Comparative evaluation of the effect of Light Emitting Diode (LED) and Quartz Tungsten Halogen (QTH) light curing units on color stability of Filtek Z350 XT

Behnaz Esmaeili (DDS)¹, Shaghayegh Razavi (DDS)²*, Mahdie Pakdaman³
Ali Bijani (MD)⁴, Hoda Amiri³

1. Assistant Professor, Dental Materials Research Center, Department of Operative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol-Iran.
2. Assistant Professor, Department of Operative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol-Iran.
3. Dental Student, Faculty of Dentistry, Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol-Iran.
4. General Practitioner, Non-Communicable Pediatric Diseases Research Center, Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol-Iran.

*Corresponding Author: Shaghayegh Razavi, Faculty of Dentistry, Babol University of Medical Sciences, Babol-Iran.
Email: razavidds@gmail.com Tel: +989122032835

Abstract

Introduction: Discoloration of the resin-based composites is a common problem in restorative dentistry. There are many factors associated with the discoloration of dental materials in the oral environment. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the color changes in a nano-composite cured with a quartz-tungsten-halogen (QTH) and light emitting diode (LED) unit.

Methods: 80 disk-shaped specimens were prepared using Filtek Z350 XT. The specimens were cured with two LED units (Valo and BluephaseC5) and QTH (Astralis7) with two different energy density (400 & 750 mW/Cm²). The color of the materials was measured before and after immersing in tea and artificial saliva. Color change value (ΔE) were calculated and analyzed by 2-way ANOVA and Tukey’s test.

Results: In artificial saliva group, the composites cured with Astralis7 and BluephaseC5 showed significantly more color stability. In tea group, the composites cured with BluephaseC5 significantly had the least color change.

Conclusions: The type of light curing unit does not affect the color stability. Exposure time and interaction between light source and photoinitiator content in composite may be the most important factors affecting color stability.

Keywords: Dental curing lights, Nanocomposite, Spectrophotometry

Received: 24 Jul 2013  Accepted: 17 Feb 2014

ارزیابی مقایسه ای اثر دستگاه‌های لاو تکیور LED و QTH بر نتای رنگ کامپوزیت Filtek Z350 XT

چکیده
مقدمه: تغییر رنگ کامپوزیتهای رزینی یک مشکل عمده است. فاکتورهای نسبی به تغییر رنگ مواد در محیط دهان ارتباط دارند. هدف از این مطالعه ارزیابی تغییرات رنگی یک نانوکامپوزیت است که با منبع نور یک وارد-شکستن-هالوژن (LED) و دید نوری (QTH) کیور شده باشد.
مواد و روش ها: ۶۰ نمونه به سه دیسک با استفاده از کامپوزیت Filtek Z350 XT آماده می‌شود. سپس، نمونه‌ها به تدریج در برابر دو منبع نور LED (Valo و BluephaseC5) و QTH (Astralis7) تیزی می‌شوند (۷۵۰,۴۰۰ mW/Cm²). برای مقایسه رنگ‌گیجهای یافت‌شده، اندازه‌گیری ΔE با استفاده از تست ANOVA و تست Tukey انجام می‌گردد.

نتیجه‌گیری: نوع دستگاه نوری بر تیز رنگ اثر ندارد. احتمالاً، زمان ناشی و تقابل بین نوع دستگاه نوری و آغازکار موجود در کامپوزیتهای میترافیک، فاکتورهای متعددی بر نتای رنگ هستند.

واژگان کلیدی: لاو تکیور، نانوکامپوزیت، اسپکتروفوتومتری

Introduction
The demand of aesthetic restorative materials has been increased after the introduction of resin-based composites (RBC) from late 1970s. Despite the many advantages of RBCs, they have a considerable disadvantage which related to their discolorations in the oral cavity after ages (1, 2).

Many factors affect color change of RBCs in oral cavity. Discoloration may occur by intrinsic or extrinsic factors. Extrinsic discoloration caused by adsorption or/and absorption of colorant agents contained in beverages, foods, tobacco and chromogenic bacteria. Intrinsic factors contain discolouration of material by itself which is determined by the quality of resin matrix, photoinitiators and inorganic filler (3).

Numerous studies have shown that adequate polymerization of RBCs is apparently influential on the physical and mechanical properties such as staining. One of the factors that influences polymerization is light curing unit (LCU), including spectral distribution, exposure time and intensity of light output (1, 4, 5).

Until recently, quartz-tungsten-halogen (QTH) units have been used for polymerization of RBCs. Due to its shortcomings, new technologies introduced for light polymerization of RBCs (6). The Light Emitting
Diode (LED) technology was introduced in 1995 for polymerization of RBCs to overcome the shortcomings of QTH units. LEDs use junctions of doped semiconductors instead of the hot filament and have a lifetime 100 times greater than QTHs (7).

Nano-composites have been introduced recently. It has been thought that nanocomposites may have Lineotène C Capian J Dent Res-March 2014, 3(1): 41-46 
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Diode ... significant difference in color change 
between the specimens immersed in tea and those 
immersed in artificial saliva.

Results

The contribution of each basic color coordinates (L, a & b) is shown in figure1. Figure 2 shows the results of the influence of the type of LCU on color stability. The greatest change was found to be the value (L*) rather than chroma (a*, b*) in tea. There was statistically significant difference in color change between the specimens immersed in tea and those immersed in artificial saliva.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LCU</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Spectral distribution (nm)</th>
<th>Light Intensity (mW/Cm²)</th>
<th>Exposure Time (S)</th>
<th>Power Density (J/Cm²)</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BluephaseC5</td>
<td>LED</td>
<td>430-490</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16000</td>
<td>IvoclarVivadent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valo</td>
<td>LED</td>
<td>395-480</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16000</td>
<td>Ultradent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astralis7</td>
<td>QTH</td>
<td>400-500</td>
<td>HIP: 750</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16500</td>
<td>IvoclarVivadent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LOP: 400</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The specimens immersed in tea showed clinically perceptible color change and the specimens immersed in artificial saliva had color change which clinically were imperceptible (ΔE<3.3). In artificial saliva, specimens cured with Astralis7 (400mW/cm²) and BluephaseC5 (LED) showed significantly more color stability. In tea, specimens cured with BluephaseC5 (LED) had the least color change and the other three groups had no statistically different color change.

L*(lightness), a* (the amount of red and green), and b* (the amount of yellow and blue)/ ΔL, Δa, Δb= differences of L*, a*, and b* prior to and after immersing. (Different letters used to show statistical difference between groups).

Figure 1. The contribution of each basic color coordinates

Figure 2. Mean ΔE obtained for specimens cured with QTH or LED sources

Discussion

In this study, color changes of Filtek Z350 XT in two different environments with four different light intensities and LCUs have been calculated. Specimens cured with lower intensity units showed significantly more color stability. Many factors have effect on color changes of RBCs. Resin matrix, dimensions of filler particles, depth of polymerization, oxidation of unreacted carbon-carbon double bonds, degree of conversion and coloring agents may affect the color stability (9, 10).

Color changes of RBCs can be evaluated by visual or instrumental techniques. Spectrophotometry is the most reliable technique in evaluating discoloration of dental materials (11). Instrumental techniques generally use two color systems: the Munsell Color System and Commission Internationale de l’Eclairage (CIE) Color System (12).

Color evaluation in this study has been evaluated by Vita Easyshade which is a spectrophotometer using CIE L*a*b system. The high reliability of this device in comparison to the laboratory spectrophotometer has been proven in recent studies (13, 14).

According to the individual ability of the human eye, three different intervals of ΔE were used: ΔE<1--imperceptible by the human eye; 1<ΔE<3.3--perceptible only for skilled person; ΔE>3.3 easily observed. ΔE<3.3 is clinically acceptable (15).

In the current study, The color change of specimens in artificial saliva were clinically imperceptible (ΔE<3.3) but those in tea were perceptible (ΔE>3.3), and the difference were statistically significant.

The staining susceptibility of RBCs has been attributed to the hydrophilicity and degree of water sorption of the resin matrix. Water sorption cause expansion and plasticization of the resin component, hydrolyze the silane, and consequently make micro-crack or interfacial gaps at the interface between filler and matrix. These gaps allow stain penetration and discoloration (12, 16).

Thus, color changes of specimens in artificial saliva, which contain water as the basic component, is provable. Moreover, clinically imperceptible discoloration may be attributed to the presence of no pigment in artificial saliva.

If RBCs can absorb water, then they can also absorb other beverages such as tea (12). Discoloration of the RBC in tea was clinically perceptible, similar to previous studies. This color change may be attributed to yellow colorants existing in tea (12, 16). Nasimand et al. (10) claimed that stain ability of tea may be due to...
tannic acid. In artificial saliva, specimens cured with Astralis7 (400mW/Cm²) (QTH) and BluephaseC5 (LED) significantly showed more color stability. Also, in tea, specimens cured with BluephaseC5 significantly had the least color change.

The degree of conversion affected solubility and color stability of RBCs (9, 10, 12, 17). Some studies reported that time may be the most important factor influencing the degree of conversion (2, 17, 18, 19). The result of this study was similar to those studies. BluephaseC5 and Astralis7 (400mW/Cm²) had the longest curing time (32 and 40 s).

This may be one of the reasons that caused better result for these two LCUs. On the other hand, recent studies have reported that LED technology polymerizes RBCs as well or better than some QTH lights (20, 21-23). Also, in accordance to previous studies, light emitted by LED lamps allows a reduction of the exposure time from that recommended by RBC manufacturers for QTH curing lights (24, 25).

In this study, BluephaseC5 as LED showed the result as similar as the referred studies but Valo was another LED that did not conform to those results. Therefore, other factors might be responsible for better polymerization.

Filtex Z350 XT contains camphorquinone as photoinitiator, (peak absorption at 468 nm) (20, 26, 27). In this study BluephaseC5 had the narrowest spectral range (430-490 nm) which matches with the optimum absorption wavelength for the activation of the camphorquinone, which is in agreement with our study. However, spectral distribution of LCUs may be another factor affecting on the degree of conversion and subsequently, on color stability.

Conclusions

Specimens cured with LED and QTH did not have difference in color stability. But, exposure time and interaction between LCU and photoinitiator contained in composite may be the most important factors affecting color stability. It is suggested to evaluate the effect of different energy density and influence of heat production after light curing, on the stain susceptibility of RBCs.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the Dental Material Research Center of Faculty of Dentistry of Babol for supporting this study.

Funding: This study was a part thesis and research project (Grant No: 9133728) supported and funded by Babol University of Medical Sciences.

Conflict of interest: There was no conflict of interest.

References


