of nonradiative recombination centers and luminescence quenchers in the emissive zone. It is said that the chemical breakdown in the semiconductors occurs in four steps: recombination of charge carriers through the absorption of UV light, homolytic dissociation, subsequent radical addition reactions that form π radicals and disproportionation between two radicals resulting in hydrogen-atom transfer reactions [22]. Additionally, use of 2% chlorhexidine cavity disinfectant increases the microleakage in cavities restored with light cured composites using a single bottle self-etching adhesives [23,24]. CRI (Colour Rendering Index) is the measurement of the lights ability of revealing the actual color of the objects compared to the ideal light source i.e. natural [25] light. High CRI is a desirable characteristic. LEDs usually have poor CRI ratings whenever it comes to CRI.

4. ROLE OF QUANTUM DOTS IN LIGHT CURE:

Mechanism:

Quantum dots are high energy releasing semiconductor nanostructure. Encapsulation of quantum dots in polymers can improve the photoluminescence, stability of the device performance in case of optoelectronic light emitting diodes. Quantum dots are incorporated into the photopolymerizable resin composite [26]. Quantum dots can allow curing from within. It is highly biocompatible since its fluorescence properties closely match to the natural human teeth. Quantum dots can be an alternative to incorporation of fillers in adhesive resins. Zinc oxide quantum dots are incorporated into Trimethylene glycol dimethacrylate (TEG DMA) and glycerol dimethacrylate (G DMA). Quantum dots are fluorescent semiconductor nanocrystals which are composed of 200-10,000 atoms [27]. The structure of quantum dots can be split into two main parts: core and a shell that protects the core. These small crystals display a large band gap. Thus, as the difference in energy between the highest valence band and lowest conducting band increases. More energy is needed to excite the dot, and also, more energy is released when the crystal is back in its resting state. Such technology allows fluorescence to occur at shorter wavelengths than those of excitation. This condition would allow red exposure light resulting in emission of blue light, which might be used for photoinitiation. Quantum dots with gradually stepping emission from violet to deep are being produced in a kg scale [22].

Applications:

As Quantum dots are incorporated into the photopolymerizable resin composite, it might be possible to enable the entire mass to release light within itself, resulting in 'curing from within' [28]. Fluorescence intensity of dental resin composites are dependent on Quantum dots (QDs) concentration and can be tailored by using a CdSe/ZnS core-shell quantum dots

of appropriate core sizes. This allows the fabrication of restorative materials with fluorescence properties that closely match those of natural human teeth and facilitates light curing [29]. Several methods are proposed for using quantum dots to improve existing light-emitting diode (LED) design, including "Quantum Dot Light Emitting Diode" (QD-LED or QLED) and "Quantum Dot White Light Emitting Diode" (QD-WLED). Because Quantum dots naturally produce monochromatic light, they can be more efficient than light sources which must be color filtered. QD-LEDs can be fabricated on a silicon substrate, which allows them to be integrated onto standard silicon-based integrated circuits [30].

Limitations:

CdSe based quantum dots are highly toxic and require a stable polymer shell. The shells can alter the optical properties and it is also hard to control the size of the particles. Quantum dots degradation inside the living organism can also occur [31]. The marginal leakage in composite restoration paves way for the bacterial penetration leading to inflammatory response [32] thereby causing the seepage of uncured monomer into the pulp [33] and leading to its necrosis. The overall conversion efficiency is lower and operation at lower temperature is needed. QDs are expected to be used in a new LED (light-emitting diode) variation, the QD-LEDs. However, the manufacturing of blue emitting QDs is a difficult process. It requires smaller sizes than the rest of the color emitting dots and an amplified emission compared to the other colors [34].

FUTURE SCOPE:

Manufacture of Organic LEDs with flexibility, transparency and low energy light curing procedures and also quantum dot nanoshells in LED Light cure, use of bioactive glass loaded with antibiotics as a composite [35].

5. CONCLUSION:

The increase in need of resin based composites with improved physical properties having less stress and marginal interface, recent advancements in light cure led to the introduction of fourth generation LED, Organic LED and Quantum dots. *Scanwave-MiniLed* is the first fourth generation LED that can minimize heat effects thereby preventing the hotspots. Organic LED and quantum dots. Quantum dots are the emerging technology whose alteration can exhibit excellent biocompatibility as their fluorescent properties are much similar to that of the natural teeth. Organic LEDs on the other hand, has a good application in vital bleaching and cementation of veneers. Organic LEDs usage in photopolymerization of impression material is its recent advancement.

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Data Collection: Jai Rexlin.P.E.¹

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Final approval of the version to be published: JayalakshmiSomasundaram, Anitha Roy³.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this article was reported.

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