Preparation and Characterization Teeth Filling of Powder and Mixing it with Acrylic (PMMA)/N-TiO\textsubscript{2} to Wear Resistance and Antibacterial

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ABSTRACT

In this research, the light filling with titanium oxide was formed as an anti-corrosion and antibacterial antibiotic. The white acrylic powder was used with its solvent after mixing it with different percentages of biologically active titanium oxide using the liquid mixing method and the ultrasound technique to obtain a homogeneous mixture free of aggregates and then molded into special molds for the required examination. The hard surface hardness of the samples prepared using the hardness device was examined along with the test of dry sliding wear using a Pin-on-disk method, as well as the examination of the samples to resist the bacteria of tooth decay. Structural tests were performed on X-ray diffraction techniques, scanning electron microscopy techniques, and infrared technique. The results were interpreted based on the practical density of the prepared samples.

Keywords: Titanium Oxide, Wear Resistant, Ultrasonic, Pin-on-Disc, Structural Tests.

INTRODUCTION

Heat-curing acrylic resins are frequently used in temporary prosthetic-base materials, provisional prosthesis, and removable orthodontic appliances such as retainers and functional appliances.\textsuperscript{1,2} Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) is generally used as a common component of acrylic materials due to its optical properties, biocompatibility, and aesthetics.\textsuperscript{3} However, low mechanical properties against impact, bending, and fatigue are important issues to be addressed to improve acrylic polymers properties for removable acrylic appliances and dentures.\textsuperscript{4} The acrylic resin materials are typically low in strength, soft and fairly flexible, as well as brittle on impact, and fairly resistant to fatigue. The additives could affect the toughness, microstructure and deformation behavior under the impact and flexural tests. As the fracture resistance of a denture base resin is important, many approaches have been used to strengthen acrylic resin dentures. These approaches involve the use of metal wires or plates, fibers, metal powder, or rubber toughening agents. These reinforcing methods were done to improve the mechanical properties of the denture base resins and to overcome the problem of denture fractures.\textsuperscript{7,8} Currently, dental composites consist of two phases: the synthetic polymer matrix and inorganic fillers. They are linked together via a coupling agent (such as silane). In addition, initiators and activators are added Inorganic fillers such as quartz, colloidal silica, and silica glass containing small amounts of zirconium, strontium, and barium are the most commonly used fillers. The inorganic fillers play an important role in improving the strength and elastic stiffness.\textsuperscript{9} On the other hand; they reduce water absorption, polymerization shrinkage, and coefficient of thermal expansion. Bonding of organic and inorganic phases by coating the fillers with a coupling agent results in the formation of a strong covalent bond. This is a key factor in terms of the good mechanical properties of dental composite. Coupling agents have two functional groups in order to link the matrix and the fillers chemically.\textsuperscript{10} Composites with nanofillers are so-called nanocomposites.\textsuperscript{11} Different nanofillers have been introduced to dental composites. However, in this thesis, we are introducing a novel flowable nanocomposites reinforced with TiO\textsubscript{2} nanotubes. Nanofillers do not scatter visible light as they shrink to a fraction of this light wavelength (0.4–0.8 \textmu m). So, they are invisible and they can improve the optical properties of composites.\textsuperscript{12} Kim et al.\textsuperscript{13} produced a new bioactive bone cement that consists of HA, PMMA. It was indicated that the compressive strength of the cement was lower than the pure PMMA. Mechanical properties of acrylic base cement reinforced with HA have been studied by Serbetci et al.\textsuperscript{14} It was found that the addition of HA caused to increase both compressive strength and fatigue life unlike tensile strength of the cement. Wang et al.\textsuperscript{15} and Roeder et al.,\textsuperscript{16} studied the effects of particle size and shape and found that smaller particle size and larger aspect ratio increased the composite mechanical

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properties. Because few papers study the addition of nanohydroxyapatite in PMMA, this study tries to fill this gap. In this research, mechanical properties of nano HA-reinforced PMMA cement were investigated by using three-point bending, compressive, and wear test. Chen et al., studied the effect of SiO$_2$ nanoparticles on hardness and wearability of artificial teeth. For this purpose, they dispersed SiO$_2$ nanoparticles in MMA monomer and compared this composite resin with conventionally heat-cured resin composites. In this work, the hardness was also checked using the Vickers hardness device, while the sample absorption of the processed, artificial saliva was tested, as shown in Table 1. Artificial saliva was prepared using different salts following the procedures described in 20, and its composition has been detailed in Table 1.

**Preparation of Teeth Filling:**
In this work, the toothpaste was prepared by mixing certain percentages of the prepared ceramic n-TiO$_2$ powder and mixing it with acrylic PMMA powder by using the grinding balls for two hours to obtain the best homogeneity between the powders and then using the chloroform solvent for the mixing process and forming the paste using the technique of ultrasonic for half an hour. The samples were then molded into standard size molds to conduct the required tests. The weight

\[ W_{Coeff} = \frac{W_r H_v}{LF/LF} \]

Where: \( W_{Coeff} \) – wear of coefficient and \( H_v \) – micro hardness in MPa

**EXPERIMENTAL AND MATERIALS USED**
The material used in this work n- TiO$_2$ is a high purity powder (99%) with a granular size of 50 nm. While the polymer material is the base material in the formation of the dental fillings is (PMMA) with the material recovered its chloroform. The samples were prepared using a dry mix of titanium oxide powder and the required proportions using the effective 3-hour mechanical mixing method of 20:1 (20 small balls vs. 1 gram of mix). The solvent is then added to dissolve the polymer powder and mixed with the titanium oxide powder using the magnetic mixer for half an hour. Then the required samples are formed for examination. The Pin–on–Disc to determine the wear rate. The hardness was also checked using the Vickers hardness device, while the sample absorption of the processed, artificial saliva was tested, as shown in Table 1. Artificial saliva was prepared using different salts following the procedures described in 20, and its composition has been detailed in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salt</th>
<th>Concentration (g.dm$^{-3}$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NaCl</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCl</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CaCl$_2$.2H$_2$O</td>
<td>0.795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaH$_2$PO$_4$.2H$_2$O</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Na$_2$S.9H$_2$O</td>
<td>0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(NH$_4$)$_2$CO$_3$</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1(a): Chemical composition of artificial saliva**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Samples</th>
<th>Density Kg/m$^3$</th>
<th>Hardness MPa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PMMA</td>
<td>1150</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMMA-1% (n-TiO$_2$)</td>
<td>1263</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMMA-2% (n-TiO$_2$)</td>
<td>1355</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMMA-3% (n-TiO$_2$)</td>
<td>1441</td>
<td>32.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMMA-4% (n-TiO$_2$)</td>
<td>1532</td>
<td>54.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMMA-5% (n-TiO$_2$)</td>
<td>1612</td>
<td>65.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
percentage were used 1 %, 2 %, 3 %, 4 % and 5 % of the bioceramic powder. Five different artificial teeth filling samples were prepared, and their wear resistance was measured. For practical applications, the artificial teeth filling require high wear resistance in saliva.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

**Surface Hardness and Density**

The results of the test for the prepared samples were significantly improved by increasing the weight ratio of...
the prepared ceramic powder. The surface hardness value improved by 70% of the non-reinforced sample by using the Vickers device. This indicates the hardness of the powder particles and bulk density improvement of the surface PMMA material. Table 1 shows the values of experimental density and surface hardness. The percentage behavior of n-TiO2 with experimental density and microhardness was shown in Figure 1. The results explained density and microhardness improvement with increases weight percentage of n-TiO2 this due to the well dispersion of nano-powder in the matrix (PMMA), decreases of porosity in all nano-composites.

**Wear Rate (Caries)**

The results of the test of the rate of wear of various types (weight loss, volume loss, and wear coefficient) showed significant improvement and high resistance to corrosion with and without industrial saliva by test the samples using the pin-on-disc technique. Was used equations (1, 2 and 3) to calculator wear rate types, and this is all summarized in Table 2 and Figures 2 and 3. The wear rate measurement at applied load 20N and constant sliding distance equal 4396 m at all samples. Figures 2 and 3 show a reduction in the wear rate values of all types. This indicates the ability of the nanopowder used to strengthen friction reduction, dissipated of stored heat energy, and has high hardness while we observe that industrial fillings immersed in industrial saliva showed slight erosion compared to non-immersed filling.

**Artificial Salvia Sorption Test**

Table 3 shows the mean values, and sorption of artificial Salvia test results, the test showed no significant difference in water sorption mean value after addition of 5% (n-TiO2) nanofillers. A bar chart of artificial Salvia sorption is plotted to show the difference between mean values of neat blend and experimental value shown in Figure 4. It is recommended that the rate of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Code</th>
<th>Weight before test (M1) (mg)</th>
<th>Weight after test (M2) (mg)</th>
<th>Different In weight (mg)</th>
<th>Volume of sample cm³</th>
<th>Sorption M2-M1/V mg/cm³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neat blend</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.07843</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%n-TiO2</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>35.33</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.02614</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%n-TiO2</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td>38.42</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>3.825</td>
<td>0.03137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%n-TiO2</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.078431</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%n-TiO2</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.0145751</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%n-TiO2</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4: Artificial salvia sorption tests a function of n-TiO2

Figures 5A to C: Images of artificial Teeth filling results of the antibacterial test. (A) PMMA; (B) 1% n-TiO2, (C) 3% n-TiO2; (D) 5% n-TiO2
sorption (water or artificial Salvia) and solubility are kept minimal for dental restorative materials as the (water or artificial Salvia) molecules penetrate into dental composites and possibly generate evolution of localized stress and strain, and significantly reduce the mechanical strength of dental composites by breaking the sensitive interphase bonding between fillers and matrix (Panyayong et al., 2002). The results of artificial Salvia sorption demonstrated a non-significant decrease in artificial Salvia sorption of the new polymer nanocomposite. In addition, the silanization of the nanofillers produces hydrophobic surfaces; thus, it's expected to synthesize hydrophobic organic-inorganic composite materials. These results are in agreement with (Panyayong et al., 2002) we found that there was a significant decrease in the values of water sorption after the addition of 5% (n-TiO₂) of nano-sized particles to PMMA in these ratios.

**Antibacterial Test**

An important test for artificial tooth fillings is the antibacterial. Figure 5 illustrates the method used to determine the effect of added nano-titanium oxide compared to the non-reinforced tooth fill. The identity of the types of bacteria that colonized in the mouth cavity which responsible for dental caries, gingivitis and periodontitis cases, moreover, isolating microflora which have biochemical activities to cause other oral problems this agreement with reference. The large variety of bacterial genus included Streptococcus spp. which was represent the high significant ratio of 33.3 %, followed by

**CHARACTERIZATION OF TEETH FILLING**

In this research, several techniques were used to study the behavior of the nanoparticle within the base material to determine its distribution, the extent of its mass, the size of its granular size, and its effect on the properties of the structural
material by knowing the Raman Shift. All these changes will be known using techniques (x-ray diffraction, Scanning Electron Microscopy, Raman spectrum displacement, and atomic force microscopy). Figure 6 shows the homogeneous distribution of n- titanium oxide powder at 50 nm. Figure 7 shows different images of models prepared as industrial toothpaste according to the percentage of each model. Figure 8 shows the X-ray diffraction of the nanocrystalline powder used, and through the examination shows that the powder phase is of type (Anatase) and this type shows high purity of impurities. Figure 9 shows the Raman spectra of the samples and note from the shape peaks removed from the top of the base material by increasing the percentage of titanium oxide powder. Figure 10 shows the granular distribution of the used titanium oxide powder, which is not a single particle size value, but an average but more valuable value of the powder is within the range used.

CONCLUSIONS

We conclude from this research that:

- The wear rate of the base material (PMMA) is gradually reduced when it is reinforced by the nano- titanium dioxide powder and all the ratios used in this work.
- Dental fillings manufactured in this work shows high resistance to decay through the first conclusion in addition to the length of life.
- All the synthesis fillings reinforced are capable of adapting to industrial saliva and are not absorbable compared to the base material (PMMA).
- Using the techniques used to explain the structure characterization of manufactured dental fillings, the homogenous distribution of nano- titanium dioxide in the base material (PMMA) improved the results above.

REFERENCES