



Hindawi Publishing Corporation

International Journal of Dentistry

International Journal of Dentistry  
Volume 2009 (2009), Article ID 841431, 6 pages  
doi:10.1155/2009/841431

### Research Article

## Mechanical Properties of Surface-Charged Poly(Methyl Methacrylate) as Denture Resin

Sang E. Park,<sup>1</sup> Maggie Chao,<sup>2</sup> and P. A. Raj<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, 188 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02115, USA

<sup>2</sup>Private practice, 1111 Civic Drive, Suite 321, Walnut Creek, CA 94596, USA

<sup>3</sup>Division of Research and Development, Perident Therapeutics, Inc., 10000 Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53220, USA

Received 10 December 2008; Accepted 3 February 2009

Academic Editor: Michael E. Razzoog

Copyright © 2009 Sang E. Park et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

### Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the mechanical properties of surface-charged poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) as denture base material. This experimental resin is made by copolymerizing methyl methacrylate (MMA) with methacrylic acid (MA) to produce a negative charge. Dental Resin (DENTSPLY Caulk) was used as a control and three groups of copolymers were prepared with different ratios of methacrylic acid (5 : 95, 10 : 90, and 20 : 80 MA : MMA). A universal Testing Machine (Instron Corp.) measured force-deflection curves. The data were used to calculate the transverse strength, transverse deflection, flexural strength, and flexural modulus. Variance and Scheffe Post-test were performed on the data. Resin with 20% MA showed lower strength values for the measured physical properties. The mechanical properties of the resin with 20% MA were significantly different from the control and 5% mPMMA. No significant difference was observed between the Control and 5% mPMMA.

### 1. Introduction

Denture stomatitis is a common form of oral Candidiasis, which is to denture base surfaces [1 - 4]. *Candida* is a commensal organism. Introduction of predisposing factors such as systemic disease, in result in fungal infections [5, 6]. Candidiasis has been associated particularly on the tissue-fitting surface of maxillary complete dentures susceptible to *Candida* infections since the denture base serves a low salivary flow rates, low buffering capacities, and low pH values of the oral mucosa and denture surfaces by *Candida* [7 - 12].

Development of pathogenesis is preceded by the initial attachment of *Candida* to the surface of the denture. Surface characteristics resulting from the presence of *Candida* to the denture resin and offer an opportunity for further bacterial adhesion. The net negative surface charge, providing an environment of electrostatic interactions with the polymer. Understanding the effect of *Candida albicans* to poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA), our previous research showed that surface-charged denture base materials can prevent adhesion of *C. albicans* and denture stomatitis [16].

Poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) is the resin of choice for denture fabrication due to its excellent physical properties and clearly defined polymerization procedure. Efforts have been made to modify PMMA taking advantage of the broad spectrum of surface charges. In our previous study [16], the experimental resin had a negative surface charge. Methacrylic acid to methyl methacrylate. Results showed that the ratio of methacrylic acid increased in vitro. A significant decrease ( $P < .0001$ ) existed when the methacrylic acid was present at 10% in the new surface-modified denture resins attractive for future dental applications.

An optimized resin material should exhibit a positive biologic response while maintaining the desired physical properties. Physical and mechanical properties are essential for the clinical success and longevity of complete dentures fabricated. These properties include compressive and tensile strengths; elongation; hardness; thermal stability; shrinkage; solubility; dimensional stability; and dimensional accuracy. The most important property of a denture base resin is strength. The denture base must be able to withstand masticatory forces.

Denture base fractures have been examined using different mechanical tests: compressive, shear, tensile, transverse, impact, and fatigue strength. The results warrant further investigation. Microcracks were observed on the surface of modified PMMA samples that had higher methacrylic acid content. The presence of methacrylic acid may compromise the physical properties of the resin [16]. In this study, the physical properties of these surface-modified resins were investigated.

The aim of this study was to investigate the mechanical properties of surface-charged PMMA: transverse strength, transverse deflection, flexural strength, and base resin.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Synthesis of Modified PMMA Polymers

Modified PMMA polymers were synthesized by polymerization of methyl methacrylate (MMA) and methacrylic acid (MA) as monomers. Three samples were prepared: 10% *m*PMMA (10% MA and 90% MMA), and 20% *m*PMMA (20% MA and 80% MMA).

monomer or the monomer mixture was stirred with 1.2 g of ben paratoluidine was added and stirred briefly. The mixture was poui alcohol) at pH 3 and stirred well to prevent separation of two layer was allowed to continue for 15 minutes after the rise in tempe washed with distilled water, and dried. All chemicals were o Milwaukee, WI.

## 2.2. Characterization of Modified PMMA Polymers

The synthesized PMMA and modified PMMA polymers were analy Richmond, CA) for the incorporation of carboxylate group. The ch spectra of carboxylated polymers showed significant broadening of that of PMMA. In addition, the appearance of new IR bands at 292 suggested the incorporation of carboxylate group.

## 2.3. Preparation of Resin Samples

Three groups of modified PMMA (5% *m*PMMA, 10% *m*PMMA, 20% resin, Orthodontic Dental Resin (DENTSPLY Caulk, Milford, DE), w were designated as the following: Group 1(Control)-Dental Resin Group 4 - 20% *m*PMMA. Orthodontic Dental Resin was fabricate samples in Groups 2 - 4 were polymerized using chemicals in th Chemical Co., Inc., Milwaukee, WI).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**Table 1**

Five plates per each experimental group were fabricated. Polym  $55 \pm 1^\circ \text{C}$  in a pressurized chamber (22 psi) for 15 minutes. Each 25 samples per experimental group. These oversized strips were n (W)  $\times$  65 mm (L)  $\times$  2.5 mm (D)] and polished to mini with distilled water to remove any residual monomer and then : before testing.

## 2.4. Mechanical Testing

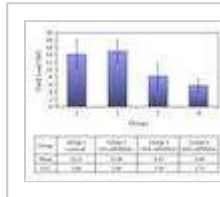
Utilizing a 3-point flexural test, the samples were mounted in a ca Corp., Canton, MA). Each plastic strip was supported on each end rod applied a load until fracture occurred at a uniform crosshead s a complete stress versus strain history for each test were obta calculate the transverse strength, transverse deflection, flexural curves along with the means and standard deviations for each expi

## 2.5. Statistical Analysis

The mean, median, and mode were calculated for each experime normality and One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and Scheff groups.

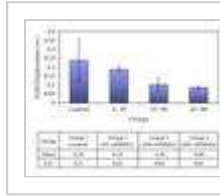
## 3. Results

A representation of the difference in mean transverse strength is the highest mean force required to fracture the specimens. A cor significant difference between the Control and the 5% *m*PMMA gro the transverse strength decreased. The 20% *m*PMMA group shc statistically significant compared to the 5% *m*PMMA group ( $P < .05$



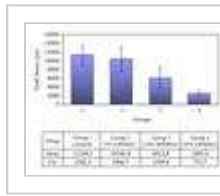
**Figure 1:** The bar graph represents the mean strength or force at fracture for each of the experimental groups.

The transverse deflection measurements and the mean values are specimen was, the farther the crosshead needed to travel to transverse strength, the material with higher transverse deflection of methacrylic acid:MMA increased, the transverse deflection de comparison of mean transverse deflection revealed significant difference except the 5% *m*PMMA group.



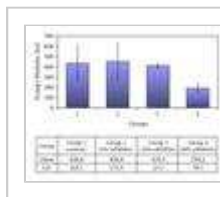
**Figure 2:** The mean and standard deviation experimental groups.

Figure 3 shows the mean and standard deviation values for flexura higher the load or force required to fracture the specimens, th methacrylic acid:MMA increased, the flexural strength decreases difference in flexural strength from all other groups ( $P < .05$ ) except



**Figure 3:** Representation of the mean and standard deviation for each of the experimental groups.

Figure 4 shows the mean and standard deviation values for Young's modulus groups. The elastic modulus is a measure of the stiffness of the material the material will exhibit a lower elastic deformation per unit of modulus of elasticity of the Control and the 5% *m*PMMA group re group exhibited the lowest modulus of elasticity, which was significant the commercially available Dental Resin ( $P < .05$ ). Thus, the 20% modulus, translating into the least stiff material. The 10% *m*PMMA the Control or the 5% *m*PMMA group.



**Figure 4:** The mean and standard deviation values for the experimental groups.

#### 4. Discussion

Correlation existed between the physical properties and the ant present study, the greatest decrease in transverse and flexural str content was increased from 5% to 10% *m*PMMA ( $P < .05$ ). Intere the most significant reduction in adhesion of *C. albicans* occurred increased, the adhesion of *C. albican* to resin surfaces decreas consequence.

The 5% *m*PMMA group was comparable to the Control (Dental Res any parameter tested. The 5% *m*PMMA group produced a higher the Dental Resin; however, it was not statistically significant. This the modified resin samples. The experimental resins were not opti been produced specifically to enhance these physical characteris although not designed for dental use, still had high transverse an the Dental Resin.

In the present study, prepolymerizing or mixing two different type produced a copolymer. Methacrylic acid is a small molecule with a physiologic pH. Steric interactions can be postulated as the free ( new polymer, thereby affecting its physical properties. By creating repelling forces within the resin material. The influence of these in subjected to physical testing such as compressive and tensile decreased the flexural and transverse strengths of the resin sam internal repulsive forces. The negative internal forces also affect l represents the basic response of a material to a force. Fundamen existing interatomic forces of the material. The present study inc lowest modulus of elasticity and had the greatest ionic charge.

The overall negative charge may also affect the solubility of the showed that an increase in methacrylic acid content correlated inferring increased hydrophilicity [16]. Umemoto and Kurata [ decreased water sorption. In that study, they produced copolyme methacrylate) and methyl methacrylate. Increasing the hydropl sorption with no decrease in mechanical properties. These hydropl bending strength and similar modulus of elasticity compared to P understanding of the effects of methacrylic acid on the resin's ph PMMA with methacrylic acid altered the physical properties of resin

In the present study a cold-cured method of resin polymerization v a heat-cured acrylic form. Studies have shown that there is no diff cold-cured acrylic resins [18, 19]. For the purpose of investiga adhesion, it is reasonable to assume that the present results are e methods.

Further modifications may be needed for the modified resins to im beneficial antifungal characteristics. A range of methods have b through chemical modification of PMMA and through incorporation [20 - 23]. High-impact acrylic is produced from the incorporation polymerization. Rubber graft copolymers obtained from this proce base by as much as 50% [24]. These resins use a monomer that

crosslinkers are said to provide the craze resistance in a dentur inhibiting effect due to the incorporation of rubber. Fiber reinfo improving flexural strength of PMMA [26, 27]. Effective fiber reinfo the fiber type, number, distribution, and orientation. However, cor *albicans* to fiber-reinforced denture resin bases have been raised. surface roughness and provide mechanical retention in vivo [28]. can be further modified to increase its physical strength to achiev research includes continued elucidation of the ideal ratio of methac properties for clinical applications.

## 5. Conclusion

---

Surface-charged resins demonstrate to be promising as a biom response by decreasing Candidal adhesion. The results of the pre with methacrylic acid changes the physical properties of the resin. group were comparable to the commercially available Dental Resin

## Acknowledgments

---

This work was based on a thesis submitted to the Faculty of Medic requirements for the degree of Master of Medical Sciences in International Association for Dental Research, Goteborg, Swede Marquette University ORSP Grants 19760 and 19890 for making th

## References

---

1. J. Barbeau, J. Séguin, J. P. Goulet, et al., “Reassessing the stomatitis,” *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, O* 59, 2003.
2. J. A. Regezi and J. Sciubba, “White lesions,” in *Oral Pathol* Saunders, Philadelphia, Pa, USA, 2nd edition, 1993.
3. C. G. McMullan-Vogel, H. D. Jüde, M. W. Ollert, and C.-W. V. *proteinase activity of Candida albicans isolated from the ora* *Microbiology and Immunology*, vol. 14, no. 3, pp. 183 - 189,
4. E. Budtz Jorgensen, “The significance of *Candida albicans* in *Dental Research*, vol. 82, no. 2, pp. 151 - 190, 1974.
5. S. R. Torres, C. B. Peixoto, D. M. Caldas, et al., “Clinical as xerotomic subjects,” *Medical Mycology*, vol. 41, no. 5, pp. 4
6. J. Slots and M. A. Taubman, “Infections of oral mucosa and *and Immunology*, pp. 476 - 499, Mosby, St. Louis, Mo, USA,
7. A. M.-G. Darwazeh, S. Al-Refai, and S. Al-Mojaiwel, “Isolati *fingertips of complete denture wearers*,” *The Journal of Pro* 2001.
8. E. Budtz-Jørgensen, P. Mojon, A. Rentsch, and N. Deslaurier *occurrence of oral candidosis in a long-term care facility*,” *C* 28, no. 2, pp. 141 - 149, 2000.

9. T. O. Narhi, A. Ainamo, and J. H. Meurman, "Salivary yeast of *Dental Research*, vol. 72, no. 6, pp. 1009 - 1014, 1993.
10. E. Budtz-Jorgensen, "Oral mucosal lesions associated with *Oral Pathology*, vol. 10, no. 2, pp. 65 - 80, 1981.
11. L. P. Samaranayake, J. McCourtie, and T. W. MacFarlane, "albicans to acrylic surfaces," *Archives of Oral Biology*, vol. 2
12. A. Vasilas, L. Molina, M. Hoffman, and C. G. Haidaris, "The albicans adhesion to denture acrylic in vitro," *Archives of O*
13. S. Minagi, Y. Miyake, K. Inagaki, H. Tsuru, and H. Suginaka, *Candida tropicalis* adherence to various denture base resin r pp. 11 - 14, 1985.
14. S. A. Klotz, D. J. Drutz, and J. E. Zajic, "Factors governing *Infection and Immunity*, vol. 50, no. 1, pp. 97 - 101, 1985.
15. T. A. Horbett, J. J. Waldburger, B. D. Ratner, and A. S. Hoffr hydrophobic copolymers studied with a spinning disc appara vol. 22, no. 5, pp. 383 - 404, 1988.
16. S. E. Park, A. R. Periathamby, and J. C. Loza, "Effect of sur adhesion of *Candida albicans*," *Journal of Prosthodontics*, v
17. K. Umemoto and S. Kurata, "Basic study of a new denture monomer," *Dental Materials Journal*, vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 21
18. J. C. Davenport, "The denture surface," *British Dental Jou*
19. L. P. Samaranayake and T. W. MacFarlane, "An in-vitro stu surfaces," *Archives of Oral Biology*, vol. 25, no. 8-9, pp. 60
20. R. Rodford, "The development of high impact strength dent no. 5, pp. 214 - 217, 1986.
21. A. J. Bowman and T. R. Manley, "The elimination of breaka fibre," *British Dental Journal*, vol. 156, no. 3, pp. 87 - 89, 1
22. P. K. Vallittu, "Dimensional accuracy and stability of polym with continuous glass fiber," *The Journal of Prosthetic Dent*
23. N. H. Ladizesky, C. F. Ho, and T. W. Chow, "Reinforcement performance polyethylene fibers," *The Journal of Prosthetic*
24. W. J. O'Brien, "Polymers and polymerization: denture base *Selection*, pp. 74 - 89, Quintessence, Chicago, Ill, USA, 3rd e
25. R. G. Jagger and R. Huggett, "The effect of cross-linking on *Dental Materials*, vol. 6, no. 4, pp. 276 - 278, 1990.
26. P. K. Vallittu, "A review of fiber-reinforced denture base res 270 - 276, 1996.
27. J. John, S. A. Gangadhar, and I. Shah, "Flexural strength o denture resin reinforced with glass, aramid, or nylon fibers," 4, pp. 424 - 427, 2001.
28. T. Waltimo, J. Tanner, P. Vallittu, and M. Haapasalo, "Adhe

polymethylmethacrylate-E glass fiber composite used in den  
vol. 12, no. 1, pp. 83 - 86, 1999.

---

Copyright © 2009 Hindawi Publishing Corporation. All rights reserv