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Abstract

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The aim of this study was to assess the displacement of posterior teeth in maxillary complete dentures stored in water at 37°C. Twenty acrylic resinbased maxillary complete dentures were constructed with the anterior teeth arranged in normal overlap and the posterior teeth in Angle class I. Metallic pins were placed on the labial cusp of the first premolars (PM), and on the mesiolabial cusp of the second molars (M). The final acrylic resin pressing was made in a metallic flask with aid of the RS tension system, and polymerized in a moist-hot cycle at 74°C for 9 hours. The dentures were deflasked after cooling in their own polymerizing water or after cooling in polymerizing water plus bench storage for 3 hours, and stored in water at 37°C for periods of 7, 30, and 90 days. Following deflasking and after each storage period tested,

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the PM-PM (premolar to premolar), M-M (molar to molar), LPM-LM (left premolar to left molar), and RPM-RM (right premolar to right molar) distances were measured with an STM Olympus microscope, with an accuracy of 0.0005 mm. Collected data were submitted to ANOVA and Tukey's test (5%). There was no statistically significant difference for the PM-PM, M-M, and LPM-LM distances after all storage periods when the flask cooling methods were considered. With exception of the RPM-RM distance after the 30-days water plus bench storage period, the other distances remained statistically stable.

Keywords: Denture; complete; Water storage; Tooth movement.

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