Efficacy of Disinfectants on Silicone Maxillofacial Prostheses - a Systematic Review

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Introduction

Silicone prostheses are replaced frequently on an average of two years due to degradation of its properties. Therefore, maintenance of maxillofacial prostheses are important, but there are no consensus regarding the best method to clean and disinfect the prostheses. This study reviewed articles to assess the efficacy of disinfectants and their potential adverse effects on accelerating the deterioration of prostheses, and to develop a standard disinfecting instruction to maximize the lifespan of prostheses.



Figure 1. Implant-supported silicone maxillofacial prosthesis.
Clinical photo provided by Dr. Seelaus

Methods

- Database: PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Library, Web of Science, and Scopus, published in English without date restrictions.
- MeSH terms and research strategy: (silicone OR silicone elastomer) AND (maxillofacial prostheses OR extraoral prostheses) AND (disinfection OR hygiene OR cleaning OR decontamination)

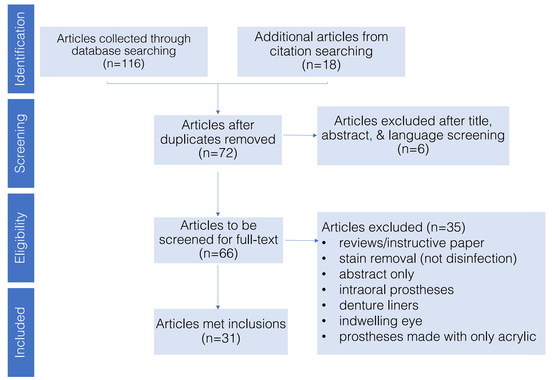


Figure 2. Flow chart of research strategy and data selection process

Results

- Chlorhexidine, soap, and effervescent tab most frequently used.
- Most studies were simulated up to 1 clinical service year.
- Intrinsic changes in its physical property regardless of disinfectant use.
- Some essential oils reported to be as effective as CHX, soap, and sodium hypochlorite.

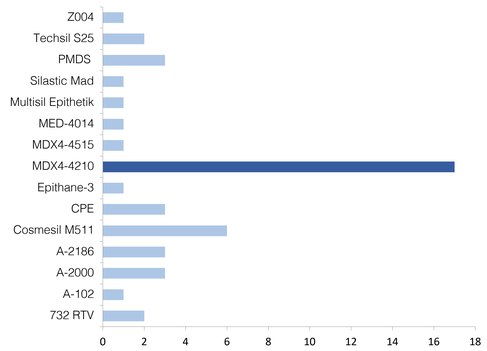


Figure 3. Types of silicone material tested in studies. 15 different silicone materials were tested in studies, and MDX4-4210 was the most tested silicone material.

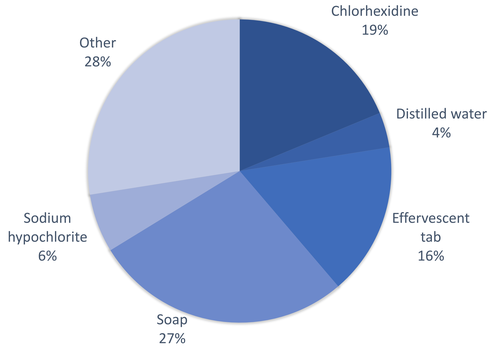


Figure 4. Types of disinfectants reported in studies

Table 1. Effects on physical properties.

Property	ref	CHX	Soap	ET	Other
bond strength (Si-urethane)	23	-	hot/warm	-	
color changes	2	2%	-	-	11% PAQ, 11% PGL, 11% PAL, DI
	4	2%	antimicrobial	-	DI
	5			-	Saline, HC, CN
	8	-		-	ethanol 95°, DI
	10	-	-	-	ASCS
	11				
	12				
	15	-			
	19	-		-	SH, CDSn
	20	-			
	26	-	-	-	alcohol
	31	-			
color stability	1				
detail reproduction	6				
	13	-			
	14				
deterioration	32	-			
glass transition temperature	24	-		-	SH, CDSn
marginal deterioration	22		-	-	
optical density	26	-	-	-	alcohol
surface roughness	1				
	21	-			

significant changes
clinically acceptable
clinical acceptability depends on material
clinically unacceptable
clinical acceptability unknown

Table 2. Effects on mechanical properties

Property	ref	CHX	Soap	ET	Other
dimensional stability	6				
	13	-			
	14				
elongation	7	-	-	-	ASCS
	27	-	-	-	TTO, MO
microindentation	17	-		-	CAS, SH
Shore A hardness	1				
	2		-	-	11% PAQ, 11% PGL, 11% PAL, DI
	5			-	saline, water, HC, CN
	7	-	-	-	ASCS
	19	-		-	SH, CDS
	21	-			
	25				
	27	-	-	-	TTO, MO
	29		-	-	
	30		-	-	SP 10%, SP 15%
	32	-			
tear strength	7	-	-	-	ASCS
	27	-	-	-	TTO, MO
tensile modulus	7	-	-	-	ASCS
tensile strength	7	-	-	-	ASCS
	17	-		-	CAS, SH
	27	-	-	-	TTO, MO

ASCS: antimicrobial silicone-cleaning solution CAS: commercial antimicrobial soap. CDSn: commercial disinfecting solution CHX: chlorhexidine (4%, otherwise noted) CN: *C. nardus* ET: effervescent tab HC: *H. canadensis* NS: neutral soap PAQ/PGL/PAL: propolis in aqueous, glycolic, and liquid SH: sodium hypochlorite TTO: tea tree oil. MO: Manuka oil SP: *S. persica L*

Table 3. Antimicrobial performance

Silicone	Microorganism	ref	Disinfectant
A-2186	*S. aureus*	3	rHBD3 (30+ min)
	C. albicans		5.25% SH (30+ min)
Cosmesil M511	C. tropicalis	16	*C. citratus*
			C. cyminum
			C. limon
			C. verum
	mixed bacteria	18	water
	Mixed yeast (24-hour and 2-week old)		antibacterial soap
			essential-oil-containing mouth rinse
			ethanol 27%
			CHX
			buttermilk
	S. epidermis	27	Tea tree oil
			Manuka oil
MDX4-4210	*S. aureus*	9	neutral soap
	C. albicans		CHX 4%
			C. nardus
			H. canadensis

Effective
Somewhat effective
Poor

Discussion

- If change in color, ΔE, exceeds 1.1, it is detectible with human eyes, and if exceeds 3, it is considered as clinically unacceptable.
- Clinically acceptable Shore A hardness of silicone material is 25~35.
- Generally, all the disinfectants caused changes in physical and mechanical properties. Most of the changes in the mechanical properties were still clinically acceptable, whereas disinfectant use substantially affected the physical properties.

Conclusion

- 4% Chlorhexidine is suggested to be the best disinfecting agent with antimicrobial activity without causing huge negative effects on silicone properties.

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