

## Original Research

### Three-dimensional finite element analysis of effect of abutment materials on stress distribution around peri-implant bone in immediate and delayed loading conditions

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#### ABSTRACT:

**Background:** Oral rehabilitation entered a new era with the creation of osseointegrated dental implants. The excellent success rate and long-term follow-up (more than 20 years) of patients treated with osseointegrated dental implants are of interest to clinicians and researchers worldwide. The present study was conducted to assess three-dimensional finite element analysis of effect of abutment materials on stress distribution around peri-implant bone in immediate and delayed loading conditions. **Materials & Methods:** Six abutment groups were loaded from vertical, horizontal, and oblique directions. Group I had zirconia with delayed loading (DL), group II had Polyether Ether Ketone (PEEK) with DL, group III had Titanium grade extra low interstitial (ELI) with DL, group IV had zirconia with immediate loading (IL), group V had PEEK with IL, and group VI had titanium grade ELI with IL. Using the finite element approach, von Mises and main stress analysis was performed on the implant and the peri-implant bone. **Results:** Group II, or PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant, had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. Group III, or titanium grade ELI abutment, came in second, and group I, or zirconia customized abutment assembly, had the lowest value. Group I had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group III, while group II had the lowest value. Group V—the PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant—acquired the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. However, group IV had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group VI, and group V had the lowest value. **Conclusion:** The stress produced in the implant and the peri-implant tissue is impacted by changes in the abutment material. In both immediate and delayed loading conditions, PEEK abutments demonstrated noticeably less von Mises stress in the implant body than titanium and zirconia.

**Keywords:** abutments, cancellous bone, peri-implant

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#### INTRODUCTION

Oral rehabilitation entered a new era with the creation

of osseointegrated dental implants. The excellent success rate and long-term follow-up (more than 20

years) of patients treated with osseointegrated dental implants are of interest to clinicians and researchers worldwide. For dental implant procedures to be successful, osseointegration must exist.<sup>1</sup> The Branemark protocol consists of two steps. In the initial phase, the implant is placed and immersed beneath a hermetically sutured mucosa to permit normal healing without the possibility of bacteremia in the absence of any functional stimulation.<sup>2</sup> After the implant has been exposed, an abutment is attached, and if osseointegration has occurred, a restoration is placed on the abutment. To circumvent the major psychological, cosmetic, and functional impairments linked to the four to six months recovery period, a one-step surgical technique was created. This method uses non-submerged implants, and loading typically starts earlier than with Brandemark procedures.<sup>3</sup>

This strategy is called "immediate loading" In order to lower the danger of early failure or marginal bone loss, progressive loading is the technique of progressively loading an implant from one transition state to the next.<sup>4</sup> Progressive or gradual bone loading is essential at the beginning of prosthodontic therapies, particularly for less dense bone types. Wolff's law states that trabecular bone positions and displaces itself in predictable patterns, and the implant's progressive loading enables the bone to remodel and arrange in accordance with this law.<sup>5</sup>

More and more helpful tools for creating new materials to improve clinical outcomes in the biomedical sciences have been made available by digitalization. Finite Element Analysis (FEA) is an engineering method to solve complicated mechanical problems by simulation of force upon a constructed or a scanned model.<sup>6</sup> The present study was conducted to assess three-dimensional finite element analysis of effect of abutment materials on stress distribution around peri-implant bone in immediate and delayed loading conditions.

## MATERIALS & METHODS

The study was carried out on a titanium grade IV root form implant, fitted with an abutment Ø4.0-0.5GH. This test model was scanned in three dimensions (3D) and recreated using CREO computer-aided design software. Six abutment groups were loaded from vertical, horizontal, and oblique directions. Group I had zirconia with delayed loading (DL), group II had Polyether Ether Ketone (PEEK) with DL, group III had Titanium grade extra low interstitial (ELI) with DL, group IV had zirconia with immediate loading (IL), group V had PEEK with IL, and group VI had titanium grade ELI with IL. Using the finite element approach, von Mises and main stress analysis was performed on the implant and the peri-implant bone. Results thus obtained were subjected to statistical analysis. P value < 0.05 was considered significant.

## RESULTS

**Table I Maximum and Minimum Principal stress values in cortical and cancellous bone in delayed loading condition**

| Groups    | Load direction       | Stress cortical S |         | Stress cancellous |         |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
|           |                      | Maximum           | Minimum | Maximum           | Minimum |
| Group I   | Vertically loading   | 34.6              | 4.2     | 44.7              | 16.1    |
|           | Obliquely at 30°     |                   |         |                   |         |
|           | Horizontally loading |                   |         |                   |         |
| Group II  | Vertically loading   | 151.7             | 25.3    | 11.8              | 2.5     |
|           | Obliquely at 30°     |                   |         |                   |         |
|           | Horizontally loading |                   |         |                   |         |
| Group III | Vertically loading   | 38.4              | 8.4     | 38.3              | 7.1     |
|           | Obliquely at 30°     |                   |         |                   |         |
|           | Horizontally loading |                   |         |                   |         |

Table I shows that group II, or PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant, had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. Group III, or titanium grade ELI abutment, came in second, and group I, or zirconia customized abutment assembly, had the lowest value. Group I had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group III, while group II had the lowest value.

**Table II Maximum and Minimum Principal stress values in cortical and cancellous bone in immediate loading condition**

| Groups   | Load direction       | Stress cortical |         | Stress cancellous |         |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
|          |                      | Maximum         | Minimum | Maximum           | Minimum |
| Group IV | Vertically loading   | 51.1            | 7.8     | 65.2              | 23.8    |
|          | Obliquely at 30°     |                 |         |                   |         |
|          | Horizontally loading |                 |         |                   |         |
| Group V  | Vertically loading   | 230.5           | 40.6    | 16.4              | 4.2     |
|          | Obliquely at 30°     |                 |         |                   |         |
|          | Horizontally loading |                 |         |                   |         |

|          |                      |      |      |      |      |
|----------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Group VI | Vertically loading   | 58.4 | 12.3 | 58.9 | 11.7 |
|          | Obliquely at 30°     |      |      |      |      |
|          | Horizontally loading |      |      |      |      |

Table II shows that group V—the PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant—acquired the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. However, group IV had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group VI, and group V had the lowest value.

## DISCUSSION

To identify the best abutment material for long-term implant life, several authors have assessed how various abutment materials affect load transmission to the implant and surrounding bone.<sup>7</sup> The bone implant interface must be a crucial factor in these simulations, however the majority of FEA models assume ideal osseointegration, which isn't always the case in clinical settings.<sup>8</sup> Since the world is drastically moving toward immediate loading protocols, it is also necessary to assess the poor attachment between the implant surface and the surrounding bone.<sup>9,10</sup> The present study was conducted to assess three-dimensional finite element analysis of effect of abutment materials on stress distribution around peri-implant bone in immediate and delayed loading conditions.

We found that group II, or PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant, had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. Group III, or titanium grade ELI abutment, came in second, and group I, or zirconia customized abutment assembly, had the lowest value. Group I had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group III, while group II had the lowest value. Aggarwal et al<sup>11</sup> in their study found that for delayed loading group, highest stresses were generated in group 1 (462.88 MPa), followed by group 3 (413.72 MPa) and least in group 2 (319.38 MPa). For immediate loading, highest to lowest stresses were in group 4 (694.32 MPa), group 6 (620.58 MPa) and group 5 (479.07 MPa). The principal stress analysis showed significant difference between all groups in cancellous bone and cortical bone except between titanium and customized zirconia abutment in cortical bone in delayed loading ( $p=0.0846$ ) and in immediate loading ( $p=0.1125$ ).

We found that group V—the PEEK customized abutment with titanium implant—acquired the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cortical bone. However, group IV had the highest maximum and lowest stress values in the cancellous bone, followed by group VI, and group V had the lowest value. El-Anwar MI et al<sup>12</sup> evaluated the stress distribution in the bone surrounding implant. Threaded titanium dental implants were examined using three different abutment materials: zirconium, alumina, and titanium. Loading was applied vertically as compressive loading on five selected nodes on top of a metal crown coated with porcelain. Von Mises stress and equivalent deflection values in the cortical and cancellous bone were calculated, as well as in the crown, abutment, and implant. The results of the

analysis showed that the abutment material did not affect stress distributions on spongy and cortical bones. However, it affected crown and implant stresses and deformation values

## CONCLUSION

Authors found that the stress produced in the implant and the peri-implant tissue is impacted by changes in the abutment material. In both immediate and delayed loading conditions, PEEK abutments demonstrated noticeably less von Mises stress in the implant body than titanium and zirconia.

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