



MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF DENTAL RESTORATIVES AND THEIR COMPARATIVE FLOWABLES

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Objectives:

The purpose of this investigation was to compare the wear performance and the resistance to crack propagation (K_{Ic}) of seven commercial restorative materials and their flowable (F) variations.

Methods:

The tested materials were:

	restoratives							reference
Material	Admira	Grandio	Dyract AP	Filtek Z250	Tetric Ceram	Enamel Plus HFO	Nanopaq	Sinfony
	Admira F	Grandio F	Dyract F	Filtek F	Tetric F	Enamel Plus HFO F	Nanopaq F	
Manufacturer	Voco, G	Voco, G	Dentsply DeTrey, G	3M Espe, G	Ivoclar Vivadent, FL	Schütz Dental Group, G	Schütz Dental Group, G	3M Espe, G

Wear:



Figure 1: Sample wheels

The 12 moulds of the metal sample holding wheels were filled with the different composite resins, polymerized in a light curing unit (Eliar TriLight, 40 sec.), veneering composite: Visio Alpha, Visio Beta, 15 min., 3M Espe, G) according to the manufactures instructions. The specimens (n=6) were adhesively fixed onto the sample holder (Rocotec, 3M Espe, G; Variolink II, Ivoclar-Vivadent, FL).

Three-body testing was performed (ACTA-Willytec, G): sample wheel 60 rpm, antagonist wheel 130 rpm, force 15N. The third medium was a food bolus made of 30g millet sheet and 120g rics. Both were mixed in a grinding machine (La Moulinette, Voulinex, G).



Figure 2: wheel ACTA Willytec G

The wear trade was quantified by profilometry (Perthometer SP7, Mahr-Feinprüf, G) in comparison to the non-worn surface after 50,000, 100,000, 150,000 and 200,000 load cycles.

Statistics: Mann-Whitney-U-test (p=0.05).



Figure 3: ACTA Willytec G

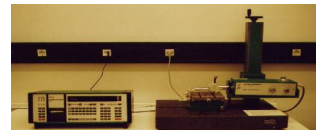


Figure 4: Perthometer SP7 Mahr-Feinprüf G

Fracture Toughness (K_{Ic}):

Fracture toughness (K_{Ic}) was determined according to ASTM Designation E 399-83 using 10 single-edge notched-bend specimens of each material.

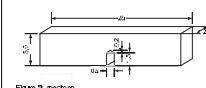


Figure 5: specimen

The specimens (25mm length x 5mm height x 2,5 mm width) were made by inserting the material into a steel mould and polymerized as mentioned above. A notch (0.3mm, 1.7mm depth) was machined for each specimen with a diamond saw (Mutronic, G) and sharpened by a razor blade (Wilkinson, GB).

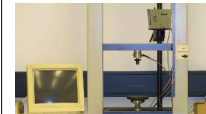


Figure 6: Universal testing machine Zwick G

All specimens were stored in distilled water at 37°C for 7 days.

The specimens were loaded to fracture on a three-point bending test device (span S=20mm distance between the supports) with the universal testing machine (Zwick, G) at a crosshead speed of 0.5mm/min at room temperature (23°C).

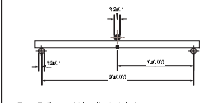


Figure 7: Threepoint bending test device

Load-deflection curves were recorded. Fracture toughness (K_{Ic}) was calculated from the measurements.

Statistical analysis was performed using Mann-Whitney-U-test (p=0.05).

Results:

Material	Admira	Dyract AP	EP HFO Plus	Filtek Z250	Grandio	Nanopaq	Tetric Ceram	Sinfony
Wear [μm] \pm std	84.7 \pm 17.2	103.5 \pm 24.9	29.6 \pm 9.0	32.3 \pm 5.1	17.1 \pm 5.9	39.9 \pm 11.8	71.8 \pm 22.8	91.9 \pm 20.9
K_{Ic} [MPa $\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	1.19 \pm 0.18	2.39 \pm 0.67	1.55 \pm 0.42	1.73 \pm 0.37	1.86 \pm 0.30	3.64 \pm 0.87	1.72 \pm 0.22	1.25 \pm 0.30

Material	Admira flow	Dyract flow	EP HFO Plus flow	Filtek flow	Grandio flow	Nanopaq flow	Tetric flow
Wear [μm] \pm std	79.3 \pm 16.3	66.0 \pm 2.5	72.0 \pm 16.7	75.5 \pm 21.8	58.6 \pm 26.1	78.2 \pm 12.3	84.1 \pm 19.0
K_{Ic} [MPa $\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	1.61 \pm 0.51	2.05 \pm 0.41	1.88 \pm 0.46	2.28 \pm 0.53	2.55 \pm 0.43	2.05 \pm 0.30	2.15 \pm 0.29

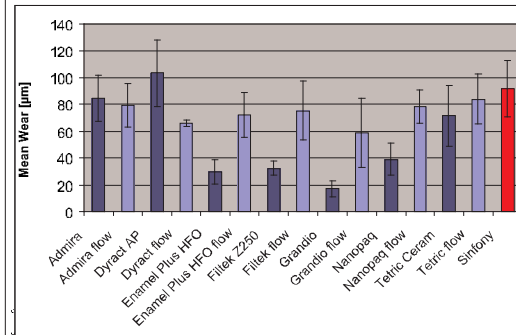


Figure 8: mean and standard deviation of wear

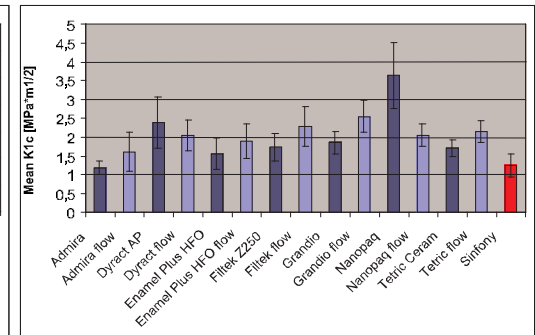


Figure 9: mean and standard deviation of fracture toughness

Conclusions:

Contrary to expectations the tested restorative materials exhibit lower fracture toughness as the flowables. Only Nanopaq and Dyract show higher K_{Ic} -values than their flowable variations. Possible explanations of the high K_{Ic} -values for the flowables might be related to plastic deformation caused by the higher amount of organic matrix or insufficient notching of the crack. Lowest wear values could be determined for the composites Grandio, Enamel Plus HFO and Filtek Z250. Generally composites show higher wear resistance as their flowable variations.