

**UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE JUIZ DE FORA  
CAMPUS GOVERNADOR VALADARES  
PROGRAMA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO EM CIÊNCIAS APLICADAS À SAÚDE**

**Ismênia Edwirges Bernardes Marçal**

**Avaliação das propriedades ópticas e superficiais de diferentes resinas  
utilizadas para base de prótese total com ou sem o uso do glaze**

Governador Valadares

2023

**Ismênia Edwirges Bernardes Marçal**

**Avaliação das propriedades ópticas e superficiais de diferentes resinas  
utilizadas para base de prótese total com ou sem o uso do glaze**

Dissertação apresentada ao Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Aplicadas à Saúde, da Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Campus Governador Valadares, como requisito parcial à obtenção do título de Mestre em Ciências Aplicadas à Saúde, área de concentração Biociências.

Orientador: Prof. Dr. Cleidiel Aparecido Araújo Lemos

Governador Valadares

2023

Bernardes Marçal, Ismenia Edwirges .

Avaliação das propriedades ópticas e superficiais de diferentes resinas utilizadas para base de prótese total com ou sem o uso do glaze / Ismenia Edwirges Bernardes Marçal. -- 2023.

67 p.

Orientador: Cleidiel Aparecido Araújo Lemos

Dissertação (mestrado acadêmico) - Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Campus Avançado de Governador Valadares, Instituto de Ciências da Vida - ICV. Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Aplicadas à Saúde, 2023.

1. Prótese Total. 2. Propriedade de Superfície. 3. PMMA. I. Araújo Lemos, Cleidiel Aparecido , orient. II. Título.

---

Ismênia Edwirges Bernardes Marçal

*Avaliação das propriedades ópticas e superficiais de diferentes resinas utilizadas para base de próteses total com ou sem o uso do glaze*

Dissertação  
apresentada ao  
Programa de Pós-  
Graduação em  
Ciências Aplicadas à  
Saúde  
da Universidade  
Federal de Juiz de  
Fora como requisito  
parcial à obtenção do  
título de Mestre em  
Ciências Aplicadas à  
Saúde. Área de  
concentração:  
Biotecnologia

Aprovada em 26 de outubro de 2023.

BANCA EXAMINADORA

**Prof. Dr. Cleidiel Aparecido Araújo Lemos** - Orientador

Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

**Prof. Dr. Fellippo Ramos Verri**

Universidade Estadual Paulista

**Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Furtado de Carvalho**

Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora

Juiz de Fora, 06/10/2023.

PROPP 01.5: Termo de Aprovação CAMPUSGV-COORD-PPG-SAUDE 1515072 SEI 23071.941305/2023-30 / pg. 1

---



Documento assinado eletronicamente por **Cleidiel Aparecido Araujo Lemos, Servidor(a)**, em 26/10/2023, às 16:08, conforme horário oficial de Brasília, com fundamento no § 3º do art. 4º do [Decreto nº 10.543, de 13 de novembro de 2020](#).



Documento assinado eletronicamente por **Rodrigo Furtado de Carvalho, Servidor(a)**, em 26/10/2023, às 16:09, conforme horário oficial de Brasília, com fundamento no § 3º do art. 4º do [Decreto nº 10.543, de 13 de novembro de 2020](#).



Documento assinado eletronicamente por **Fellippo Ramos Verri, Usuário Externo**, em 06/11/2023, às 22:26, conforme horário oficial de Brasília, com fundamento no § 3º do art. 4º do [Decreto nº 10.543, de 13 de novembro de 2020](#).



A autenticidade deste documento pode ser conferida no Portal do SEI-Ujf ([www2.ufjf.br/SEI](http://www2.ufjf.br/SEI)) através do ícone Conferência de Documentos, informando o código verificador **1515072** e o código CRC **AFE5C2B3**.

---

## **AGRADECIMENTOS**

À Deus autor da vida, por sempre me dar força, luz, fé e perseverança.

Aos meus pais, José e Maria, e ao meu irmão, Israel, por sempre me incentivarem, impulsionando a seguir meus sonhos.

Ao meu marido por todo amor e carinho, pela força para concluir a pesquisa, parceria e incentivo sempre.

Ao meu orientador Prof. Dr. Cleidiel Aparecido Araújo Lemos, pela orientação, dedicação, apoio para que esse projeto concretizasse.

Aos meus amigos pelo incentivo em iniciar esse projeto, e por todo apoio e carinho ao longo dessa caminhada.

À instituição UFJF-GV, a qual me orgulho em fazer parte desde o início de sua implementação, e agora como pós-graduanda e também docente, é muito gratificante fazer parte dessa equipe.

São muitos desafios e obstáculos, mas o foco sempre em um ensino de qualidade e incentivo a ciência, são responsáveis não só pela formação de profissionais de excelência como também a realização de inúmeros sonhos. Serei eternamente grata!

## RESUMO

As próteses totais removíveis são a opção menos invasiva e mais econômica para a reabilitação protética, são fabricadas usando resina acrílica, como polimetilmetacrilato (PMMA), devido às suas propriedades físicas e estéticas. O objetivo desse estudo foi avaliar as diferenças de microdureza, rugosidade, características ópticas, de diferentes resinas utilizadas para confecção de bases de próteses totais em relação ao tipo de acabamento (polimento ou polimento e glaze) antes e depois da termociclagem(TC). Foram considerados quatro tipos de resinas, de acordo com o método de fabricação, sendo: convencional TC (banho-maria) ou (micro-ondas); PMMA fresada, e resina impressa 3D. Foram confeccionadas um total de 160 amostras, de diâmetro 10 mm e 3 mm de espessura. As variáveis das resinas foram: com polimento/com glaze (CP/CG); com polimento/sem glaze (CP/SG); sem polimento/com glaze (SP/CG); sem polimento/sem glaze (SP/SG). Foi considerada a análise de variância a dois fatores utilizando o programa JAMOVI. Os maiores valores de alteração de cor ( $\Delta E$ ) foram encontrados na resina 3D para os grupos que foram realizados polimentos mecânicos (CP/CG; CP/SG. Antes da TC o grupo com SP/SG apresentou os maiores valores de rugosidade com diferença significativa para todos os demais polimentos, independentemente do tipo de resina ( $P < 0,05$ ). Na análise de microdureza antes da TC pode ser observado menores valores de microdureza para as resinas impressas 3D ( $p < 0,001$ ),

principalmente para o grupo SP/CG. Conclui-se que a ausência do polimento mecânico contribuiu para maior alteração de cor e rugosidade. Os tipos de polimento influenciaram as propriedades de microdureza em relação aos diferentes tipos de resina, sendo que a resina impressa 3D apresentou a maior variabilidade antes e após a TC.

**Palavras-chave:** PMMA. Cor. Propriedades de superfície. Prótese Total.

## ABSTRACT

Removable complete dentures are the less invasive and more economical option for prosthetic rehabilitation, and they are manufactured using acrylic resin, such as polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), due to its physical and aesthetic properties. The objective of this study was to evaluate the differences in microhardness, roughness, optical characteristics, of different resins used for the fabrication of complete denture bases in relation to the type of finishing (polishing or polishing and glaze) before and after thermocycling (TC). Four types of resins were considered based on the manufacturing method: conventional TC (water bath) or (microwave); milled PMMA, and 3D printed resin. A total of 160 samples were fabricated, with a diameter of 10 mm and a thickness of 3 mm. The resin variables were: with polishing/with glaze (P/G); with polishing/without glaze (P/NG); without polishing/with glaze (NP/G). Without polishing/without glaze (NP/NG). A two-factor analysis of variance was performed using the JAMOVI program. The highest color change values ( $\Delta E$ ) were found in the 3D resin for the groups that underwent mechanical polishing (P/G; P/NG). Before TC, the SP/SG group exhibited the highest roughness values with a significant difference compared to all other polishing methods, regardless of resin type ( $P < 0.05$ ). In the microhardness analysis before TC, lower microhardness values were observed for 3D printed resins ( $p < 0.001$ ), especially for the NP/G group. It is concluded that the absence of mechanical polishing contributed to greater color



change and roughness. The types of polishing influenced the microhardness properties in relation to the different resin types, with 3D printed resin showing the highest variability before and after TC.

**Keywords:** PMMA. Color. Surface Properties. Denture.

## LISTA DE SIGLAS

CP/CG	Com Polimento/Com Glaze
CP/SG	Com Polimento/Sem Glaze
SP/CG	Sem Polimento/Com Glaze
SP/SG	Sem Polimento/Sem Glaze
PMMA	Polimetilmetacrilato
TC	Termociclagem
TC	Thermocycling
BM	Banho Maria
MC	Microondas
MC	Microwave
BM	Water Bath
P/G	With Polishing/With Glaze
NP/G	Without Polishing/With Glaze
P/NG	With Polishing/Without Glaze
NP/NG	Without Polishing/Without Glaze

## SUMÁRIO

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUÇÃO.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ARTIGO CIENTÍFICO.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>CONCLUSÃO.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>REFERÊNCIAS.....</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>ANEXO A (Instruções normas Dental Materials) .....</b>	<b>39</b>

## 1 INTRODUÇÃO

Segundo o IBGE [1] a proporção de idosos em 2022 no Brasil acima de 65 anos é de 10,49%(IBGE) correspondendo a 37,7 milhões de pessoas idosas,[2]. Embora tenha sido observado um aumento nas políticas de saúde pública relativas a prevenção de doenças orais, segundo estimativas da OMS conduzida pela Fiocruz, 14,4% dos brasileiros perderam todos os dentes na faixa de idade entre 50 e 74 anos, em decorrência disso o número de indivíduos necessitando de próteses totais cresce a cada ano, [3].

As próteses totais removíveis são a opção menos invasiva e mais econômica para a reabilitação protética de pacientes totalmente desdentados,[4] . A reabilitação oral com próteses dentárias exerce uma grande influência no cotidiano das pessoas e tem enormes implicações sociais [5]. Além disso promovem um equilíbrio das funções mastigatórias, deglutição, fala, estética e uma melhora da autoestima do paciente,[6].

As próteses dentárias removíveis convencionais geralmente são fabricadas usando resina acrílica, como polimetilmetacrilato (PMMA), devido às suas propriedades físicas e estéticas, além de manuseio favorável,[7].Esse material apresenta algumas qualidades tais como: biocompatibilidade, estabilidade, impermeabilidade, confiabilidade, relativa facilidade de manipulação, baixa toxicidade e ausência de irritação aos tecidos bucais, que logo foram aproveitadas e incorporadas ,[8]. Entretanto, apesar dessas características, o PMMA pode apresentar alguns problemas relacionados a fadiga flexural sob repetidas forças mastigatórias e sua fragilidade, que causa principalmente o fracasso das próteses,[9]. Além disso, outras limitações tais como baixa condutividade térmica, alto coeficiente de expansão térmica, fragilidade, falta de tenacidade e resistência, e um baixo módulo de elasticidade, podem criar algumas falhas durante a função,[10].

Em alternativa ao tratamento convencional, nos últimos anos, as tecnologias de desenho assistido por computador e fabricação assistida por computador (CAD-CAM) permitiram a fabricação de próteses removíveis, bases de registro e sobredentaduras implanto-suportadas através de procedimentos subtrativos (fresamento) ou aditivos (impressão 3D) [11].

Antes da introdução da tecnologia CAD/CAM em próteses removíveis, a

congruência entre a base da prótese e os tecidos de suporte, era dificultada pela possibilidade da contração de polimerização da resina [11]. Essas distorções na base da prótese tem um impacto negativo no ajuste e retenção de próteses totais removíveis. Na fabricação CAD/CAM, por outro lado, pelo processo de fabricação subtrativo as bases da prótese são fresadas a partir de discos de resina acrílica totalmente polimerizados, através de um controle rigoroso das condições de pressão e temperatura durante a polimerização e, portanto, não estão mais sujeitos a fenômenos de encolhimento ou distorção [12 -13].

Neste sentido, sabe-se que o polimento é um dos principais fatores que podem influenciar nas características físicas e ópticas superficiais desses materiais [14-15]. A ausência ou dificuldade do polimento, não interfere somente nas características extrínsecas desses materiais, como também pode aumentar a propensão de complicações biológicas como a estomatite devido ao acúmulo de microrganismos,[16]. Neste sentido, polimentos mecânicos, químicos ou até mesmo o emprego de selantes/glazes podem ser indicados para garantir que a base apresente uma favorável lisura superficial,[17-18 -19].

Vários selantes têm sido utilizados como camada de revestimento de próteses totais, proporcionando uma superfície mais lisa e brilhante e reduzindo o acúmulo de placa, devido a hidrofobicidade e viscosidade muito baixa da superfície da prótese [12].

Recentes trabalhos têm relatado que a aplicação de uma camada de revestimento na superfície de bases de dentaduras tem aumentado as propriedades mecânicas e dureza [20], e contribui no aumento de vida útil da prótese, retardando o progresso de rugosidade e da perda da resina após procedimentos de mastigação e limpeza,[21]. Em contrapartida, alguns autores destacaram superioridade dos procedimentos de polimentos convencionais em relação a utilização do revestimento,[7].

Dessa forma, não existe um consenso na literatura a respeito da influenciado uso da camada de revestimento em relação ao protocolo de polimento convencional nas características superficiais físicas e ópticas de resinas para base de dentaduras. Essas características apresentam relevância principalmente se aplicado em relação a avaliação das diferentes possibilidades reabilitadoras, ou seja, pelo método convencional e CAD-CAM através de manufatura aditiva ou subtrativa,[18].

## 2 ARTIGO CIENTÍFICO

Artigo Científico enviado para publicação no periódico Elsevier CAPES A1.A estruturação do artigo baseou-se nas instruções aos autores preconizados pelo periódico (ANEXO A).

Evaluation of color change, surface roughness and microhardness of different denture base resins with and without coating

Ismênia Edwirges Bernardes Marçal,<sup>1</sup> Eduardo Piza Pellizzer,<sup>2</sup> Victor Augusto Alves Bento,<sup>2</sup> João Mateus Cavalaro Sayeg,<sup>2</sup> Carolina Bosso Andre,<sup>3</sup> Gabriela Luiza Moreira Carvalho,<sup>3</sup> Cleidiel Aparecido Araujo Lemos<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Postgraduate Program in Applied Health Sciences (PPGCAS), Federal University of Juiz de Fora (UFJF), Campus Avançado Governador Valadares, Governador Valadares, Minas Gerais, Brazil

<sup>2</sup>Department of Dental Materials and Prosthodontics, Sao Paulo State University (UNESP), Araçatuba, Brazil.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Restorative Dentistry, Federal University of Minas Gerais

<sup>4</sup>Department of Dentistry, Federal University of Juiz de Fora (UFJF), Campus Avançado Governador Valadares, Governador Valadares, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

### **Corresponding author:**

Cleidiel Aparecido Araujo Lemos

Department of Dentistry, Federal University of Juiz de Fora (UFJF) – Campus Avançado Governador Valadares, Governador Valadares - MG, Brazil

Email: [cleidiel.lemos@ufjf.edu.br](mailto:cleidiel.lemos@ufjf.edu.br) / Telephone: (33) 3301-1000 – Ramal 1580

### **Acknowledgements**

Scholarship of master's degree for one reviewer (I.E.B.M.) by Coordination for the Improvement of higher Education Personnel (CAPES) – Finance Code 001.

## **ABSTRACT**

Removable complete dentures are the least invasive and most economical option for prosthetic rehabilitation, and they are manufactured using acrylic resin, such as polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), due to its physical and aesthetic properties. The objective of this study was to evaluate differences in microhardness, roughness, optical characteristics, solubility, and sorption of different resins used in the fabrication of complete denture bases in relation to the type of finishing (polishing or polishing and glaze) before and after thermocycling (TC). Methods: Four types of resins were considered based on the manufacturing method, namely: conventional heat-polymerized (water bath) or (microwave); milled PMMA, and 3D printed resin. A total of 160 samples were fabricated, with a diameter of 10 mm and a thickness of 3 mm. The resin variables were: with polishing/with glaze (P/G); with polishing/without glaze (P/NG); without polishing/with glaze (NP/G); without polishing/without glaze (NP/NG). Results: A two-factor analysis of variance was conducted using the JAMOVI program. The highest color change values ( $\Delta E$ ) were found in the 3D resin for the groups that underwent mechanical polishing (P/G; P/NG). For sorption and solubility before and after TC, no differences were observed among the evaluated resins. In the microhardness analysis before TC, lower microhardness values were observed for 3D printed resins ( $p < 0.001$ ). Significance: This study demonstrated that the absence of mechanical polishing contributed to greater color change and roughness, and that the types of polishing influenced microhardness properties concerning the different resin types.

**Keywords:** PMMA. Color. Surface Properties. Denture.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) is a polymer that is most commonly used in dental laboratories for the fabrication of dentures for fully edentulous patients [1]. PMMA has gained popularity for various dental applications due to its unique properties, such as excellent dimensional stability in oral environments, low cost, lightweight nature, acceptable aesthetics, and ease of repair [2]. Additionally, it has a low density, cost-effectiveness [1] and excellent transparency, which seamlessly integrate with the oral cavity without discomfort [2].

However, there are many concerns related to the use of PMMA, including denture fractures caused by sorption and water impact, as well as decreased flexural strength, porosity, and polymerization shrinkage [3]. Traditionally, acrylic resins have been flask-pressed when they reach the plastic stage and then immersed in a heated water bath or microwave to allow for the thermopolymerization of the monomer [4].

In recent years, computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD-CAM) technology have enabled the fabrication of removable dentures, registration bases, and implant-supported overdentures using subtractive (milling) or additive (3D printing) procedures. Compared to traditional workflows, digital workflow offers several advantages such as reduced clinical time and cost, increased accuracy, and maintenance of digital treatment records [5-6].

Recent systematic reviews have demonstrated superiority, particularly in the mechanical properties of resin bases obtained through CAD/CAM technology, whether by subtractive or additive manufacturing, compared to conventional PMMA resins [7-8]. However, when it comes to physical and optical surface properties, they may be less explored, considering the different rehabilitative possibilities for complete denture bases, especially when comparing additive manufacturing to traditional milling.



Goodacre et al. [5] and Goodacre et al. [6] reported that despite the lower flexural strength and lower fracture resistance of 3D printed dentures compared to milled ones, they still offer numerous advantages over conventionally milled and processed dentures. Furthermore, they emphasized that in the coming years, additive manufacturing is likely to play a more significant role, with increased knowledge about materials and techniques employed. Thus, the authors recommend future research that addresses remaining questions regarding the various materials considered for denture bases.

Another factor that can directly affect the properties of materials for denture bases is related to polishing characteristics [8,9], as it directly influences the extrinsic characteristics of the materials, which can lead to various complications [10].

In clinical practice, it is common to use mechanical polishing of the external surface of denture bases. However, some authors consider the use of surface glazes with the intention of achieving a smoother surface [11-13], as well as improving mechanical properties or delaying the process of roughening [14]. However, there is no consensus on this statement, as in the long term, the glaze layer could be affected by the action of foods, fluids, and oral temperature, and consequently, exhibit inferior characteristics compared to conventional mechanical polishing procedures [15].

Therefore, due to the lack of consensus regarding its use, especially when compared to the utilization of different resins available for denture bases, this study aims to compare the variables of microhardness, solubility, sorption, roughness, and optical characteristics of different resins for complete denture bases (conventional resins: heated in water bath and microwave; milled resin; 3D printed resin) in relation to different types of procedures Polishing (mechanical polishing/no mechanical polishing; with or without glazing) before and after thermocycling of the samples. The null

hypothesis of the article is that the resins or the type of polishing do not affect the properties of color change, surface roughness, and microhardness.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### *2.1 EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN*

For the execution of this study, four types of resins for denture base was considered, according to the manufacturing method, namely: conventional heat-polymerized (water bath) and (microwave); milled PMMA (CAD/CAM), and 3D printed resin. Thus, a total of 160 samples was fabricated with a diameter of 10 mm and a thickness of 3 mm, measured using a digital caliper, divided among the evaluated groups, totaling 40 samples for each resin, 10 for each group (Table 1).

### *2.2 SAMPLE ACQUISITION*

For the preparation of conventional samples, metal molds with the dimensions of the samples were placed inside plastic flasks (Vipi – STG Ltda), positioned between glass plates on special type IV gypsum (Durone, Dentsply Ltda). The resins were handled according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Clássico; Clássico) and inserted into the molds. These were kept under a load of 12.3 kN in a hydraulic press and left on a bench for 30 minutes [16]. The samples from the conventional method was polymerized in a water bath for 60 minutes in boiling water (100°C).

On the other hand, the samples that was milled and 3D printed was initially designed using a design software program, Exocad Valletta, Darmstadt, Germany, version 2.2.6654 2017. The CAM software version (milling and block path creation) will be Exocad Plovdiv CAM, Darmstadt, Germany, version 3.8.31803. For milling the pink PMMA blocks (Evolux PMMA GUM – Gengiva Blue Dent ©), they was milled using a milling machine (Amann Girrbach Ceramill Motion 2 DNA Herrschaftswiesen, Koblach,

Austria) to obtain the milled samples with dimensions similar to the conventional samples. As for the liquid PMMA resin (Smart Print Bio Denture DLP 3D Printer Resin) in pink color, it was used for printing on a stereolithographic printer with digital light processing technology (MoonRay Model S; VertySystem) to obtain the 3D printed samples at a 45° orientation, with the same diameter dimensions similar to the conventional samples.

After obtaining the cylinders of the milled and 3D printed samples, the samples were subjected to a precision cutter (Isomet 1000, Buehler, Plymouth, Minnesota, USA), and they were sectioned using diamond blades (Extec High Concentration, Extec, Enfield, CT, USA) with cooling to obtain samples with a thickness similar to the conventional samples.

### *2.3 POLISHING OF THE SAMPLES*

After the fabrication of the samples, the first evaluated group will consist of samples from the negative control group that will not undergo any type of treatment (without mechanical polishing and without glazing). The second group was the group without mechanical polishing with glaze. For this, the Megaseal glaze (MEGADENTA Dentalprodukte GmbH, Germany) was applied according to the manufacturer's recommendation, with a final uniform layer of glaze applied with the aid of a soft brush in a single direction. The samples were allowed to sit for 20 seconds for the action of the glaze before polymerization, and then the samples were polymerized for 180 seconds with the help of a laboratory stroboscopic photopolymerized

In Group 3, the samples will undergo metallographic finishing and standardized polishing using a polisher (Aropol E; Arotec) with the assistance of silicon carbide papers (#240, #400, #600, and #1200) for 20 seconds on each surface [16-17]. Subsequently, a finishing polish was performed using a felt brush with Universal

Polishing Paste - Ivoclar Vivadent. In Group 4, the same steps for finishing and mechanical polishing used for Group 3 was considered, with the addition of the application of glaze as described for Group 2. After the completion of the processing, each denture was immersed in an ultrasonic bath for 5 minutes to remove possible debris [9]. Following the procedure, each denture was placed in distilled water for 24 hours [18].

#### *2.4 ASSESSMENT OF SURFACE ROUGHNESS*

The surface roughness profile for each specimen was measured after polishing using a surface roughness measuring instrument (TR200, Digimess, São Paulo, SP, Brazil). The measurement was conducted on each individual specimen, and the diamond-tipped stylus has a 5  $\mu\text{m}$  radius at a constant speed of 0.25 mm/s with a force of 4 mN. The cutoff value was set at 0.08 mm (Gaussian filter). Ra is the average roughness, which is determined by the arithmetic mean of the absolute values of the ordinate values in the roughness profile. Three readings were taken on each surface sample at equidistant positions, rotating the sample by 90th. The average of these three Ra measurements was calculated as the surface roughness value of the specimen [19].

#### *2.5 COLOR CHANGE*

The optical properties of the specimens was evaluated using a spectrophotometer (UV-2450; Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan). The changes were calculated using the CIEDE2000 ( $\Delta E_{00}$ ) as established by the Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE). Color measurements in the CIEDE2000 color system consist of three components representing the black-white brightness ( $L^*$ ) and the green-red ( $a^*$ ) and blue-yellow ( $b^*$ ) color dimensions, with the  $L^*$  axis perpendicular to the  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  axes. The device emits a source of visible light (400 to 700 nm) onto the object and measures the reflection of this spectrum. The  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$  values of each sample were measured

before and after immersion. The  $\Delta E_{00}$  values were calculated using the formula:  $\Delta E_{00} = (\Delta L/KL \times SL) + (\Delta C/KC \times SC) + (\Delta H/KH \times SH) \times SC)^2 + (\Delta H/KH \times SH)^2 + RT \times (\Delta C/KC \times SC) \times (\Delta H/KH \times SH)/0.5$ , where  $\Delta L^*$ ,  $\Delta C^*$ , and  $\Delta H^*$  are the differences in lightness, chroma, and hue between two specimens, and RT (rotation function) is a function that explains the interaction between differences in chroma and hue in the blue region. SL, SC, and SH are weighting functions for the luminance, chroma, and hue components, respectively. KL, KC, and KH are parametric factors according to different viewing conditions, which were defined as 1 [20].

## 2.6 MICROHARDNESS

Microhardness measurements was carried out using a microhardness tester (HMV II; Shimadzu Corporation, Kyoto, Japan) with a Vickers indenter (HV) at a load of 50 g for a dwell time of 10 s, [21]. Five indentations were made on each specimen, with a minimum distance of 100  $\mu\text{m}$  between them, and the average HV value was obtained [19].

## 2.7 THERMOCYCLING

After the initial analyses, all samples were subjected to thermocycling (Model MSCT-3, Convel) in distilled water with alternating baths of 30 seconds at temperatures of  $5 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  and  $55 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  (70 seconds per cycle; dwell time: 30 seconds; transfer time: 5 seconds). The thermocycling, under the conditions presented, represents every 5,000 cycles, [23]. After completing thermocycling, the samples were measured again in all previously described analyses.

## 2.8 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

After measuring each of the specific tests, the data were subjected to normality analysis (Shapiro-Wilk) to determine the most suitable test for the analyses. Two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was considered with the intention of examining the

interaction between resins and the use of glaze for each of the simulated tests. The data were subjected to statistical analysis using JAMOVI Version 2.2 (<https://www.jamovi.org>).

### 3. RESULTS

The highest data of color change ( $\Delta E$ ) were found in the 3D printed resin with significant differences when compared to water bath, microwave, and CAD/CAM resins for P/G and P/NG groups. In the NP/G group, the microwave resins showed lower color change in comparison with CAD/CAM ( $P = 0,03$ ) and 3D printed resins ( $P = 0,002$ ). In the NP/NG group CAD/CAM showed the highest color change with a significant difference with water bath and microwave resins ( $P < 0,001$ ). No significant differences were observed between the water bath and microwave groups ( $P = 0.762$ ). Regarding the polishing, no significant differences were observed between P/G with P/NG ( $P = 0.313$ ), and NP/G ( $P = 0.051$ ). In addition, the groups with greater changes in NP/G and NP/NG did not differ from each other ( $P = 0.815$ ). No difference was observed for color change between the polishings within the same denture base resin, except for the CAD/CAM resins in the SP/SG group that showed significant differences in comparison with CP/CG and CP/SG groups ( $P < 0.001$ ), however, without difference in comparison to the SP/CG ( $P = 0.13$ ) (Table 2).

The surface roughness was evaluated obtaining the highest values before thermocycling for the NP/NG group, with a significant difference compared to all other polishings, regardless of the resin type ( $P < 0.05$ ). For the microwave resin group, significant difference was observed for the NP/G in comparison with P/G ( $P < 0.001$ ) and P/NG ( $P < 0.001$ ) groups. No significant differences were observed for the evaluated resins, regardless of polishing, except for the NP/NG control, where 3D resin

roughness values were significantly higher than those of the water bath resin ( $P < 0.001$ ). After the thermocycling analysis, no significant differences were observed between the evaluated resins, regardless of the type of polishing ( $P > 0.05$ ). The lowest values of surface roughness were observed for the P/NG group, with significant differences in comparison to groups that did not undergo mechanical polishing (NP/G and NP/NG) ( $P < 0.001$ ) (Table 3).

The results obtained for microhardness before thermocycling indicated lower microhardness values for 3D printed resins, especially for the NP/G group ( $P < 0.001$ ). The highest values of microhardness were observed for the NP/NG group, with no differences between the evaluated resins ( $P > 0.05$ ). In the analysis after thermocycling, lower microhardness values were observed for the 3D printed resins, with significant differences for other resins for almost all polishing groups ( $P < 0.05$ ), except for the P/G group, which showed similarity to the water bath ( $P = 0.066$ ) and CAD/CAM ( $P = 0.06$ ) resins. There was no difference in microhardness between the other resins independent of the type of polishing evaluated ( $P > 0.05$ ). The polishing methods did not influence the microhardness of the water bath, microwave, and CAD/CAM resins ( $P > 0.05$ ). On the other hand, in the group of 3D printed resins, the P/G and NP/NG groups presented higher microhardness values compared to the P/NG and NP/G groups ( $P < 0.05$ ) (Table 4).

#### **4. DISCUSSION**

The null hypothesis evaluated was rejected, because significant differences were observed in color change, surface roughness, and microhardness between denture base resins or polishing techniques. According to Sarac et al. [24], the surface coating with sealing agents of the denture bases in the complete dentures is recommended to

improve the surface smoothness by filling in micro-fissures and micro-defects and can be considered an alternative to conventional polishing. However, surface sealants have some limitations, such as low abrasion resistance, poor adhesion to the underlying material, and poor surface quality resulting from spreading failure that likely depends on high viscosity. This can compromise the smoothness properties of the base over time in action in oral function. In the results of surface roughness, it was possible to observe this phenomenon. Before TC similar results were observed for almost groups, except NP/NG (which was expected due to be considered a negative control). The NP/NG group showed the lowest values of surface roughness before and after TC compared to the other groups. According to Seabra et al. [25], polishing increased the smoothness of acrylic resin, controlling the increase in surface roughness caused by experimental conditions. Comparing with the study by Melo et al. [9], where the results demonstrate the ability of the polishing protocol to maintain the smoothness of acrylic resin at desirable levels, controlling the progressive deleterious effect of the tested factors.

However, after TC, in addition to the negative control, the groups that had glaze (P/G and NP/G) significantly increased roughness values compared to the mechanical polishing group without glaze (P/NG). This proves the influence of the oral environment on the surface of the glaze layer. These results are partially in accordance with the study by Atalay et al. [13], which used CAD/CAM samples and compared different surface treatments before and after TC, discovering that there was a significant interaction between the material and surface treatment. Conventional/mechanical laboratory polishing, in general, resulted in lower values of surface roughness.

Regarding the denture base resins, after TC, no significant differences were observed, regardless of the type of polishing. These results agree with a previous study published



by Koroglu et al. [26], that did not show significant differences between the surface roughness (Ra) values of all the prosthesis base materials tested. However, our results showed a difference compared to the previous that found significantly lower roughness for CAD-CAM PMMA compared to conventional PMMA [27]. This could be justified by the interaction of the polishing variable tested in our study.

Regarding the color change, the highest values were observed for the 3D resins base (except for the negative control group the CAD/CAM denture base showed the highest value). Although normally, the color change can be attributed to a porous surface [28], which justifies the highest values for NP/NG groups, independent of resin; however, no significant difference was attributed to the surface roughness of evaluated resins. Therefore, the possible difference should be attributed to other factors. One factor that should be considered is higher water sorption during TC for 3D printed resins. This could contribute to degrading 3D printed resins and enhance the attachment of pigments [29]. In addition, other factors that could contribute to this difference is related to the composition of the photopolymerizable resin material, the 3D printer's polymerization mechanism, and the surface characteristics (porosities and degree of polymerization) of 3D printed dental prostheses [30].

Regarding the polishing techniques, no significant differences were observed for the color change, independent of the resin evaluated, except for the control negative (NP/NG) of CAD/CAM resin. The absence of difference in the polishing techniques confirms that the color change is not only dependent on surface roughness, since significant differences in polishing groups were observed. The results should be attributed to the use of only 5,000 cycles. However, this number of thermal cycles (5° C and 55° C water) were applied to materials that serve as the base for prostheses to simulate 5 years of temperature changes in the oral environment [31-32]. Another

factor that could influenced is the fact of the nonuse of colorant agents (coffee, wine, juice, and others) in the thermocycling, which could increase the color change [28-29]. In the microhardness analysis before thermocycling, lower values were observed for 3D printed resins, with  $p < 0.01$ , except for NP/NG group. In the literature, there is no consensus about the microhardness between different denture base materials. Ellakany et al. [33] compared conventional resins with 3D resins and different manufacturing methods, and the result was that milled resins exhibited higher hardness than conventional ones. Conversely, other studies by Al-Qahtani et al.[34] and Digholkar et al. [35] reported higher hardness for 3D printed resins compared to conventional and milled resins.

In the microhardness analysis after thermocycling, lower values of microhardness were observed for 3D printed resins, with significant differences for all groups ( $P < 0.05$ ), except for the P/G group in which 3D printed resins showed similarity to heat-cured water bath ( $P = 0.066$ ) and CAD/CAM ( $P = 0.06$ ) resins. This partially agrees with Atay et al. [14], where different surface treatments (polishing and glaze application) were performed for PMMA resins.

After TC, with the exception of 3D printed resin, all other resins did not show the difference between the polishing techniques. The groups that had glaze application showed similar microhardness values for P/G and NP/G, and they remained as intermediate values compared to the P/NG and NP/NG groups, suggesting that the glaze forms a film that increases surface smoothness because the microhardness values were not very high or very low.

Materials for dental prosthesis bases have traditionally been polished with pre-polishing using water and pumice, followed by fine polishing with polishing paste or

aluminum oxide particles containing polishing liquids to reduce surface roughness to a minimum level,[26].

According to the results of the study by Giti et al. [22], dentists should take into consideration the differences in mechanical characteristics between conventional materials and 3D-printed materials used for denture base construction. Further improvements in the properties of 3D-printed resin materials through composition modification or reinforcement are still necessary. The proper selection of post-curing methods could also be an option for improvement.

The present study has limitations as it is an in vitro study that did not fully simulate in vivo conditions. Additionally, for the samples that had glaze applied, the brush left some markings, which did not leave the sample surface completely smooth.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

It is concluded that 3D printed resins showed highest color change a lower microhardness in comparison with other denture base resins. No difference in the surface roughness was observed between the evaluated denture base resins. However, the absence of mechanical polishing contributes to the increase of surface roughness, but not affect the color change. The types of polishing influenced the microhardness properties in relation to the different resin types, with 3D printed resin showing the highest variability before and after TC.

## 6. REFERENCES

- [1] Tashiro S, Kawaguchi T, Hamanaka I, Takahashi Y. Bond strength of artificial teeth to thermoplastic denture base resin for injection molding. *Dent Mater J.* 2021; 40(3):657–663. <https://doi.org/10.4012/dmj.2020-183>.
- [2] Patil SB, Naveen BH, Patil NP. Bonding acrylic teeth to acrylic resin denture bases: a review. *Gerodontology* 2006; 23: 131-139. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1741-2358.2006.00129.x>
- [3] Hada T, Kanazawa M, Iwaki M, Katheng A, Minakuchil S. Comparison of Mechanical Properties of PMMA Disks for Digitally Designed Dentures. *Polymers (Basel).* 2021;13(11):1745.<https://doi.org/10.3390/polym13111745>.
- [4] Goiato MC, Naves JC, Bressan RN, Santos DM, Fajardo RS, Fernandes AUR. Effect of polishing methods on the porosity and hardness of thermocycled acrylic resins. *Rev Odontol UNESP.* 2006; 35(1): 47-52. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prosdent.2020.06.007>
- [5] Goodacre BJ, Goodacre CJ, Baba NZ, Kattadiyil MT. Comparison of denture base fit between CAD-CAM and conventional fabrication techniques. *J Prosthet Dent.*2016;116(2):249– 256. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prosdent.2016.02.017>
- [6] Goodacre CJ, Baba NZ. Comparison of treatment outcomes in the fabrication of digital and conventional complete removable dentures in a pre-doctoral setting. *J Prosthet Dent* .2005;114(6):818–825. doi: 10.1016/j.prosdent.2015.08.001
- [7] Steinmassl O, Dumfahrt H, Grunert I, Steinmassl. Cad/Cam produces dentures with improved fit. *Clinical Oral Investigations.*2018;22:2829–2835. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00784-018-2369-2>

- [8] Alammari MR. The influence of polishing techniques on pre-polymerized CAD\CAM acrylic resin denture bases. *Electron Physician*. 2017;25;9(10):5452-5458. <https://doi:10.19082/5452>
- [9] Melo CBF, Feitosa MD, Maia SDB, Barreto JO, Peixoto RF, Regis RR. Effect of a continuous mechanical polishing protocol on the color stainability, microhardness, mass, and surface roughness of denture base acrylic resin. *J Prosthet Dent*. 2021;126(6):796-802. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prosdent.2020.06.007>
- [10] Silva MJ, Oliveira DG, Marcillo OO, Neppelenbroek KH, Lara VS, Porto VC. Effect of denture-coating composite on *Candida albicans* biofilm and surface degradation after disinfection protocol. *Int Dent J*. 2016; 66(2):86-92. <https://doi.org/10.1111/idj.12212>
- [11] Al-Kheraif AA. The effect of mechanical and chemical polishing techniques on the surface roughness of heat-polymerized and visible light-polymerized acrylic denture base resins. *Saudi Dent J*. 2014;26(2):56-62. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sdentj.2013.12.007>
- [12] Kramer FP, Unkovskiy A, Benkendorff V, Klink A, Spintzyk S. Surface Characteristics of Milled and 3D Printed Denture Base Materials Following Polishing and Coating: An In-Vitro Study. *Materials (Basel)*. 2020;24;13(15):3305. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ma13153305>
- [13] Atalay S, Çakma G, Fonseca M, Schummel M, Yilmazl B. Effect of thermocycling on the surface properties of CAD-CAM denture base materials after different surface treatments. *J Mech Behav Biomed Mater*. 2021;121:104646. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmbbm.2021.104646>
- [14] Fathi HM, Benonn HA, Johnson A. Nanocryl Coating of PMMA Complete Denture Base Materials to Prevent Scratching. *Eur J Prosthodont Restor Dent*. 2017;25(3):116-

126. [https://doi.org/10.1922/ejprd\\_01679fathi11](https://doi.org/10.1922/ejprd_01679fathi11)

[15] Abuzar MA, Bellur S, Duond N, Kim BB; Priscilla L, Palfreyman N. Evaluation of the surface roughness of a polyamide denture base material compared to poly(methyl methacrylate). *J Oral Sci.* 2010;52:577-581. <https://doi.org/10.2334/josnurd.52.577>

[16] Figueiroa RMS, Conterno B, Arrais CAG, Sugio CYC, Urban VM, Neppelenbroel KH. Porosity, water sorption and solubility of denture base acrylic resins polymerized

conventionally or in microwave. *J Appl Oral Sci.* 2018;26:e20170383. <https://doi.org/10.1590/1678-7757-2017-0383>

[17] Lou S, Jiang T, Long L, Yang Y, Yang X, Luo L, Li J, Chen Z, Zou C, Luo S. A dual PMMA/calcium sulfate carrier of vancomycin is more effective than PMMA-vancomycin at inhibiting *Staphylococcus aureus* growth in vitro. *Orthopedics Hospital of Chinese and Western Medicine, Yulin.* 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2211-5463.12809>

[18] Acar O, Yilmaz B, Altintas SH, Chandrasekaran I, Johnston W. CAD/CAM and nanocomposite staining capability resin materials. *J Prosthet Dent* 2016;115(1):71-5 doi: 10.1016/j.prosdent.2015.06.014

[19] Steinmassl O, Dumfahrt H, Grunert I, Steinmassl PA. Influence of CAD/CAM fabrication on denture surface properties. *J Oral Rehabil.* 2018;45:406-13. <https://doi.org/10.1111/joor.12621>.

[20] De Arruda CNF, Vivanco RG, Amorim AA, Ferreira AC, Tonani-Torrieri R, Bikkerl FJ, Pires-de-Souza FCP. The effect of phytosphingosine associated with tooth brushing on color change, surface roughness, and microhardness of dental enamel - an in vitro and in situ study. *Clin Oral Investig.* 2023;27: 849-858. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00784-022-04619-2>

[21] Zhang X, Zhu B, Lin K, Chang J. Mechanical and thermal properties of denture PMMA reinforced with silanized aluminum borate whiskers. *Dental Materials Journal.* 2012;31(6):903-908. <https://doi.org/10.4012/dmj.2012-016>

[22] Gondim BLC, Castellano LRC, Castro RD, Machado G, Carlo HL, Valença AMG, De Carvalho FG. Effect of chitosan nanoparticles on the inhibition of *Candida* spp. biofilm on denture base surface. *Arch Oral Biol.* 2018;94:99-107. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.archoralbio.2018.07.004>

- [23] Oyar P, Ulusoy M, Durkan R. Effects of repeated use of tungsten carbide burs on the surface roughness and contact angles of a CAD-CAM PMMA denture base resin. *J Prosthet Dent*. 2022;128(6):1358-1362. doi:10.1016/j.prosdent.2021.11.032
- [24] Sarac D, Sarac YS, Kulunk S, Ural C, Kulunk T. The effect of polishing techniques on the surface roughness and color change of composite resins. *J Prosthodont Dent* 2006; 96:33-40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prosdent.2006.04.012>
- [25] Seabra EJJ, Lima IPC, Paiva ACS, Matsuno PM. Surface roughness of acrylic resin after four different polishing techniques. *Rev Gaúch Odontol*.2011;59(1):45-50.
- [26] Koroğlu A, Şahin O, Dede DÖ, Deniz ŞT, Karacan Sever N, Özkan S. Efficacy of denture cleaners on the surface roughness and *Candida albicans* adherence of sealant agent coupled denture base materials. *Dent Mater J*. 2016;35(5):810-816. doi:10.4012/dmj.2016-103
- [27] Murat, S., Alp, G., Alatali, C., Uzun, M. In Vitro Evaluation of *Candida albicans* Adhesion on PMMA-Based CAD/CAM Polymers. *J. Prosthodont*.2019 28 (2), e873–e879. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jopr.12942>
- [28] Falahchai M, Ghavami-Lahiji M, Rasaie V, Amin M, Neshandar Asli H. Comparison of mechanical properties, surface roughness, and color stability of 3D-printed and conventional heat-polymerizing denture base materials. *J Prosthet Dent*. 2023;130(2):266.e1-266.e8. doi:10.1016/j.prosdent.2023.06.006
- [29] Gruber S, Kamnoedboon P, Özcan M, Srinivasan M. CAD/CAM Complete Denture Resins: An In Vitro Evaluation of Color Stability. *J Prosthodont*. 2021;30(5):430-439. doi:10.1111/jopr.13246
- [30] Perea-Lowery L, Gibreel M, Vallitu PK, Lassila LV.3D-Printed vs. Heat-Polymerizing and Autopolymerizing Denture Base Acrylic Resins. *Materials* 2021; 14(19), 4103.<https://doi.org/10.3390/ma14195781>



- [31] Li P, Kramer-Fernades P, Klink A, Xu Y, Spintzyk S. Repairability of 3D printed denture base Polymer: Effects os surface treatment and artificial again on the shear bond strength. *Journal of the Mechanical Behavior od Biomedical Materials*. 2021;114:104227. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmbbm.2020.104227>
- [32] Chaves CDAL, Regis RR, Machado, AL, Souza, RFD. Effect of Surface Treatment, Crest Return, and Thermocycling on the Microtensile Bond Strength of Acrylic Teeth to Denture Base Resins. *Braz. Dente. J.* 2009;20:127–131. <https://doi.org/10.1590/s0103-64402009000200007>.
- [33] Ellakany P, Fouda SM, Mahrous AA, Alghamdi MA, AlyNM. Influence of CAD/CAM Milling and 3D-Printing Fabrication Methods on the Mechanical Properties of 3-Unit Interim Fixed Dental Prosthesis after Thermo-Mechanical Aging Process. *Polymers* 2022;14:4103. <https://doi.org/10.3390/polym14194103>
- [34] Al-Qahtani AS, Tulbah HI, Binhasan M, Abbasi MS, Ahmed N, Shabib S, Farooq I, Aldahian, N, Nisar SS, Tanveer SA. Surface Properties of Polymeric Resins Manufactured Using Subtractive and Additive Manufacturing Techniques. *Polymers* 2021;13(23):4077. <https://doi.org/10.3390/polym13234077>
- [35] Digholkar S, Madhav VNV, Palaskar J. Evaluation of Flexural Strength and Microhardness of Temporary Materials for Crowns and Bridges Manufactured by Different Methods. *J. Indian Prosthodont Soc* 2016; 16(4)328–334. doi: 10.4103/0972-4052.191288
- [36] Giti R, Firouzmandil M, Zare KN, Ansarifard E. Influence of different concentrations of titanium dioxide and copper oxide nanoparticles on water sorption and solubility of heat-cured PMMA denture base resin. *Clin Exp Dent Res*. 2022;8(1):287-293. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cre2.527>

## TABLES

Table 1. Experimental design of the groups evaluated.

Resins	Polishing Techniques	Number of samples
Heat-polymerized acrylic resin (Classico - Clássico Artigos Odontológicos)	Mechanical Polishing with Glaze (P/G)	10
	Mechanical Polishing without Glaze (P/NG)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and Glaze (NP/G)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and without Glaze (NP/NG)	10
Heat-polymerized acrylic resin (Onda Cryl – Clássico Artigos Odontológicos)	Mechanical Polishing with Glaze (P/G)	10
	Mechanical Polishing without Glaze (P/NG)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and Glaze (NP/G)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and without Glaze (NP/NG)	10
Milled CAD/CAM denture base (Evolux PMMA GUM – Blue Dent)	Mechanical Polishing with Glaze (P/G)	10
	Mechanical Polishing without Glaze (P/NG)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and Glaze (NP/G)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and without Glaze (NP/NG)	10
3D printed resin (Resina priZma 3D – Bio Denture)	Mechanical Polishing with Glaze (P/G)	10
	Mechanical Polishing without Glaze (P/NG)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and Glaze (NP/G)	10
	Without Mechanical Polishing and without Glaze (NP/NG)	10

Table 2. Color change of denture base resin groups with different polishing techniques

Color Change	P/G	P/NG	NP/G	NP/NG
Water Bath	1,69±0,57Aa	1,27±0,75Aa	2,90±2,05ABa	2,13±0,54Aa
Microwave	1,71±0,86Aa	1,35±0,28Aa	1,76±0,69Aa	2,15±0,44Aa
CAD/CAM	1,99±0,37Aa	1,65±1,44Aa	3,68±3,16Ba	5,33±0,45Bb
Resin 3D	4,32±2,05Ba	3,62±1,01Ba	4,08±1,22Ba	3,74±1,59ABa

Table 3. Surface roughness of denture base resin groups with different polishing techniques

<b>Before TC</b>	P/G	P/NG	NP/G	NP/NG
Water Bath	0,057 ± 0,043Aa	0,028 ± 0,008Aa	0,068 ± 0,026Aa	0,145 ± 0,020Ab
Microwave	0,05 ± 0,026Aa	0,030 ± 0,017Aa	0,086 ± 0,041Ab	0,167 ± 0,026ABc
CAD/CAM	0,039 ± 0,016Aa	0,021 ± 0,006Aa	0,061 ± 0,024Aa	0,167 ± 0,018ABb
Resin 3D	0,040 ± 0,009Aa	0,028 ± 0,006Aa	0,080 ± 0,037Aa	0,205 ± 0,027Bc
<b>After TC</b>	P/G	P/NG	NP/G	NP/NG
Water Bath	0,072 ± 0,059Aab	0,034 ± 0,021Aa	0,135 ± 0,051Abc	0,147 ± 0,022Ac
Microwave	0,057 ± 0,034Aa	0,044 ± 0,25Aa	0,136 ± 0,057Ab	0,176 ± 0,030Ab
CAD/CAM	0,060 ± 0,031Aab	0,045 ± 0,019Aa	0,126 ± 0,070Ab	0,116 ± 0,128Ab
Resin 3D	0,095 ± 0,040Aab	0,050 ± 0,032Aa	0,118 ± 0,078Ab	0,207 ± 0,043Ac

Table 4. Microhardness of denture base resin groups with different polishing techniques

<b>Before TC</b>	P/G	P/NG	NP/G	NP/NG
Water Bath	37,7 ± 5,42Ab	20,7 ± 1,03ABc	32,3 ± 2,09Ab	45,1 ± 3,41Aa
Microwave	37,7 ± 5,27Aa	20,3 ± 1,71ABb	35,7 ± 3,86Aa	42,5 ± 4,25Aa
CAD/CAM	28,4 ± 3,63Bbc	23,8 ± 1,94Ac	31,5 ± 2,86Ab	39,8 ± 2,65Aa
Resin 3D	29,2 ± 2,94Bb	17,4 ± 1,44Bd	23,2 ± 3,42Bc	40,0 ± 2,63Aa
<b>After TC</b>	P/G	P/NG	NP/G	NP/NG
Water Bath	37,9 ± 4,91ABa	37,9 ± 2,86Aa	39,1 ± 4,0Aa	41,9 ± 2,55Aa
Microwave	40,6 ± 6,11Aa	36,4 ± 1,56Aa	40,2 ± 2,54Aa	42,5 ± 5,76Aa
CAD/CAM	37,9 ± 3,47ABa	36,3 ± 1,79Aa	38,5 ± 2,96Aa	41,7 ± 1,35Aa
Resin 3D	32,3 ± 5,17Ba	17,9 ± 1,44Bc	26,1 ± 2,35Bb	34,3 ± 4,34Ba

### **3 CONCLUSÃO**

Podemos concluir que não houve diferença para microdureza entre as demais resinas independentes do tipo de polimento avaliado. Os tipos de polimentos avaliados não influenciaram na microdureza das resinas banho maria, microondas e CAD/CAM. A ausência do polimento mecânico contribuiu para maior alteração de cor e rugosidade. Entretanto, os diferentes tipos de resinas utilizadas para base de prótese total não interferem nos parâmetros de alteração de cor e rugosidade.

#### 4 REFERÊNCIAS

1. Projections and estimates of the population of Brazil and the Federation Units.

Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics; Available at:

[https://www.ibge.gov.br/apps/populacao/projecao/index.html?utm\\_source=portal&utm\\_medium=popclock](https://www.ibge.gov.br/apps/populacao/projecao/index.html?utm_source=portal&utm_medium=popclock)

2. Camargo, M. National Elderly Day: learn about public policies for this population. Brazil

Agency. 2021. Available at:

<https://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/direitos-humanos/noticia/2021-10/dia-nacional-do-idoso-conheca-politicas-publicas-para-essa>

3. Telles D. Prótese Total Conventional. Planning prosthetic rehabilitation in edentulous patients. First Edition. Santos. First January, 2011.

4. Steinmassl O, Dumfahrt H, Grunert I, Steinmassl. Cad/Cam produces dentures with improved fit. *Clinical Oral Investigations*. 2018;22:2829–2835.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00784-018-2369-2>

5. Xie Q, Ding T, Yang G. Rehabilitation of oral function with removable dentures—still an option? *J Oral Rehab*. 2015.42(3):234–242

6. Phillips RW, Anusavice KJ. Phillips' dental materials science. 12th edition. St. Louis: Saunders Co; 2013. pg. 474-476

7. Abuzar MA, Bellur S, Duond N, Kim BB; Priscilla L, Palfreyman N. et al. Evaluation of the surface roughness of a polyamide denture base material compared to poly(methyl methacrylate). *J Oral Sci*. 2010;52:577-581.

8. Sesma N, Lagana D, Morimoto S, Gil C. Effect of denture surface glazing on denture plaque formation. *Braz Dent J*. 2005;2:129-134.

9. Tashiro, S et al. Bond strength of artificial teeth to thermoplastic denture base resin for injection molding. *Dental Materials Journal* 2021; 40(3): 657–663.

10. Lou, S. et al. A dual PMMA/calcium sulfate carrier of vancomycin is more effective than PMMA-vancomycin at inhibiting *Staphylococcus aureus* growth in vitro. Chongqi Zou, Yulin Orthopedics Hospital of Chinese and Western Medicine, Yulin. 2020
11. Kattadiyil MT, Goodacre CJ, Baba NZ. CAD/CAM complete dentures: a review of two commercial fabrication systems. *J Calif. Dent Assoc* 41(6):407– 416.
12. Goodacre CJ, Baba NZ. Comparison of treatment outcomes in the fabrication of digital and conventional complete removable dentures in a pre-doctoral setting. *J Prosthet Dent* .2005.114(6):818–825.
13. Goodacre BJ, Goodacre CJ, Baba NZ, Kattadiyil MT. Comparison of denture base fit between CAD-CAM and conventional fabrication techniques. *J Prosthet Dent*.2016.116(2):249– 256.
14. Alammari MR. The influence of polishing techniques on pre-polymerized CAD\CAM acrylic resin denture bases. *Electron Physician*. 2017 Oct 25;9(10):5452- 5458.
15. Melo CBF, Feitosa MD, Maia SDB, Barreto JO, Peixoto RF, Regis RR. Effect of a continuous mechanical polishing protocol on the color stainability, microhardness, mass, and surface roughness of denture base acrylic resin. *J Prosthet Dent*. 2021 Dec;126(6):796-802.
16. Silva MJ, Oliveira DG, Marcillo OO, Neppelenbroek KH, Lara VS, Porto VC. Effect of denture-coating composite on *Candida albicans* biofilm and surface degradation after disinfection protocol. *Int Dent J*. 2016 Apr;66(2):86-92
17. Al-Kheraif AA. The effect of mechanical and chemical polishing techniques on the surface roughness of heat-polymerized and visible light-polymerized acrylic denture base resins. *Saudi Dent J*. 2014 Apr;26(2):56-62
18. Kramer FP, Unkovskiy A, Benkendorff V, Klink A, Spintzyk S. Surface Characteristics of Milled and 3D Printed Denture Base Materials Following Polishing

and Coating: An In-Vitro Study. *Materials (Basel)*. 2020 Jul 24;13(15):3305.

19. Atalay S, Çakma G, Fonseca M, Schummel M, Yilmaz B. Effect of thermocycling on the surface properties of CAD-CAM denture base materials after different surface treatments. *J Mech Behav Biomed Mater*. 2021 Sep;121:104646.

20. Choi JJE, Uy CE, Ramani RS, Waddell JN. Evaluation of surface roughness, hardness and elastic modulus of nanoparticle containing light- polymerized denture glaze materials. *J Mech Behav Biomed Mater*. 2020 Mar;103:103601.

21. Fathi HM, Benonn HA, Johnson A. Nanocryl Coating of PMMA Complete Denture Base Materials to Prevent Scratching. *Eur J Prosthodont Restor Dent*. 2017 Sep;25(3):116-126.



# DENTAL MATERIALS

Official Publication of the [Academy of Dental Materials](#)

## AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

●	Description	p.1
●	Audience	p.1
●	Abstracting and Indexing	p.1
●	Editorial Board	p.2
●	Guide for Authors	p.2
		p.4



ISSN: 0109-5641

### DESCRIPTION

---

Online submission and editorial system now available [here](#).

*Dental Materials* publishes original research and review articles.

Academy of Dental Materials members click [here](#) to register for free access to Dental Materials online.

The principal aim of *Dental Materials* is to promote rapid communication of scientific information between academia, industry, and the dental practitioner. Original Manuscripts on clinical and laboratory research of basic and applied character which focus on the **properties** or **performance** of **dental materials** or the **reaction** of host tissues to materials are given priority publication. Other acceptable topics include application technology in **clinical dentistry** and dental laboratory technology.

Comprehensive reviews and editorial commentaries on pertinent subjects will be considered.

### AUDIENCE

---

Dental research scientists, materials scientists, clinicians, students of dentistry, dental materials and equipment manufacturers.



## ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

---

Science Citation Index  
International Aerospace  
AbstractsMaterials Science  
Citation Index PubMed/Medline  
METADEX  
SIIC Data Bases  
Solid State  
Abstracts  
CSA Civil Engineering Abstracts  
CSA Mechanical & Transportation Engineering Abstracts  
Ceramic Abstracts  
Computer and Information Systems Abstract  
Corrosion Abstracts  
Current  
Contents  
Dental  
Abstracts  
Earthquake Engineering Abstracts  
Electronics and Communications  
AbstractsAluminium Industry Abstracts  
CSA Advanced Polymers  
Abstracts CSA Engineered  
Materials AbstractsMaterials  
Business File  
BIOSIS Previews  
CSA Technology Research Database  
Current Contents  
EI Compendex Plus  
Engineering Materials  
AbstractsInside  
Conferences  
Web of  
Science  
TOXFILE  
UnCo  
verISI  
Mechanical and Transport Engineer Abstract  
Scopus  
INSPEC

## EDITORIAL BOARD

---

### *Editor-in-Chief*

**David C. Watts**, University of Manchester, Sch. of Dentistry, Manchester, United Kingdom

### *Editor*

**Nick Silikas**, University of Manchester, Sch. of Dentistry, Manchester, United Kingdom

### *Editorial Assistant*

**Diana Knight**, The University of Manchester Division of Dentistry, Manchester, United Kingdom

### *Editorial Board*

**Stephen Bayne**, University of Michigan School of Dentistry, Ann Arbor, United States of America

**Márcia Borba**, The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom **Marco Bottino**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, United States of America **Roberto R. Braga**, University of Sao Paulo, SAO PAULO, Brazil

**Delia Brauer**, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Jena, Germany

**Lorenzo Breschi**, IRCCS Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

**Ricardo Carvalho**, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

**Paulo Francisco Cesar**, University of Sao Paulo, SAO PAULO, Brazil

**Martin Chiang**, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, United States of America

**Pierre Colon**, University of Paris Societies and Humanities Faculty, Paris, France

**Brian Darvell**, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom

**Alvaro Della Bona**, University of Passo Fundo, Faculty of Dentistry, PASSO FUNDO, Brazil

**George Eliades**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

**Jack L. Ferracane**, Oregon Health & Science University, Department of Restorative Dentistry, Portland, United States of America

**Marco Ferrari**, University of Siena, Siena, Italy

**Garry J.P. Fleming**, Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin, Dublin Dental University Hospital, School of Dental Science, Dublin, Ireland

**Alex S.L. Fok**, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, United States of America

**Jason A. Griggs**, The University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, United States of America

**Reinhard Hickel**, Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, München, Germany

**Nicoleta Ilie**, LMU Hospital, Department of Dental Decay Prevention Periodontology Dental Oral and Maxillofacial Diseases, München, Germany

**Satoshi Imazato**, Osaka University School of Dentistry Graduate School of Dentistry, Suita, Japan

**Klaus Jandt**, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Jena, Germany

**Matthias Kern**, Kiel University, Kiel, Germany

**Karl - Heinz Kunzelmann**, Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, München, Germany

**In-Bog Lee**, Seoul National University, Gwanak-gu, South Korea

**Julian Leprince**, University of Geneva, Genève, Switzerland

**Ulrich Lohbauer**, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Erlangen, Germany

**Jukka P. Matinlinna**, The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom

**Bart van Meerbeek**, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium **Marit Øilo**, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway **Mutlu Özcan**, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

**Will Palin**, University of Birmingham College of Medical and Dental Sciences, Birmingham, United Kingdom **Mangala Patel**, Queen Mary University of London, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, London, United Kingdom **Carmem Pfeifer**, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, United States of America

**Vinicius Rosa**, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore

**Martin Rosentritt**, University Hospital Regensburg, Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, Regensburg, Germany

**N. Dorin Ruse**, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

**Salvatore Sauro**, CEU Cardenal Herrera University Odontology Department, Moncada, Spain

**Luis Felipe J. Schneider**, Federal Fluminense University, NITEROI, Brazil

**Gianrico Spagnuolo**, University of Naples Federico II, Napoli, Italy

**Paulette Spencer**, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, United States of America

**Thomas Spinell**, Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, München, Germany

**Jeffrey W. Stansbury**, University of Colorado Denver, Denver, United States of America

**Michael Swain**, The University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

**Arzu Tezvergil-Mutluay**, University of Turku, TURKU, Finland **James Tsoi**, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, Hong Kong **Pekka K. Vallittu**, University of Turku, TURKU, Finland

**Yan Wang**, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China

**Haukun (Hockin) Xu**, University of Maryland Dental School, Baltimore, United States of America

**Paul Zaslansky**, Charite University Hospital Berlin, Berlin, Germany

**Yu Zhang**, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, United States of America

**Spiros Zinelis**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

---

### INTRODUCTION

Authors are requested to submit their original manuscript and figures via the online submission and editorial system for *Dental Materials*. Using this online system, authors may submit manuscripts and track their progress through the system to publication. Reviewers can download manuscripts and submit their opinions to the editor. Editors can manage the whole submission/review/revise/publish process. Please register at: <https://www.editorialmanager.com/dentma/default.aspx>.

*Dental Materials* now only accepts online submissions.

The Artwork Quality Control Tool is now available to users of the online submission system. To help authors submit high-quality artwork early in the process, this tool checks the submitted artwork and other file types against the artwork requirements outlined in the Artwork Instructions to Authors on <https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>. The Artwork Quality Control Tool automatically checks all artwork files when they are first uploaded. Each figure/file is checked only once, so further along in the process only new uploaded files will be checked.

### Manuscripts

**Submitted manuscripts must relate directly to both Materials Science and Dentistry.** The journal is principally for publication of **Original Research Reports**, which should preferably investigate a defined hypothesis. Maximum length 6 journal pages (approximately 20 double-spaced typescript pages) including illustrations and tables.

**Systematic Reviews** will however be considered. **Prior approval must be sought from the Editor before submission of Review Manuscripts.** Authors should send the Editor a structured abstract of the proposed review topic. Intending authors should communicate with the Editor beforehand, by email, outlining the proposed scope of the review. Maximum length 10 journal pages (approximately 33 double-spaced typescript pages) including figures and tables.

Three copies of the manuscript should be submitted: each accompanied by a set of illustrations. The requirements for submission are in accordance with the "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals", *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 1997, 126, 36-47. All manuscripts must be written in American English. Authors are urged to write as concisely as possible.

The Editor and Publisher reserve the right to make minimal literary corrections for the sake of clarity. Authors for whom English is not the first language should have their manuscripts read by colleagues fluent in English. If extensive English corrections are needed, authors may be charged for the cost of editing. For additional reference, consult issues of *Dental Materials* published after January 1999 or the Council of Biology Editors Style Manual (1995 ed.).

All manuscripts should be accompanied by a **letter of transmittal**, signed by each author, and stating that the manuscript is not concurrently under consideration for publication in another journal, that all of the named authors were involved in the work leading to the publication of the paper, and that all the named authors have read the paper before it is submitted for publication.

### **Always keep a backup copy of the electronic file for reference and safety.**

Manuscripts not conforming to the journal style will be returned. In addition, manuscripts which are not written in fluent English will be rejected automatically without refereeing.

For further guidance on electronic submission, please visit the [Elsevier Support Center](#).

### *Page charges*

This journal has no page charges.

### *Submission checklist*

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the

journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

**Ensure that the following items are present:**

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

*Manuscript:*

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions) should be embedded at their appropriate location within the manuscript word document and not at the end of the document
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes) should be embedded at their appropriate location within the manuscript word document
- Please also upload standalone artwork file versions with your submission
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print *Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files* (where applicable) *Supplemental files* (where applicable)

### Further considerations

- Please do NOT add line numbering in your Word document as this will be added by the Editorial Manager system automatically and adding your own will mean duplication and your manuscript will be returned to you
- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our [Support Center](#).

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

### *Ethics in publishing*

Please see our information on [Ethics in publishing](#).

### *Studies in humans and animals*

If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with [The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association](#) (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. The manuscript should be in line with the [Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals](#) and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms [sex and gender](#) should be used correctly.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the [ARRIVE guidelines](#) and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, [EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments](#), or the National Research Council's [Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

### *Informed consent and patient details*

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author but copies should not be provided to the journal. Only if specifically

requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances (for example if a legal issue arises) the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained. For more information, please review the

[Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals](#). Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any patient included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests by uploading a word document at the submission stage where 'Conflict of Interest' is a mandatory upload item. If there are no interests to declare then please state this in the word document: 'Declaration of interest: none

[More information](#).

### **Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing**

The below guidance only refers to the writing process, and not to the use of AI tools to analyse and draw insights from data as part of the research process.

Where authors use generative artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process, authors should only use these technologies to improve readability and language. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control, and authors should carefully review and edit the result, as AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete or biased. AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be listed as an author or co-author, or be cited as an author. Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans, as outlined in Elsevier's [AI policy for authors](#).

Authors should disclose in their manuscript the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by following the instructions below. A statement will appear in the published work. Please note that authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work.

### **Disclosure instructions**

Authors must disclose the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript in the core manuscript file, before the References list. The statement should be placed in a new section entitled 'Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process'.

*Statement: During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.*

This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

### **Submission declaration and verification**

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis, see [Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication](#) for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify compliance, your article may be checked by [Crossref Similarity Check](#) and other originality or duplicate checking software.

### **Use of inclusive language**

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the



beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or healthcondition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible

to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend to avoid offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

## Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses

### Reporting guidance

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/ sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the [Sex and Gender Equity in Research \(SAGER\) guidelines](#) and the [SAGER guidelines checklist](#). These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

### Definitions

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the [resources on this page](#) offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

### Authorship

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

### Changes to authorship

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors **before** submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only **before** the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the **corresponding author**: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or

rearrangement of authors **after** the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

### Article Transfer Service

This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. Please note that your article will be reviewed again by the new journal. [More information](#).

### Copyright

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see [more information](#) on this). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. [Permission](#) of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has [preprinted forms](#) for use by authors in these cases.

For gold open access articles: Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'License Agreement' ([more information](#)). Permitted third party reuse of gold open access articles is determined by the author's choice of [user license](#).

### Author rights

As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. [More information](#).

*Elsevier supports responsible sharing*

Find out how you can [share your research](#) published in Elsevier journals.

### Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement, it is recommended to state this.

### Open access

Please visit our [Open Access page](#) for more information.

*Language (usage and editing services)*

Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the [Language Editing service](#) available from Elsevier's Language Services.

### Submission

Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

*Submit your article*

Please submit your article via <https://www.editorialmanager.com/dentma/default.aspx>.

*Suggesting reviewers*

Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential reviewers.

You should not suggest reviewers who are colleagues, or who have co-authored or collaborated with you during the last three years. Editors do not invite reviewers who have potential competing interests with the authors. Further, in order to provide a broad and balanced assessment of the work, and ensure scientific rigor, please suggest diverse candidate reviewers who are located in different countries/

regions from the author group. Also consider other diversity attributes e.g. gender, race and ethnicity, career stage, etc. Finally, you should not include existing members of the journal's editorial team, of whom the journal are already aware.

Note: the editor decides whether or not to invite your suggested reviewers.

## PREPARATION

### Peer review

This journal operates a double anonymized review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. [More information on types of peer review.](#)

### Double anonymized review

This journal uses double anonymized review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. [More information](#) is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

*Title page (with author details):* This should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.

*Anonymized manuscript (no author details):* The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

### Use of word processing software

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](#)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

### Article structure

#### Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered

1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

#### Introduction

This must be presented in a structured format, covering the following subjects, although actual subheadings should not be included:

- succinct statements of the issue in question;
- the essence of existing knowledge and understanding pertinent to the issue (reference);

- the aims and objectives of the research being reported relating the research to dentistry, where not obvious.

*Materials and methods*

- describe the procedures and analytical techniques.
- only cite references to published methods.
- include at least general composition details and batch numbers for all materials.
- identify names and sources of all commercial products e.g.

"The composite (Silar, 3M Co., St. Paul, MN, USA)..."

"... an Au-Pd alloy (Estheticor Opal, Cendres et Metaux, Switzerland)."

- specify statistical significance test methods.

#### *Results*

- refer to appropriate tables and figures.
- refrain from subjective comments.
- make no reference to previous literature.
- report statistical findings.

#### *Discussion*

- explain and interpret data.
- state implications of the results, relate to composition.
- indicate limitations of findings.
- relate to other relevant research.

#### *Conclusion (if included)*

- must NOT repeat Results or Discussion
- must concisely state inference, significance, or consequences

#### *Appendices*

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

### **Essential title page information**

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. **Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.**
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

### **Highlights**

Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the [example Highlights](#).

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

### **Abstract (structured format)**

- 250 words or less.
- subheadings should appear in the text of the abstract as follows: Objectives, Methods, Results, Significance. (For Systematic Reviews: Objectives, Data, Sources, Study selection, Conclusions). The Results section may incorporate small tabulations of data, normally 3 rows maximum.

#### *Graphical abstract*

Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the



online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a

separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view [Example Graphical Abstracts](#) on our information site.

Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). See <https://www.elsevier.com/highlights> for examples.

### **Keywords**

Up to 10 keywords should be supplied e.g. dental material, composite resin, adhesion.

### *Abbreviations*

Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

### *Acknowledgements*

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

### *Formatting of funding sources*

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, it is recommended to include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

### *Units*

Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

### *Math formulae*

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae inline with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

### *Footnotes*

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise,

please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

**Artwork** *Electronic*

*artwork* **General points**

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
- Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.

- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Provide captions to illustrations separately.
- Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
- Submit each illustration as a separate file.
- Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

A detailed [guide on electronic artwork](#) is available.

**You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.**

#### *Formats*

If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.

Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.

TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.

TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi. TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

#### **Please do not:**

- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors;
- Supply files that are too low in resolution;
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

#### *Color artwork*

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. **For color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article.** Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. [Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.](#)

#### *Captions to tables and figures*

- list together on a separate page.
- should be complete and understandable apart from the text.
- include key for symbols or abbreviations used in Figures.
- individual teeth should be identified using the FDI two-digit system.

#### **Tables**

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

#### **References**

Must now be given **according to the following numeric system:**

Cite references in text in numerical order. Use square brackets: in-line, not superscript e.g. [23]. All references must be listed at the end of the paper, double-spaced, without indents. For example: 1. Moulin P, Picard B and Degrange M. Water resistance of resin-bonded joints with time related to alloy surface treatments. *J Dent*, 1999; 27:79-87. 2. Taylor DF, Bayne SC,

Sturdevant JR and Wilder AD. Comparison of direct and indirect methods for analyzing wear of posterior composite restorations. *Dent Mater*, 1989; 5:157-160. Avoid referencing abstracts if possible. If unavoidable, reference as follows: 3. Demarest VA and Greener EH . Storage moduli and interaction parameters of experimental dental composites. *J Dent Res*, 1996; 67:221, Abstr. No. 868.

#### *Citation in text*

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

#### *Reference links*

Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, Crossref and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is highly encouraged.

A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article. An example of a citation using DOI for an article not yet in an issue is: VanDecar J.C., Russo R.M., James D.E., Ambeh W.B., Franke M. (2003). A seismic continuation of the Lesser Antilles slab beneath northeastern Venezuela. *Journal of Geophysical Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1029/2001JB000884>. Please note the format of such citations should be in the same style as all other references in the paper.

#### *Web references*

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

#### *Data references*

This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

#### *Preprint references*

Where a preprint has subsequently become available as a peer-reviewed publication, the formal publication should be used as the reference. If there are preprints that are central to your work or that cover crucial developments in the topic, but are not yet formally published, these may be referenced. Preprints should be clearly marked as such, for example by including the word preprint, or the name of the preprint server, as part of the reference. The preprint DOI should also be provided.

#### *References in a special issue*

Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

#### *Reference management software*

Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support [Citation Style Language styles](#), such as [Mendeley](#). Using citation plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which

citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide. If you use reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. [More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software.](#)

*Reference style*

*Text:* Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.

*List:* Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

*Examples:*

### Reference to a journal publication:

[1] Van der Geer J, Hanraads JAJ, Lupton RA. The art of writing a scientific article. *J Sci Commun*2010;163:51–9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.Sc.2010.00372>.

### Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

[2] Van der Geer J, Hanraads JAJ, Lupton RA. The art of writing a scientific article. *Heliyon*.2018;19:e00205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2018.e00205>

### Reference to a book:

[3] Strunk Jr W, White EB. The elements of style. 4th ed. New York: Longman; 2000. Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

[4] Mettam GR, Adams LB. How to prepare an electronic version of your article. In: Jones BS, SmithRZ, editors. Introduction to the electronic age, New York: E-Publishing Inc; 2009, p. 281–304. Reference to a website:

[5] Cancer Research UK. Cancer statistics reports for the UK, <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/>; 2003 [accessed 13 March 2003].

### Reference to a dataset:

[dataset] [6] Oguro M, Imahiro S, Saito S, Nakashizuka T. Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions, Mendeley Data, v1; 2015. <https://doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>.

Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51–9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by 'et al.' For further details you are referred to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals' (*J Am Med Assoc* 1997;277:927–34) (see also [Samples of Formatted References](#)).

### Journal abbreviations source

Journal names should be abbreviated according to the [List of Title Word Abbreviations](#).

### Video

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the bodytext where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including [ScienceDirect](#). Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our [video instruction pages](#). Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

### Supplementary material

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

### Research data

This journal encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refer to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings, which may also include software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.



Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the [research data](#) page.

#### *Data linking*

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the [database linking page](#).

For [supported data repositories](#) a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

#### *Data statement*

To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the [Data Statement page](#).

## **AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

### **Online proof correction**

To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors.

If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication. Please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.

### **Offprints**

The corresponding author will, at no cost, receive 25 free paper offprints, or alternatively a customized [Share Link](#) providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on [ScienceDirect](#). The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication

channel, including email and social media. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Corresponding authors who have published their article gold open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

## **AUTHOR INQUIRIES**

Visit the [Elsevier Support Center](#) to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch.

You can also [check the status of your submitted article](#) or find out [when your accepted article will be published](#).

