



EVALUATION OF THE DIMENSIONAL ACCURACY OF ANGULATED IMPLANTS USING TWO DIFFERENT SPLINTING MATERIALS.

Dental Science

Dr. Lipi Bardia MDS (Prosthodontics), Senior Lecturer

Dr. Malathi Dayalan* MDS (Prosthodontics), Professor & Head Of The Department, *Corresponding Author

Dr. Nivedan K S MDS (Prosthodontics), Senior Lecturer

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

An accurate master cast is a pre requisite in the fabrication of a passive prosthesis. Accuracy of the master cast is critical and dependent on the clinical and laboratory variables intrinsic to restorative treatment, such as the type of impression material and technique. The success of implant prosthesis therefore depends directly on the accuracy of the impression, in order to obtain the original position of the implants in the master cast.¹

Accurate multi-unit implant impression making is a challenging procedure in implant dentistry due to several reasons. The first and foremost is the complexity surrounding the attainment of passive fit of the implant prosthesis, which is directly related to the accurate three dimensional transfer of the implant positions to the working cast.

Other challenging factors are impression technique, impression materials, splinting materials and techniques, implant angulations and implant depth. Implant related studies are further compounded due to various combinations of implant systems, prosthetic components, impression material, splinting material, accuracy evaluation methods, distortion types (absolute or relative), connection levels (implant level or abutment level impressions), and techniques employed by different studies.

The passive fit of the prosthesis is an advantageous factor for the long term serviceability of the restorations. Hence an accurate impression is of paramount importance. Traditionally, there are two different implant impression techniques for transferring the impression copings from the implant to the impressions. The open tray pick-up technique is more precise and predictable than the closed tray technique using repositionable copings.²

The splinting technique has gained popularity with consistent results of higher accuracies compared to non-splinting technique. Different materials frequently used for splinting are auto polymerizing resin, light cured resin and pattern resin. Each technique and material has its own advantages and disadvantages.

A rigid elastomeric impression material would secure impression copings accurately and should have good dimensional stability, and high primary shear resistance with little creep under compressive forces, making it an optimal material for making implant impressions. Vinyl Polysiloxane Ether combining features of both additional silicon and polyether have advantages of hydrophilicity without surfactants, easier handling and high tear strength. This elastomeric impression material is favourable for implant impressions with good accuracy.

With appropriate material and manipulation techniques, accurate impressions can be obtained for fabrication of implant supported restorations. Variable such as implant angulations, impression material, impression technique and splinting materials play a major role in the accuracy of an implant impression.

Hence, the purpose of this study is to analyze the effect of implant angulations and splinting material using VPSE impression material on the accuracy of the casts.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

MASTER MODEL PREPARATION

Three metal matrices of anodized aluminium measuring 3.5 cm in length, 2 cm in breadth and 2 cm in height were fabricated. Two implant analogues (3.75mm X 10mm) were positioned in each metal matrix with an angle of 00, 50, and 150 angles with reference to the vertical axis at a distance of 25 mm.

GROUP I – Two implant analogues with 00 angulations.

GROUP II – Two implant analogues with 50 angulations.

GROUP III – Two implant analogues with 150 angulations.

Each implant analogue was fixed using autopolymerising resin. The midpoint of each implant analogue is considered as a reference point. This reference point is represented by two vertical lines created along the surface of the metal matrix. These lines were established to carry out the measurements through the angular dimension toolbar of coordinate measuring machine. These metal matrices were used as master models for control group.

OPEN TRAY PREPARATION

30 open custom impression trays with winged handles were fabricated. Spacers were prepared of 2mm thickness using modelling wax. The fit of the tray was evaluated and trimming was followed by polishing. Vinyl polysiloxane ether elastomeric impression material was used to obtain a master cast.

IMPRESSION PROCEDURE

Square impression transfer copings were secured with flat head screw on the implant analogues using hex driver. The copings were stabilized with 4 complete loops of dental floss and splinted. 30 pairs of square impression transfer copings were splinted with pattern resin and autopolymerizing resin respectively.

GROUP I – 00 implant analogues A – Splinted with pattern resin

B – Splinted with autopolymerizing resin

GROUP II – 50 implant analogues A – Splinted with pattern resin

B – Splinted with autopolymerizing resin

GROUP III – 150 implant analogues A – Splinted with pattern resin

B – Splinted with autopolymerizing resin

Acrylic resin was used to camouflage the four loops of dental floss and square impression transfer copings using an incremental application technique with a brush. Square impression transfer copings were coated with vinyl polysiloxane ether tray adhesive of impression material. Tray adhesive was applied to the custom trays and allowed to set for 15 minutes. Vinyl polysiloxane ether was auto mixed in PentaMix™ to standardize all impression mixtures. Impression material was loaded on the tray and seated over the master models. The impression material was allowed to polymerize for 10 minutes prior to separation and transfer copings were unscrewed. All the impressions were removed at right angle to the plane of the matrix and checked for accuracy. Inaccuracies such as void, drag or non-homogeneous mix of material if detected, then the impressions were repeated. Thirty accurate impression were thus obtained. Special care was taken to ensure that all components were properly oriented and completely seated. The implant analogues were connected to their corresponding square transfer impression copings.

SPECIMEN FABRICATION

100gms of Type IV dental stone was mixed with 22ml of water and the impressions were poured. Casts were separated from the impression after one hour after the stone sets, followed by trimming and labelling of all cast specimens. All the casts specimens were stored at room temperature (230C – 250C) and 50% relative humidity for minimum of 24 hours prior to the measurements.

MEASUREMENTS

A coordinate measuring machine was used to evaluate the positional accuracy of the specimens. The machine probe having a diameter of 0.8mm moved within its limit in the space and measured the relative distances of the objects. The measurement accuracy of the instrument was 0.001mm for X, Y and Z- axis. The centre of each implant analogue was determined as reference point, the planer surface from this point was regarded X axis or horizontal axis. The imaginary Y axis or vertical axis was considered between the centres of implant analogues. The Z axis was perpendicular to XY plane. Coordinate measuring machine measured Cartesian Coordinates X coordinate; Y coordinate and Z coordinate with respect to determined reference axes, for each analogue in the master models as well as the cast specimens. In order to find the distance between each pair of analogues, the difference between their coordinate values in each dimension were computed. Thus, the distance values ($d = \Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2 + \Delta z^2$) were measured on the master models as well as the cast specimens.

RESULTS

Table 1 shows comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for pattern resin at different angulations using ANOVA test at 3 different angulations i.e. 00, 50 and 150. There was statistically significant difference observed (< 0.001) compared to 150 to other angulations using, Tukey's post hoc analysis.

Table 2 shows comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for auto polymerizing resin at different angulations using ANOVA test at 3 different angulations i.e 00, 50 and 150. There was statistically significant difference observed (< 0.01 between the groups using, Tukey's post hoc analysis. ($p < 0.05$ - Significant*, $p < 0.001$ - Highly significant**)

Table 3 shows comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for both the groups at different angulations using unpaired t test. There is statistical significant difference between group A and B for all the angulations suggesting group A having better mean values to group B.

GRAPHS

(Intragroup)

Figures 1: Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for pattern resin at different angulations using ANOVA test

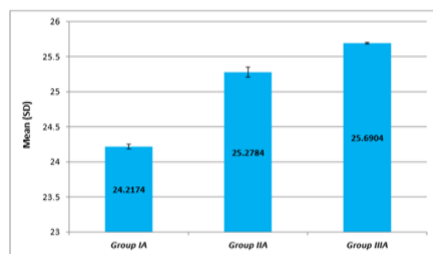
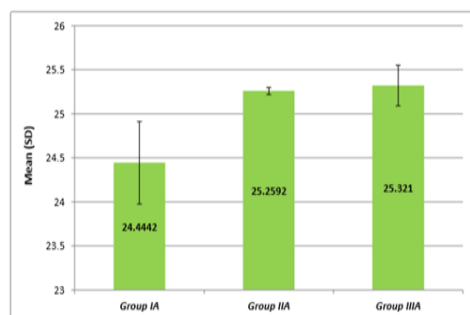
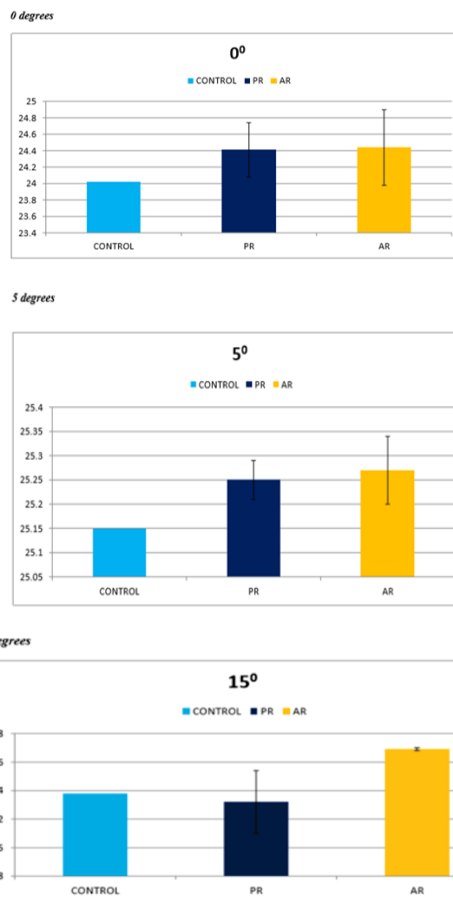


Figure 2: Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for auto polymerizing resin at different angulations using ANOVA test



(Intergroup)

Figure 3: Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for both the groups at different angulations using unpaired t test



DISCUSSION

In Implant prosthodontics, passive fit is one of the major concern, as it is assumed that misfit of prostheses negatively impact the long term success of implants. The absence of passive fit may lead to prosthetic failures such as fracture and/or loosening of screws, and retention of bio film caused by poorly fitting components. An impression that precisely records the exact 3-dimensional positions of implants is paramount in order to achieve a passively fitting prosthesis. Therefore, comparative accuracy of impression techniques and materials become an important issue in the consideration of passive fit.

The first step in fabricating a precise dental implant supported restoration is making an accurate impression. The accuracy of an ideal impression depends on dimensional accuracy and detail reproduction for achieving the above factors. Despite technical improvements in the field of 3-dimensional imaging procedures, the conventional impression procedure plays a major role in transferring information from the patient to the dental laboratory.

Splinting of impression copings is an essential pre-requisite. The underlying principle was to connect all the impression copings together using a rigid material to prevent individual coping movement during the impression making procedure. The common practice of joining the copings against rotation during fixtures or abutment analog fastening, and to control the relationship between implants in a rigid fashion.³⁷

Lee et al, evaluated the accuracy of the casts by using different splinting materials. Different materials were autopolymerizing resin, impression plaster and VPS bite registration paste. It has been reported that total shrinkage of acrylic resin is between 6.5% and 7.9% in the first 24 hours, with 80% of shrinkage occurring in the first 17 minutes after mixing. Minimum distortions were found with autopolymerizing resin using as splinting material. Adequate polymerization time and process of compensation seemed like the reason of best accuracy.¹⁸

Carr et al compared the open and closed tray techniques with a 5 implant mandibular cast where the interimplant divergence angles were all less than 15°. The open tray technique when used with custom trays was found to be superior as it provided the most accurate working casts.

The distortion of an impression is a concern inherent, in a three dimensional way, in all of the procedures involved in implant restorations. It can be regarded as absolute or relative, depending on the point of reference from which it is measured; absolute distortion is considered when the point of reference is external, whereas relative distortion is measured from a point that is located internal to system.

In the present study, the relative distortion was considered as a study parameter, since the resultant translational distance was measured from one analogue to another. This kind of measurement can be considered clinically more relevant than the absolute distortion, as implant supported prosthesis usually connects all components to one another.

Hence, this study used a very precise 3 dimensional measuring device, the coordinate measuring machine for recording possible implant replica displacement in 3 axes, which are more clinically relevant and easier to comprehend.

In the present study, the mean value for the master model was 24.0mm where as the mean value of master specimen obtained from splinting with pattern resin was 24.2mm and with autopolymerizing resin was 24.4mm. This significant difference suggests that the splinted technique resulted in more accurate master specimens when multiple implants of 0° angulations were used for implant prosthesis. Siadet et al, presented that straight implants showed less linear and rotational discrepancy when compared with angulated ones using square impression copings at implant or abutment level.⁴¹

The results of this study for 5° and 15° show significant difference between mean values of master specimens obtained from pattern resin and autopolymerizing resin, however mean values of the master specimens obtained using pattern resin were lesser when compared to autopolymerizing resin indicating better accuracy.

Yilmaz et al, in his study, stated that angular and coronal deviations increased with the increase in angulation of implants for all impression materials. In 10° to 20° angulated implants, significantly low deviations were detected in splinted direct technique.²⁷

Cerquiera et al, concluded in his study by suggesting that when one-piece splinting method were used, acrylic resin produced high microstrains, instead pattern resin did not significantly affect the microstrain produced. Thus, pattern resin splinting method increases the precision of the working casts when used with one-piece splinting.²³

Vinyl polysiloxane, a new impression material commercially introduced in 2009, the composition of which is intended to incorporate the natural hydrophilicity of conventional polyether materials along with the desirable properties of vinyl polysiloxane materials, such as elastic recovery and tear resistance. To further improve the wetting characteristics and flow ability, a surface tension eraser (STFS) and wetting conditioner surfactant (WCS) have also been incorporated into the VPSE. Thomas et al, concluded that VPSE demonstrated acceptable accuracy for clinical use with immersion disinfection, compared to PE and VPS.

Nassar et al evaluated that casts produced from disinfected VPSE demonstrated excellent dimensional stability at different pour times and were comparable to the tested vinyl polysiloxane and polyether impression material.³²

The different properties of VPSE which makes it a suitable material for implant impression are (1). Intrinsic hydrophilicity without surfactants, (2). Better handling like VPS and detail reproduction of PE, (3). high tear strength with flexibility to get in and out of tight places under unpredictable conditions, (4). predictable flow, minimizes voids and bubbles and (5). Mild, minty tastes.³³

Hence VPSE was used to evaluate and compare the effect of implant angulations, splinting material and impression material on the accuracy of the casts.

CONCLUSION

1. The combined effect of impression material, impression technique, implant angulations and splinting materials had effect on the accuracy of the duplicate casts compared to the definitive casts ($p=0.001$).
2. Based on the results obtained, casts with 0° implants have lesser mean value discrepancies when compared to 5° and 15° implants. The lesser the angulations of the implants, the more accurate is the impression.
3. Regardless of implant inclination, casts retrieved from pattern resin splinting were statistically more accurate than casts obtained from autopolymerizing resin splinting.

IMAGES



Vinyl polysiloxane impression material



Anodized aluminium matrix 0°, 5°, 15°



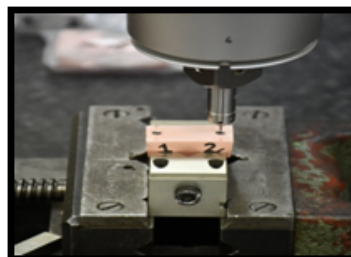
Anodized aluminium matrix 0°, 5°, 15°



Splinting of 15° implant analogues with Pattern resin



Splinting of 15° implant analogues with Autopolymerizing resin.



Machine probe of CMM coinciding with the centers of implant analogues in cast specimens

TABLES

TABLE 1 : Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for pattern resin at different angulations using ANOVA test

Group	Control values	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	P value
Group IA	24.023	5	24.2174	0.033088	<0.001**
Group IIA	25.15	5	25.2592	0.04029	
Group IIIA	25.383	5	25.3210	0.22952	
Total		15	25.0081	0.49895	

(p < 0.05 - Significant*, p < 0.001 - Highly significant**)

Tukey's post hoc analysis

	Group IA	Group IIA	Group IIIA
Group IA	-	0.003*	0.002*
Group IIA	0.003*	-	0.944
Group IIIA	0.002*	0.944	-

TABLE 2 : Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for auto polymerizing resin at different angulations using ANOVA test

Groups	Control values	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	P value
Group IB	24.023	5	24.2174	0.46729	<0.001**
Group IIB	25.15	5	25.2784	0.07176	
Group IIIB	25.383	5	25.6904	0.01266	
Total		15	25.0620	0.64370	

(p < 0.05 - Significant*, p < 0.001 - Highly significant**)

(Tukey's post hoc analysis)

	Group IB	Group IIB	Group IIIB
Group IB	-	<0.001**	<0.001**
Group IIB	<0.001**	-	<0.001**
Group IIIB	<0.001**	<0.001**	-

TABLE 3 : Comparison of the dimensional accuracy in terms of {Mean (SD)} for both the groups at different angulations using unpaired t test

Angulations	Control values	Group	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	t value	P value
0 degrees	24.023	Group A	5	24.2174	0.033088	1.083	0.311
	24.023	Group B	5	24.4442	0.467291		
5 degrees	25.15	Group A	5	25.2592	0.040295	0.522	0.616
	25.15	Group B	5	25.2784	0.071769		
15 degrees	25.383	Group A	5	25.3210	0.229523	3.593	0.007*
	25.383	Group B	5	25.6904	0.012661		

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am grateful to my teacher and mentor Dr. Malathi Dayalan, Professor and Head, Department of Prosthodontics, The Oxford Dental College, Hospital and Research Centre, Bangalore for guiding, assisting and supporting me during the course of my study.

I am grateful to Mr. Mallappa H.K (Sr. Technical Officer), Central Manufacturing Technology and Institute, Bangalore, For his scientific insight and help in carrying out this study.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Nivedan K S , Department of Prosthodontics, The Oxford Dental College, Hospital and Research Centre, Bangalore for his constant encouragement and moral support throughout this study.

REFERENCES

1. Asawa N, Bulbule N, Kakade D, Shah R. Angulated implants: An alternative to bone

augmentation and sinus lift procedure : Systematic review. J Clin Diagn Res 2015; 9(3): 10-3.

- Sortentino R, Gherlone EF, Calesini G, Zarone F. Effect of implant angulation, connection length, and impression material on the dimensional accuracy of implant impressions. Clin Implant Dent Relat Res 2009; 11: 1-14.
- Dumbigue HB, Gurun DC, Javid NS. Prefabricated acrylic resin bars for splinting implant transfer copings. J Prosthet Dent 2000; 84(1): 108-10.
- Wee AG. Comparison of impression materials for direct multi-implant impressions. J Prosthet Dent 2000; 83(3): 323-30.
- Shetty RM, Bhandari GR, Mehta D. Vinyl polysiloxane ether : A breakthrough in elastomeric impression material. World Journal Of Dentistry 2014; 5(2): 134-7.
- Hsu CC, Millstein PL, Stein RS. A comparative analysis of the accuracy of implant transfer techniques. J Prosthet dent 1993; 69(6): 588-93.
- Burani G, Huston F, Byrne D, Claffey N. A comparison of the dimensional accuracy of the splinted and unsplinted impression techniques for the Bone-Lock implants system. J Prosthet Dent 1997; 77(1): 68-75.
- Spector MR, Donovan TE, Nicholas JJ. An evaluation of impression technique for osseointegrated implants. J Prosthet Dent 1999; 63(4): 444-7.
- Vigolo P, Fonzi F, Majzoub Z, Cardoli G. An evaluation of impression techniques for multiple internal connection implant prostheses. J Prosthet Dent 2004; 92(5): 470-6.
- Choi JH, Lim YJ, Yim SH, Kim CW. Evaluation of the accuracy of implant level impression techniques for internal connection implant prostheses in parallel and divergent models. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 2007; 22(5): 761-8.
- Cabrel LM, Guedes CG. Comparative analysis of four impression techniques for implants. Implant Dent 2007; 16(2): 187-90.
- Wostmann B, Rehmann P, Balkenhol M. Influence of impression technique and material on the accuracy of multiple implant impressions. Int J Prosthodont 2008; 21(4): 299-301.
- Filho HG, Mazaw JVQ, Vedovatto E, Assuncao UG, Santos PH. Accuracy of impression techniques for implants. Part 2 – comparison of splinting techniques. J Prosthodont 2009; 18: 172-6.
- Hariharan R, Shankar C, Rajan M, Baig MR, Azhagarasan N. Evaluation of accuracy of multiple dental implant impressions using various splinting materials. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 2010; 25(1): 38-44.
- Angular ML, Elias A, Vizcarondo CT, Psoter WJ. Analysis of three dimensional distortion of two impression materials in the transfer of dental implants. J Prosthet Dent 2010; 103(4): 202-9.
- Assuncao W G, Britto R C, Barao V A, Delben J A, Santos P H. Evaluation of impression accuracy for implant at various angulations. Implant Dent 2010; 19(2): 167-73.
- Papaspriodokas P, Lal K, White GS, Weber HP, Gallucci GO. Effect of splinted and nonsplinted impression techniques on the accuracy of fit of implant prosthesis in edentulous patients: A comparative study. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 2011; 26(6): 1267-72.
- Lee SJ, Cho SB. Accuracy of five implant impressions technique: effect of splinting materials and methods. J Adv Prosthodont 2011; 3: 177-85.
- Papaspriodokas P, Lal K, White G S, Weber H P, Gallucci G O. Effect of splinted and non-splinted impression techniques on the accuracy of fit of fixed implant prostheses in edentulous jaws. Int J Oral maxillofac Implants 2011; 1: 75-91.
- Chang WG, Vahidi F, Bae KH, Lim B S. Accuracy of three implant impression techniques with different impression materials and stones. Int J Prosthodont 2012; 25(1): 44-7.
- Ongul D, Rohlig BG, Sermet B, Keskin H. A comparative analysis of the accuracy of different direct impression technique for multiple implants. Aust Dent J 2012; 57: 184-9.
- Papaspriodokas P, Benic G I, Hogsett V L, White G S, Lal K, Gallucci G O. Accuracy of implant casts generated with splinted and non-splinted impression techniques for edentulous patients: An optical scanning study. Clin Oral Impl Res 2012; 23: 676-81.
- Cerqueira N M, Ozcan M, Goncalves M, Rocha D M, Vasconcellos D K, Bottino M A et al. A strain gauge analysis of microstrain induced by various splinting methods and acrylic resin types for implant impressions. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 2012; 27(2): 341-5.
- Balouch F, Jalalian E, Nikkheslat M, Ghauamian R, Toopchi S, Jallalian F et al. J Dent Shiraz Univ Med Sci 2013; 14(3): 96-102.
- Akalin ZF, Ozkan YK, Ekerin A. Effects of implant angulation, impression material and variation in arch curvature width on implant transfer model accuracy. Int J oral Maxillofac Implants 2013; 28(1): 149-57.
- Reddy S, Prasad K, Vakil H, Jain A, Chowdhary R. Accuracy of impressions with different impression materials in angulated implants. Niger J Clin Pract 2013; 16(3): 279-84.
- Yilmaz SK, Ozan O, Ozealik TB, Yagiz A. Digital evaluation of the accuracy of impression techniques and materials in angulated implants. J Dent 2014; 42: 1551-9.
- Vojdani M, Torabi K, Ansariard E. Accuracy Of different impression materials in parallel and non-parallel implants. Dent Res J 2015; 12(4): 315-22.
- Misch CE. Contemporary implant dentistry. 3rd ed. St. Louis: Elsevier; 2008.p.
- Lee YJ, Heo SJ, Koak JY, Kim SK. Accuracy of different impression techniques for internal-connection implants. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 2009; 24(5): 823-30.
- Stober T, Johnson GH, Schmitter M. Accuracy of the newly formulated vinyl siloxanether elastomeric impression material. J Prosthet Dent 2010; 103(4): 228-39.
- Nassar U, Oko A, Adeeb S, Rich ME, Mir CF. An in vitro study on the dimensional stability of a vinylpolysiloxane ether material over a prolonged storage period. J Prosthet Dent 2013; 109(3): 172-8.
- VPESTM – A breakthrough technology. Available from <http://www.gcamerica.com/products/operator/exalence/GCAEXAlenceBrochure.pdf>.
- Hamalian TA, Nasr E, Chidiac JJ. Impression materials in fixed prosthodontics: Influence of choice on clinical procedure. J Prosthodont 2011; 20: 153-60.
- Khan A, Islam MU, Khan TA. Dimensional stability of vinylsiloxanether impression material after autoclave sterilization – an in vitro study. Pakistan oral and dental journal 2015; 35(3): 535-9.
- Nayar S, Pandian R, Bhuminathan S, Jayesh R, Vidhya J. Impression technology in implantology: A review. Res J Pharm Biol Chem Sci 2014; 5(2): 1934-40.
- Baig MR. Multiunit implant impression accuracy: A review of the literature.
- Carr AB. Comparison of impression techniques for a five - implant mandibular model. Int J Oral Maxillofac Implants 1991; 6: 448-55.
- Madhan R, Nayar S, Annaporani H. Comparative evaluation of accuracy of six different implant impressions techniques: An invitro study. J Indian Prosthodont Soc 2006; 6(4): 185-9.
- Fedrick DR, Caputo AA. Effects of overdenture retention designs and implant orientations on load transfer characteristics. J Prosthet Dent 1996; 76(6): 624-32.
- Siadat H, Alikhasi M, Beyabanaki E, Rahimian S. Comparison of different impression techniques when using the All-on-Four implant treatment protocol. J Dent 2007; 4(2): 89-91.
- Gibbs SB, Versluis A, Tantbirojin D, Ahuja S. Comparison of polymerization shrinkage of pattern resin. J Prosthet Dent 2014; 6: 1-6.
- Pattern Resin : Tips and Tricks; techniques and handling of GC pattern resin 2009. Available from http://www.gcamerica.com/lab/products/PATTERN_RESIN_LS/grade