

Comparison Of Manual Toothbrushes With Different Bristle Designs On Gingival Health

Research Article

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Abstract

Background: Dental caries and periodontal diseases are among common human illnesses. It is found that the main etiology of periodontal diseases such as gingivitis and periodontitis is the interaction between human immune system and bacteria of dental plaque. Tooth brushing is utilised as the most widely accepted technique for plaque elimination.

Aim: The aim of this study was to compare the effects of three types of manual toothbrushes with different bristle designs including Colgate Cibaca Flat, Colgate Criss Cross and Colgate Slim Soft on gingivitis.

Methodology: The present double blinded, parallel designed, randomized clinical trial was carried out among 72 gingivitis patients in the Department of Periodontics, Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals, Chennai, India. Participants were assigned to three groups: 12 participants in each group [Group A (Colgate Flat), Group B (Colgate Criss Cross) and Group C (Colgate Slim Soft)]. Complete ultrasonic scaling was done for all the participants and subjects were asked not to use any oral hygiene aids and recalled after three days and the gingival index were noted (baseline). Then subjects were provided with respective brushes and instructed to use them for 1 month. Again, gingival index were noted after 1 month. The data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS Software, Version 23.0). One-way ANOVA was used to compare the mean values of gingival index between the groups. Also, student's paired t-test was used to compare the mean values of gingival index within the groups.

Results: In group 1, the mean gingival index at baseline was 2.671 ± 0.48 and after a month the value was reduced to 1.88 ± 0.44 . In group 2, the gingival index reduced from 2.63 ± 0.49 to 1.29 ± 0.46 . In group 3, the mean gingival index at baseline was 2.63 ± 0.49 and the gingival index reduced to 2.00 ± 0.51 . There was reduction in gingival scores between the three toothbrushes after a month. Also, the difference in gingival index between colgate criss cross and slimsoft was found to be statistically significant ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: The present study suggests that all the three types of toothbrushes were effective in reduction of plaque and gingivitis. However, significant reduction in gingival index score was observed in Colgate slim soft and Colgate criss cross as compared with Colgate flat toothbrush.

Keywords: Dental Plaque; Gingivitis; Innovative; Periodontitis; Toothbrush.

Introduction

Periodontal diseases which include gingivitis and periodontitis are the most common diseases in the oral cavity. Inflammation of gingiva without the loss of supporting structures of the teeth is called gingivitis. If it is left untreated, it leads to increase in pocket depth, clinical attachment loss, gingival recession, bone loss, fur-

cation involvement, pathologic migration and tooth mobility [1-6]. So it is important to treat gingivitis in its earliest stage itself.

Even though the initiation and progression of periodontal disease is influenced by variety of factors like age, gender, systemic diseases, genetic factors, medication, the bacterial plaque is the primary etiology [7-14]. There are several ways to remove bacte-

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rial plaque including chemical methods and mechanical methods. However, there are so many chemical agents available in the market like chlorhexidine, essential oils, triclosan, herbal mouth rinses; mechanical methods are always considered as the gold standard to remove bacterial plaque [15].

Tooth brushing is utilized as the most widely accepted technique for plaque elimination among adults and children. There are numerous factors that affect sufficiency of tooth brushing including frequency, duration, dexterity, toothbrush design and technique. Be that as it may, controlling plaque aggregation for forestalling gum disease and additionally periodontitis and rots adequately is impacted by various individual and material based elements [16]. These principle elements can be summed up as the plan of the toothbrush, the expertise of the individual utilizing the brush, and toothbrushing recurrence and length of utilization. The last two elements address individual toothbrushing conduct and are influenced by learning experience, inspiration and manual limit and can obviously be improved with acceptable co-activity set up among dental specialists and patients [17].

Notwithstanding, the primary factor addresses innovation improvement and is influenced by the physical and mechanical properties of the toothbrush bristles and the shape, size and morphology of the tooth brush heads and handles [18].

Besides, it was notable that the vast majority utilize a straightforward flat tooth brushing activity and brush their teeth for the span uniquely more limited than ideal time [19]. Producers of toothbrushes focus on developments in the brush head plan that will assist with making up for non ideal toothbrushing method and time [20]. The more fundamental plans incorporate toothbrushes with standard (flat) bristles and further developed models with angulated (Criss Cross) bristles uncommonly targeting assisting with eliminating plaque from teeth and along the gum line [19]. The high level toothbrushes can possibly eliminate more prominent measures of plaque, particularly from the gum lines and approximate surfaces than ordinary tooth brushes fusing straight bristles [21]. There have been conflicting results on which design is more capable of effective plaque control.

Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that translate into high quality publication [22-41]. To the best of our knowledge, there are minimal studies assessing the efficacy of manual toothbrushes with different bristle designs on plaque removal [42]. In this context, the aim of this study was to compare the effects of three types of manual toothbrushes with different bristle designs including Colgate Cibaca Flat, Colgate Criss Cross and Colgate Slim Soft on gingivitis.

Materials and Methods

Study Population:

The present double blinded, parallel designed, randomized clinical trial was carried out in the Department of Periodontics, Saveetha Dental College and Hospitals, Chennai, India. A total of 144 patients with gingivitis were enrolled. The ethical clearance was obtained from the Institutional Ethical Committee and a written informed consent was obtained from all the study participants.

Inclusion Criteria:

Participants within the age group of 20-25 were systematically healthy, presence of at least 20 teeth, probing depth of 1-3mm, presence of bleeding on probing (BOP) in at least 30 percent of sites were included in the study.

Exclusion Criteria:

Participants who were under orthodontic treatment and used other electric brushes were excluded, participants under long term medications, systemically compromised patients were excluded from the study.

Test group:

Group A: Colgate flat brush
Group B: Colgate Criss Cross brush
Group C: Colgate slim Soft brush

Study Design:

A pilot study was conducted using similar brushes to check the feasibility of the study. The prevalence of gingivitis was 80% in the pilot study. Considering the dropouts, the sample size was inflated by 20%, hence the sample size was 144 with 48 participants in each group [Group A (Flat brush), Group B (Criss Cross) and Group C (Slim Soft)]. Participants were assigned to the groups by a person not involved in the study. All the subjects were provided with their assigned tooth brushes and were divided into Group A, Group B and Group C randomly using a simple lottery method with 48 participants in each group. The examiner and the participants were also blinded with regard to the tooth brushes allocated to them thereby ensuring a double-blinded study. Complete ultrasonic scaling was done for all the participants and subjects were asked not to use any oral hygiene aids and recalled after three days and gingival index was recorded (baseline). Then subjects were provided with respective brushes and instructed them to use modified bass technique for a period of 1 month. The gingival index was noted again after 1 month.

Clinical parameters:

•Silness and Loe Gingival index (1963) (GI)
GI was recorded at baseline (T1) and after 1 month (T2).

Statistical Analysis:

The data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS Software, Version 23.0). Descriptive and inferential statistics were done for data summarization and presentation. One-way ANOVA was used to compare the mean values of gingival index between the groups. Also, student's paired t-test was used to compare the mean values of gingival index within the groups.

Results

A total of 72 study participants were enrolled in this study and were divided into three groups each of 12 participants. Group A- Colgate Flat, group B- Colgate Criss Cross and group C- Colgate Slim Soft.

Table 1. Comparison of mean gingival index score within the study groups using paired t-test.

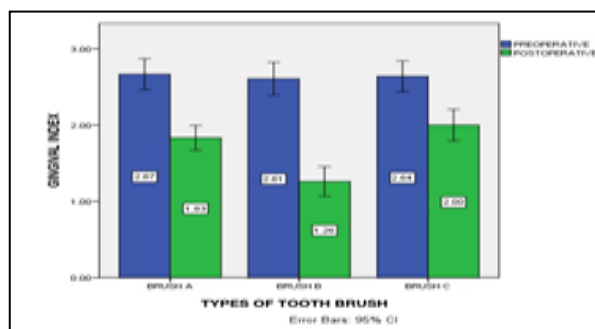
Mean+SD	Before treatment	After treatment
Brush A	2.671±0.48	1.88±0.44
Brush B	2.63±0.49	1.29±0.46
Brush C	2.63±0.49	2.00±0.51

Table 2. Comparison of mean gingival index score between the study groups using ANOVA test.

GINGIVAL INDEX	Groups (I)	Groups (J)	Mean difference	Std. Error	Significant
	Brush A	Brush A	Brush B	0.315	0.140
Brush C			-0.07	0.137	0.866
Brush B	Brush B	Brush A	-0.315	0.140	0.066
		Brush C	-0.385	0.138	0.017*
Brush C	Brush C	Brush A	0.07	0.137	0.866
		Brush B	0.385	0.138	0.017*

* p < 0.05

Figure 1. The bar graph depicts the association between the types of toothbrush versus the gingival index scores. The X axis represents the pre gingival index scores (blue) and post-gingival index scores (green). There was reduction in gingival scores in all the three toothbrushes from baseline. Also, the difference in gingival index between Brush B and Brush C was found to be statistically significant with the p value of 0.017 (ANOVA test, p < 0.05).



The paired t test was done to compare the mean gingival index within the groups. In group 1, the mean gingival index at baseline was 2.671±0.48 and after a month the value was reduced to 1.88±0.44. In group 2, the gingival index reduced from 2.63±0.49 to 1.29±0.46. In group 3, the mean gingival index at baseline was 2.63±0.49 and after a month the value was reduced to 2.00±0.51. (Table 1).

ANOVA test was done to compare the mean gingival index (Table2) between the three groups. There was reduction in gingival scores between the three toothbrushes after a month. Also, the difference in gingival index between colgate criss cross and slimsoft was found to be statistically significant (p < 0.05). (Figure 1).

Discussion

The present study was done to compare the manual toothbrushes with different bristle designs on gingival health.

In the present study, all the three types of toothbrushes resulted in significant reduction in gingival index scores. A study conducted by Sharma et al. have reported that criss-cross bristles angled in opposing directions promote plaque removal from hard-to-reach areas and have advantages over the straight bristle configuration.

The researchers concluded that advances in toothbrush design can present greater plaque removal outcomes [19]. In another study, it was observed that befuddle bristles were effective in plaque removal when compared with straight bristle design [43].

In a recent clinical study, the influence of three manual toothbrushes on dental plaque and gingival inflammation was investigated. The Plaque index and Gingival index scores were statistically significantly lower in subjects using the tapered and cross angled soft bristle design toothbrushes than those using the American Dental Association (ADA) standard toothbrushes after 30 days [19]. The result obtained in present study is in accordance with the previous studies as significant reduction in gingival index scores was observed in criss cross type of toothbrush.

Similarly, Verma SK *et al.*, [44] compared the degree of plaque removal obtained with the use of two commercially available toothbrushes with round ended and thinner ended bristles and it was found out that both ends showed similar decrease in plaque scores. Naik SP *et al.*, [45] compared the effectiveness of different bristles designs of toothbrushes and periodontal status among fixed orthodontic patients. In that study, toothbrushes with zig zag bristles, crisscross bristles and flat bristles were compared. The results revealed that all the three designs of tooth brushes were effective in removing plaque in patients with fixed

orthodontic appliances. But toothbrushes with crisscross bristle design showed the highest mean plaque reduction. The results of the present study are in accordance with the previous studies.

Conclusion

Within the limitations, the present study suggests that all the three types of toothbrushes were effective in reduction of plaque and gingivitis. However, significant reduction in gingival index score was observed in Colgate slim soft and Colgate criss cross as compared with Colgate flat toothbrush.

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