



## **In Vitro Study Compared The Shear Bond Strength of HEMA-free and HEMA-containing Bonding Agents To Different Dentin Surface Treatments**

Nady I. Mohammed<sup>(1)</sup>, Wakwak MA<sup>(2)</sup> and Hamed I. Al-Kady<sup>(3)</sup>

Codex : 42/1710

dmadyhasanin75@gamil.com

### **ABSTRACT**

This research was designed to investigate the effect of two dentin surface treatments on the shear bond strength of HEMA-free and HEMA containing bonding agent. A total of 90 freshly extracted, sound human molars, free from caries, extracted for pathological reasons was used in this study. The molars were randomly divided into two main equal groups (45 teeth each) according to the type of adhesive system; Group (A1) used HEMA-free adhesive (G-bond). Group (A2) used HEMA containing adhesive (One-up Bond F Plus). Each group was further subdivided into 3 equal subgroups (15teeth each) according to the type of dentin surface treatments applied as follows: Subgroup (I) used the bonding agent only without surface treatment as a control [AB], Subgroup (II) used 10% Sodium hypochlorite followed by the bonding agent [AB1], Subgroup (III) used 10% Sodium hypochlorite then 10% Sodium ascorbate followed by the bonding agent [AB2]. Each subgroup was further divided into three groups of (5 teeth each) according to the storage times; 24 hours, three months, and six months. A Flat dentin surface was prepared, different surface treatments and adhesive systems were applied then Composite was bonded to the treated surfaces according to the manufacturer's instructions and the shear bond strength testing was done using universal testing machine. The recorded values were tabulated and statistically analysed. The result of this study revealed that; the highest mean shear bond strength (18.39 +/- 2 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with HEMA-containing adhesive (One-up Bond F Plus) without surface treatment after 1 day storage time. While the lowest mean shear bond strength (10.7 +/- 1.6 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with HEMA-free adhesive (G-bond) with sodium hypochlorite only after 6 months storage time. The results of this study revealed that 1- Sodium hypochlorite only has a significant adverse effect on the shear bond strength of both adhesives. 2- sodium hypochlorite followed by sodium ascorbate can render the adverse effect of sodium hypochlorite only on the shear bond strength of both adhesives. 3- HEMA-containing adhesive (One-up Bond F Plus) without surface treatment showed better shear bond strength than HEMA-free adhesive (G-bond). 4- Storage in water for long periods has a highly significant adverse effect on the bond strength especially of HEMA-containing adhesive.

### **KEYWORDS**

*HEMA-free, HEMA-containing bonding agents and dentin surface treatments*

1. Assistant Professor in Operative Department, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Al-Azhar University (Cairo- Boys)

## INTRODUCTION

The primary aim of dental adhesives is to provide retention to the resin composite fillings. In addition to withstanding mechanical forces, and in particular shrinkage stress from the resin composite, a good adhesive also should be able to prevent leakage along the restoration's margins<sup>(1)</sup>. Clinically, failure of restoration occurs more often due to inadequate sealing, with subsequent discoloration of the cavity margins, than loss of retention.<sup>(2)</sup> Recently, adhesive systems have been introduced for easier and faster bonding procedures to tooth substrates using only a single application step, which are called 'one-step self-etch' adhesives. These adhesives combine the three functions of a three-step procedure (etching, priming and bonding).<sup>(3)</sup>

The presence of the hydrophilic monomer; 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate (HEMA), is advisable for maintaining resin monomers in one solution and preventing phase-separation<sup>(4)</sup>. However, HEMA has been recently recognized as promoting water-forming unstable soft hydrogels prone to hydrolytic degradation. Moreover, omission of HEMA from adhesive blends has been considered advantageous in removing water, separating it from the other components upon solvent evaporation<sup>(5)</sup>. Therefore HEMA-free one-step adhesives might be different in dentine bonding durability from HEMA-containing one-step adhesives.<sup>(6)</sup> Some researchers stated that the elimination of exposed collagen using sodium hypochlorite not only reduces technique sensitivity, but also allows the achievement of a more porous surface, which would be responsible for adhesive interfaces with similar bond strength values to those obtained in enamel after etching with phosphoric acid.<sup>(7)</sup>

Compromised bond strengths were observed for some single-bottle adhesives when dentin was treated with sodium hypochlorite due to the oxidizing instead of the deproteinizing effect of sodium hypochlorite. The compromised bond strength could be reversed by the application of a reducing agent such

as sodium ascorbate to the oxidized dentin; this will be the main hypothesis of the current study.<sup>(8)</sup>

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Materials used:

Two types of self-etch adhesive systems, two types of dentin surface treatments, and Hybrid composite resin were used in this study are listed in table (1)

### Methods:

#### 1. Teeth selection and Grouping;

A total of 90 freshly extracted, sound human molars, free from caries, extracted for pathological reasons were used in this study. The molars were randomly divided into two main equal groups (45 teeth each) according to the type of adhesive system; Group (A1) used G-bond adhesive. Group (A2) used One-up Bond F Plus adhesive. Each group was further subdivided into 3 equal subgroups (15 teeth each) according to the type of dentin surface treatments applied as follows: Subgroup (I) used the bonding agent only without surface treatment as a control [AB], Subgroup (II) used 10% Sodium hypochlorite followed by the bonding agent [AB1], Subgroup (III) used 10% Sodium hypochlorite then 10% Sodium ascorbate followed by the bonding agent [AB2]. Each subgroup was further divided into three groups of (5 teeth each) according to the storage times; 24 hours, three months, and six months.

#### 2- Preparation of specimens:

##### A- Fabrications of the molds:

A specially fabricated stainless steel mold (opened from the top and the bottom) with dimensions; 23 X 14 X 19mm in height, width and length respectively, was fabricated to create a standardized acrylic blocks in which the teeth were embedded vertically in it. The mold filled with self-cure acrylic resin leaving about 2 mm of the crown

Table (1) Brand name, Composition, and Manufacture of the material used:

Material s	Brand name	Composition	Manufacturer&Batch no.
<b>1- One step self etch adhesive system;( HEMA-free )</b>	<b>G -bond</b>	4-META <sup>*</sup> , phosphoric ester monomer, UDMA <sup>**</sup> , TEGDMA <sup>#</sup> , acetone, water, stabilizer, silica filler, water, photo-initiator	GC, Tokyo, Japan 002277
<b>2- One step self etch adhesive system; (HEMA-contain-ing)</b>	<b>One-up Bond F Plus</b>	Bonding agent A: MAC <sup>&amp;-10</sup> , photo-initiator, methacryloylalkyl acid phosphate, multifunctional methacrylic monomer. Bonding agent B: MMA <sup>***</sup> , HEMA <sup>&amp;***</sup> , water, F-deliverable micro-filler (fluoroaluminosilicate glass), photo-initiator	Tokuyama Dental Corporation, Tokyo, Japan 45447113
<b>3- Dentin surface treatment</b>	<b>10% Sodium Hypochlorite</b>  <b>10% Sodium ascorbate</b>	Sodium Chloride Water Energy  Sodium hydroxide (Na <sub>2</sub> OH) Ascorbic acid	Gomhouria pharmaceutical company 26406  Gomhouria pharmaceutical company 26407
<b>4-Hybrid resin Composite</b>	<b>Filtek Z250</b>	Filler: zirconia/silica (60 vol %) Its matrix is composed of Bis-GMA <sup>&amp;#</sup> , UDMA, and Bis-EMA <sup>&amp;***</sup> . The filler is zirconia /silica with particle size range of 0.01 μm to 3.5 μm. The inorganic filler loading is about 60% vols.	3M ESPE dental products St. Paul, MN U.S.A55144

4-META<sup>\*</sup> = \*methacryloyloxyethyl trimellitic acid Bis GMA<sup>&#</sup> = Bisphenol glycidyl methacrylate.

UDMA<sup>\*\*</sup> = Urethane dimethacrylat MAC-10<sup>&</sup> = 11-methacryloyloxy-1, 10-undecanedicarboxylic acid.

TEGDMA<sup>#</sup> = Tri-ethelene glyccidyl dimethacrylate. Bis- EMA<sup>&\*\*\*</sup> = Ethoxylated bisphenol A glycol dimethacrylate.

MMA<sup>\*\*\*</sup> = Methyl methacrylate. HEMA<sup>&2-</sup> = \*\*hydroxy ethyle methacrylate

above the surface. The base of the mold resting on a glass slab to obtain a flat smooth surface base. Another special fabricated copper mold, with central hole of 3mm internal diameters and 3 mm height was designed for the purposes of production standardize size of specimen's restorative materials (3X3mm in diameter). This mold has two splitted parts that could be guided to fit into each other with surrounding copper ring. In addition, special fabricated stainless steel holder was designed in Figure (1). This holder consists of two parts; the upper part and the lower part. The upper part together with the lower part allows for adaptation and fixation of the mold ring to the flattened dentin surface during application of the restorative material.



Fig. (1) Holder with block  
Upper part has U shape space Specimens  
The lower part has screw

### B- Preparation of the dentin surface and application of the restorative material:

The flat dentin surface were produce using a special abrasive stone under coolant to create a depth cut grooves with full depth of the stone (2mm). Then united together to remove the projected occlusal surface of the tooth in the acrylic block to create a flat dentin surface, just passing the dentino-enamel junction. This depth was remarked on all occlusal surface of the crown. A graduated periodontal probe was used to confirm the depth.

### **Application of the restorative material:**

Each restorative material was applied according to manufacturer instructions; The first subgroup; the adhesive applied as the following; the acrylic block with the dentin specimen inside was placed into the specially designed holder with the split brass ring placed in the central portion of the dentin specimen. Dentin dry by air blowing. The bottle of bonding agent was shaking well before use. G-bond ;One drop of G-bond was placed into the mixing well. The bonding agent was applied to dentin surface by the disposable applicator tip and leave undisturbed for 10 second. The bonding agent was dry thoroughly for 5 second, bonding agent was light cured for 20 second. One-up Bond F Plus; One drop of bonding agent A and bonding agent B was placed into the mixing well and mix well until the mixed bonding agent turns completely to pink color. The mixed bonding agent was applied to dentin surface by the disposable applicator tip. The mixed bonding agent was kept rubbing on the surface for at least 10 second bonding agent was light cured for 10 second. The second subgroup of specimens was treated with 10% Sodium hypochlorite solution for 60 second, then water rinsed for 30 second, and blotted dry with tissue paper followed by bond was applied as described before. The third subgroup of specimens were treated with 10% Sodium hypochlorite(NaOCl) solution 60 second, then water rinsed for 30 second and blotted dry with tissue paper, followed by 10% Sodium ascorbate was ap-

plied for 60 second, followed by water rinsing for 15 second and blotted dry with tissue paper, then applying bond as described before.

Application of composite resin:After application of dentin surface treatments and adhesive systems, the composite resin (Filtek Z250) was applied according to the manufacturer instruction in two increments (each increment about 1.5mm thickness) and packed in the ring using a Teflon coated instruments. Each increment was light cured for 40 seconds with a light-curing unite . Acelloid matrix was applied on top of composite resin and thin glass slid was used to compress the restorative material in the last increment before curing to attained high smooth surface. Finally, after curing, the acrylic blocks were ejected from the stainless steel holder and the split brass ring was removed and addition cure for 40 seconds was done to the lateral side of specimens.

### **2- Storage of specimens:**

The specimens were stored in distilled water at 37°C in an incubator with 100% humidity at different storage time (24 hours, one week, one month, and three months) until shear bond strength testing was performed.

### **3- Testing procedure:**

Shear bond strength testing was performed on the specimen using a computerized testing machine (Lloyed testing England) at speed of 0.5 mm/min. Each specimen was fixed to a holder device placed on the lower compartment of the machine to prevent movement of the specimen during testing. A specially constructed blunt edge metal attachment of 3mm in thickness, 70mm in length, and 10mm in width was attached to the upper component of the machine. The attachment has a hole that matched the size of specimen (3mm in diameter and 3mm in thickness). The attachment was adjusted so as to get a shearing force using a crosshead speed of 0.5mm/min until failure occurred. The shear bond strength in MPa was calculated for all specimens tested from the following equation:

$$SB = L / A$$

*SB = shear bond strength in MPa*

*L = breaking load in Newton*

*A = area of restoration / dentin interface in mm<sup>2</sup>*

*Area =  $\pi r^2$  in mm<sup>2</sup>  $\pi = 3.14$  or  $22/7$   $r = diameter / 2 = 6 mm / 2 = 3 mm$ .*

Then the data were presented as mean and standard deviation (SD) values and doing statistical analysis using Turkey’s test showing the result.

## RESULTS

### Comparison between the two bonding agents

The mean shear bond strength (MPa) and standard deviation (SD) between the dentin specimens bonded with two different bonding agents; One-up Bond F plus and G-Bond to direct restorative material; Filtek Z250, showing in figure (2) at different storage times; 24 hours, three months, and six months.

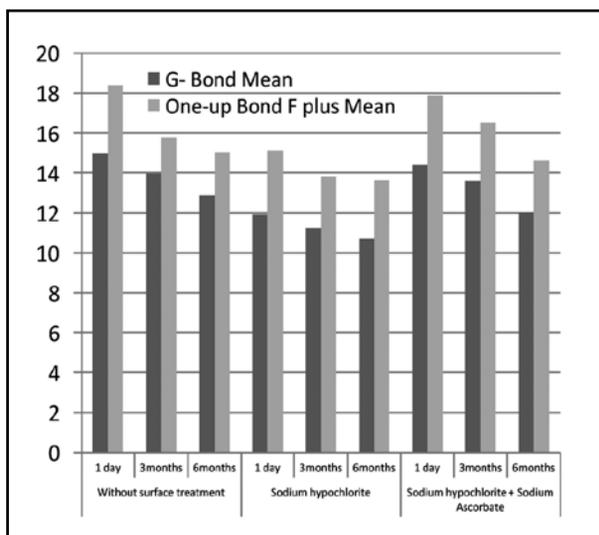


Fig. (2) Bar chart showing Comparison between the two bonding agents.

A- G-Bond: Without surface treatment, the highest mean shear bond strength (14.99 +/- 1.4 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (12.88 +/- 1.8 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time. With Sodium hypochlorite,

the highest mean shear bond strength (11.92 +/- 1.8 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (10.7 +/- 1.6 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time. With Sodium hypochlorite + Sodium Ascorbate, the highest mean shear bond strength (14.4 +/- 1.4 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (12 +/- 1.7 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time.

B- One-up Bond F plus: Without surface treatment, the highest mean shear bond strength (18.39 +/- 2 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (15.03 +/- 1.4 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time. With Sodium hypochlorite, the highest mean shear bond strength (15.12 +/- 1.9 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (13.63 +/- 0.9 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time. With Sodium hypochlorite + Sodium Ascorbate, the highest mean shear bond strength (17.86 +/- 2.3 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin after 1 day storage time while the lowest mean shear bond strength (14.64 +/- 2 MPa) was recorded after 3 months storage time .

### II- Comparison between the storage times

The mean shear bond strength (MPa) and standard deviation (SD) between the dentin specimens treated with two different surface treatments; Sodium ascorbate and Sodium hypochlorite, bonded with two different bonding agents; One-up Bond F plus and G-Bond to direct restorative material; Filtek Z250, showing in figure. (3) at different storage times; 24 hours, three months, and six months.

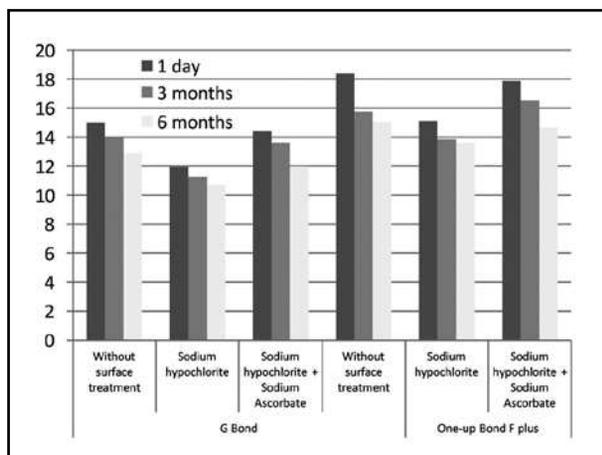


Fig. (3) Bar chart showing the mean shear bond (MPa) at different storage times

A- After 1 day; The highest mean shear bond strength (18.39 +/- 2 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with One-up Bond F plus without surface treatment while the lowest mean shear bond strength (11.92 +/- 1.8 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with G-Bond after Sodium hypochlorite.

B- After 3 months; The highest mean shear bond strength (15.75 +/- 1.8 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with One-up Bond F plus without surface treatment while the lowest mean shear bond strength (11.26 +/- 1.8 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with G-Bond after Sodium hypochlorite.

C- After 6 months; The highest mean shear bond strength (15.03 +/- 1.4 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with One-up Bond F plus without surface treatment while the lowest mean shear bond strength (10.7 +/- 1.6 MPa) was recorded for those dentin specimens bonded to composite resin with G-Bond after Sodium hypochlorite.

## DISCUSSION

The durability of bonds between resins and tooth substrates is of significant importance for the clinical longevity of adhesive restorations. <sup>(8)</sup>.

## I. Effect of HEMA on the shear bond strength to dentin

The results of this study revealed that, HEMA-containing provided highly bond strengths than HEMA-free adhesives. This may be related to the presence of the hydrophilic monomer; 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate (HEMA) is advisable for maintaining resin monomers in one solution and preventing phase-separation <sup>(9)</sup>, its hydrophilicity makes it an excellent adhesion-promoting monomer <sup>(10)</sup>. By enhancing wetting of dentin, HEMA significantly improves bond strengths <sup>(11)</sup>. Moreover HEMA has good biocompatibility, and able to evaporate from the adhesive solutions, though only in very small amounts<sup>(12)</sup>. Another explanation for this result, HEMA acts as a wetting agent and helps monomers to diffuse into the relatively deeply (3-5mm) exposed collagen network within a clinically manageable time, thereby improving bond strength <sup>(13)</sup>. With wet bonding techniques, the channels between the demineralized dentin collagen fibrils are filled with water, solvent, conditioner, and/or oral fluids<sup>(14)</sup>. The only mechanism available for adhesive resin infiltration is diffusion of the resin into whatever fluid is in the spaces of the substrate and along the collagen fibers. Ideally, the solvent/HEMA combination conditions the collagen to remain expanded during adhesive infiltration. However, results from a recent study indicate that HEMA, which is a primary component in many single-bottle commercial dentin adhesives, can dramatically reduce the evaporation of water<sup>(15)</sup>. This in agreement with the results obtained by Van Landuyta et al 2007<sup>(16)</sup>, who concluded that: 10% of HEMA improved the bond strength of a one-step self-etch adhesive, also better wetting and infiltration properties of the adhesive.

This disagree with the results obtained by Carvalho R et al 2007<sup>(17)</sup> concluded that: HEMA-free one-step adhesives are complex blends hydrophilic/hydrophobic ingredients, water and solvents, thereby improving bonding effectiveness. When added HEMA in higher concentrations, this benefi-

cial effect of HEMA on the bond strength may be lost due to increased hydrophilicity, decreased removal of water and reduced co-polymerization<sup>(18)</sup>

## II- Effect of dentin surface treatments on shear bond strength:

Effect of sodium hypochlorite; The results of the current study revealed that sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl) show lower shear bond strength of both HEMA-containing and HEMA-free adhesives. This may be related to the NaOCl-treated surfaces seem to be free of loose collagen fibrils<sup>(19)</sup>. The absence of naked collagen fibrils suggests that the polymer formed by light curing of adhesives could be degraded over the testing period. Hydrophilic resins, such as those present in the current adhesives, are highly prone to absorb water<sup>(20)</sup>. Since all adhesives used in the present study contain significant amounts of hydrophilic monomers, water sorption over time can also be regarded as a contributor to the observed reduction in bond strengths. In addition, failure in removing all residual water entrapped in the deepest regions of demineralized and deproteinized dentin induces the formation of poorly polymerized polymer chains<sup>(21)</sup> that would be weaker and less stable over time than those formed in water-free regions. Additionally, the presence of reactive residual free-radicals as a result of the oxidizing action of NaOCl, may compete with the propagation vinyl free-radicals generated during light-activation of the adhesive, resulting in premature chain termination and incomplete polymerization<sup>(22)</sup>. Also oxygen released by sodium hypochlorite molecules is another factor that might justify the decreased bond strength values, as it may inhibit adhesive polymerization and hence compromise the mechanical performance of the obtained bonding interfaces<sup>(23)</sup>. This is confirmed with the results obtained by Uceda-Gonez et al 2007<sup>(24)</sup>, who concluded that: The use of 10% NaOCl for 1 min after dentin demineralization did not improved the bond strength to dentin either immediately or after a 1-year period.

Another explanation for this result, this may be related to changes in the physical and chemical properties of dentin after application of sodium hypochlorite. Reductions in the elastic modulus and flexural strength of dentin were reported after irrigation of the root canals with 5% sodium hypochlorite<sup>(25)</sup>. This is confirmed with the results obtained by Silva EM, et al in 2007<sup>(26)</sup>, who concluded that: Residual sodium hypochlorite within the porosities of mineralized dentin may result in incomplete resin polymerization, and hence compromised bond strength the use of sodium ascorbate, reverses this compromised bond strength. This finding disagree with Torres et al in 2004<sup>(27)</sup> who reported that, after the application of 10% NaOCl on the acid-etched dentin, the removal of the collagen network resulted in an extremely rough surface, with greater opening of the dentinal tubule orifices and exposing of lateral branches which suggest an increase in the surface area<sup>(28,29)</sup>, this leads to an increase in the capillary effect, in addition to an increase in surface energy because of the removal of the collagen fibers, which result in an increase in the wettability<sup>(30)</sup>. The results of the current study are also in disagreement with Blunck et al in 1997<sup>(31)</sup>, who observed a significant increase in the percentage of excellent margins after treatment with sodium hypochlorite in comparison to the conventional technique. This controversy may be due to differences in the materials that used or differences in methodology.

Effect of Sodium ascorbate; The results of the current study revealed that sodium hypochlorite followed by sodium ascorbate show higher bond strengths than sodium hypochlorite only of both HEMA-containing and HEMA-free adhesive without significant difference between sodium hypochlorite followed by sodium ascorbate and the control group. This may be related to dental adhesives polymerize by a free radical polymerization mechanism that involves the generation of free radicals through light-activated redox initiators<sup>(32)</sup>, Sodium ascorbate allows free-radical polymerization of the adhesive resin to proceed without premature termination by restoring the altered redox potential of the

oxidized bonding substrate thus reversing the compromised bonding<sup>(33)</sup>. Ascorbic acid and its salts are well-known antioxidants and are capable of reducing a variety of oxidative compounds, especially free radicals<sup>(34)</sup>. This in agreement with the results obtained by Kimyai S. et al. 2008<sup>(35)</sup>, who concluded that, Reduced bond strength to bleached dentin can be amended by the use of sodium ascorbate as an antioxidant. Another explanation for this result, this may be related to Oxygen released by sodium hypochlorite molecules is might justify the decreased bond strength values, as it may inhibit adhesive polymerization and hence compromise the mechanical performance of the obtained bonding interfaces<sup>(36)</sup>. Compromised bond strengths were observed for some single-bottle adhesives when dentin was treated with sodium hypochlorite due to the oxidizing instead of the deproteinizing effect of sodium hypochlorite. The compromised bond strength could be reversed by the application of a reducing agent such as sodium ascorbate to the oxidized dentin<sup>(37,38)</sup>. The use of the sodium ascorbate, instead of the ascorbic acid, is recommended to avoid the potential double-etching effect of this mild acid on etched teeth<sup>(39)</sup>. This is confirmed with the results obtained by Yiu et al in 2002<sup>(40)</sup>, who concluded that: Residual sodium hypochlorite within the porosities of mineralized dentin may result in incomplete resin polymerization, and hence compromised bond strength the use of sodium ascorbate, reverses this compromised bond strength.

#### **D) Effect of storage time on the shear bond strength**

The results of the current study revealed that with G- Bond, without surface treatment, there was no statistically significant difference between mean shear bond strength after 1 day, 3 months and 6 months. This may be related to both in uncured and cured state, HEMA will readily absorb water. Some researchers hypothesized that HEMA-containing adhesives are more susceptible to water contamination, as the HEMA in the uncured adhesive may absorb water, which can lead to dilution of the monomers to the extent that polymerization is

inhibited<sup>(41)</sup>. HEMA fixed in a polymer chain after polymerizing will still exhibit hydrophilic properties and will lead to water uptake with consequent swelling and discoloration<sup>(42)</sup>. Apart from the water uptake, this adversely influences the mechanical strength; high amounts of HEMA will result in flexible polymers with inferior qualities<sup>(43)</sup>. The shear bond strength values of One-up Bond F plus, without surface treatment lowering after 3 months as result from the effect of hydrolysis at the bonding interface through over enlarging of the nanoleakage pathway. However, this nanoleakage or nanometer sized spaces within the hybrid layer may result from incomplete resin infiltration into the demineralized dentin leaving the collagen unenveloped by resin, or it may result from poor polymerization of the adhesive resin and the existence of low molecular weight oligomers<sup>(44)</sup>. This nanoleakage pathway may allow fluid penetration along the interface which may result in hydrolytic breakdown of either the adhesive resin or collagen within the hybrid layer, there compromising stability of the resin-dentin bond<sup>(45)</sup>. Another explanation for drop the shear bond strength values of One-up Bond F plus, without surface treatment after 3 months as result from hydrolytic degradation of the resin and collagen fibers in the submicron spaces of the hybrid layer increase with increase exposure to water<sup>(46)</sup>. In fact, during long-term water storage, the resin absorbs significant amount of water and consequently swelling of the resin may result in the closure of any space between the bonding resin and dentin surface. Conversely, stresses my simultaneously be induced at the bonding resin-dentin interface, which may pull the collagen fibers into the hybrid layer and resin, leading to tearing along the bonded interface as the collagen fibers become weaker over time from hydrolysis<sup>(47)</sup>. The increase storage period allow increase water uptake, that lead to increased permeability and increase the hydrolytic degradation of the material<sup>(48)</sup>. The water sorption and degradation process causing rapid drop in the physical properties, loss of resin from the hybrid layer and consequently, drop in the adaptation after long term water storage<sup>(49)</sup>. This findings in

agreement with Sano et al in 1999<sup>(50)</sup>, who suggested that the microleakage of the resinous materials increase after long-term water storage

This findings disagree with Mortier E et al in 2004<sup>(51)</sup>, who found that: after one year water storage, the dentin bond strength of all adhesive systems reduced significantly, except for One-Up Bond F They explain that, In this study the results indicated one year of water storage did not change the bond strength of One-Up Bond F self-etching adhesive. The pH of this material is 2.6 and it is close to the ideal acidity and etching aggressiveness. One-Up Bond F is a simplified bonding agent, and the bond strength stability may be related to low etching aggressiveness and low acid dissociation constants<sup>(52,53)</sup>. Moreover, each adhesive contains specific functional hydrophilic monomer that can determine its performance and hydrolytic stability over time. This controversy may be due to differences in methodology.

With Sodium hypochlorite only and Sodium hypochlorite + Sodium Ascorbate, showed statistically lowest mean shear bond strength after 3 months but not statistically significant difference with both One-up Bond F plus or G-bond. This may be related to the NaOCl-treated surfaces seem to be free of loose collagen fibrils<sup>(54)</sup>. The absence of naked collagen fibrils suggests that the polymer formed by light curing of adhesives could be degraded over the testing period. Hydrophilic resins, such as those present in the current adhesives, are highly prone to absorb water<sup>(55)</sup>. Since all adhesives used in the present study contain significant amounts of hydrophilic monomers, water sorption over time can also be regarded as a contributor to the observed reduction in bond strengths. In addition, failure in removing all residual water entrapped in the deepest regions of demineralized and demineralized and deproteinized dentin induces the formation of poorly polymerized polymer chains that would be weaker and less stable over time than those formed in water-free regions<sup>(56)</sup>.

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