



Original Research Article

A comparative evaluation of microorganisms around dental implants and in subgingival plaque of patients with chronic periodontitis

Kunal Kumar^{1,*}, Vikas Vaibhav², Rachna Raj³, Abhinav Kumar Singh⁴, Gunjan Kedia⁵, Sudhanshu Kumar⁶

¹Dept. of Dentistry, Patna Medical College and Hospital, Patna, Bihar, India

²Dept. of Dentistry, Vardaman Institute of Medical Sciences, Pawapuri, Bihar, India

³Medical Dental Officer, Sadar Jehanabad, Bihar, India

⁴Dept. of Conservative Dentistry, Buddha Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital, Patna, Bihar, India

⁵Dept. of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, Buddha Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital, Patna, Bihar, India

⁶Dept. of Oral Medicine and Radiology, Jawahar Lal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Bhagalpur, Bihar, India



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ABSTRACT

Introduction: This study was done to compare microorganisms around dental implants inserted in site of missing mandibular first molars and in subgingival plaque of patients with chronic periodontitis.

Materials and Method: This study comprised of 20 chronic periodontitis patients and 20 patients who received dental implants. Subgingival plaque and peri-implant biofilm were sampled in both groups which were evaluated using 454-prosequencing of bacterial V1 to V3 regions of 16S rDNA.

Results: The mean probing depth in group I was 6.8 mm and in group II was 2.4 mm, clinical attachment level in group I was 7.3 mm and in group II was 0 and bone loss in group I was 6.7 mm and in group II was 0. The most predominant microorganisms in group I was *Catonella*, *Desulfovibrio*, *Mogibacterium*, *Peptostreptococcus*, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*, *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Tannerella forsythensis* and *Treponema denticola*. The three most abundant OTUs linked with the implant were *Pseudomonas*, *Leptotrichia hongkongensis* and *Granulicatella adiacens*.

Conclusion: Comparison of subgingival biofilms in patients with chronic periodontitis and biofilms around dental implants revealed significant diversity. It was found that dental implants may alter the composition of microbiome.

Clinical significance: Knowledge about comparison of subgingival biofilms in patients with chronic periodontitis helps in taking preventive precautions for successful outcome of dental implants.

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1. Introduction

Most of the dental diseases such as dental caries, gingivitis and periodontitis are caused by bacteria. Dental caries involves dental hard tissue (enamel, dentin, pulp) whereas gingivitis is an inflammation of gingiva and periodontitis is resulting in breakdown of connective tissue surrounding the tooth.¹ A marked vertical or horizontal bone loss and secondarily loss of tooth is hallmark of the disease. The etiology of periodontitis is multifactorial. Apart from role

of micro-organism in the disease process, genetic factors and social modulation also play an important role.²

The occurrence of bacterial species such as *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Treponema denticola*, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* (AA) and *Tannerella forsythensis* are considered to be present in patients with periodontitis. Clinically mandibular first molars are first one to be affected and supposed to be refractory during treatment. Periodontitis is the main reason for early loss of molars. It has been revealed in numerous studies that micro-organisms in cases of refractory periodontitis are different from that seen in cases of chronic

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: kunalkumar9380@gmail.com (K. Kumar).

periodontitis.³

Peri-implantitis and peri-implant mucositis is the leading causes of dental implants failure. Several techniques are used in assessing bacterial profile in Peri-implantitis and peri-implant mucositis.⁴ Deep-sequencing of 16S rDNA, PCR amplification and DNA-hybridisation tests helps in identification bacterial ecology. Deep-sequencing of 16S rDNA can be useful in detection of multiple samples per sample.⁵

It has been observed that dental implants are the potential site for plaque accumulation. Bacterial accumulation around dental implants results from subgingival plaque.⁶ There is variation in occurrence of peri-implant bacterial species around implants in healthy subjects and patients of periodontitis.⁷ The presents study compared microorganisms around dental implants inserted in site of missing mandibular first molars and in subgingival plaque of patients with chronic periodontitis.

2. Materials and Methods

This study was done in department of peridontology and oral implantology. This study was conducted among 20 patients of chronic periodontitis of both genders. Inclusion criteria were patients age ranged 18-60 years, non- diabetic, non- hypertensive and patients not on systemic medications. Exclusion criteria were patients above 60 years of age, patients on systemic steroids, smokers and those not giving consent. We also involved 20 subjects who received dental implant in missing mandibular third molar not less than 1 year.

Ethical clearance was obtained before starting the study from ethical committee of the institute. All enrolled patients were informed regarding the study and their consent was obtained. Patients were divided into 2 groups. Group I included chronic periodontitis patients and group II were those who received dental implants.

Periodontal patients were subjected to scaling and root planning, however, mandibular first molar were extracted due to extensive periodontal pockets around it. Peri-implant biofilm around dental implants and subgingival plaque at the first permanent molar before tooth extraction were collected. Samples were stored in 2 ml sterile tube. 100 µl of phosphate-buffered saline was added in all tubes. They were frozen at -80°C prior to sample processing.

All the samples were subjected to DNA isolation with QiaAmp DNA mini kit. DNA numbering was done with NanoDrop 8000 spectro- photometer. The V1 to V3 regions of the primers of the bacterial 16S rDNA were designed to perform pyrosequencing using 454 GS FLX Titanium platform. The forward primer was 5'-AGAGTTTGATCCTGGCTCAG-3' and the reverse primer was 5'-TTACCGCGGCTGCTGGCAC-3'. The Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test was performed.

Operational taxonomic units (OTUs) revealed and the number of tags per sample, alpha diversity containing richness estimators (Chao and Ace) and diversity estimators (Shannon and Simpson) were evaluated using QIIME with default parameters. Results of the study were tabulated for statistical analysis which was performed using fishers exact test with level of significance be < 0.05.

3. Results

Table 1 Shows that mean probing depth in group I was 6.8 mm and in group II was 2.4 mm, clinical attachment level in group I was 7.3 mm and in group II was 0 and bone loss in group I was 6.7 mm and in group II was 0. Table 2 shows estimates of sequences and the alpha diversity found with tags, operational taxonomic unit (OUT), Chao, Ace, Shannon and Simpson. The difference between both the groups was significant (P< 0.05).

Figure 1 shows that the microorganisms in group I was *Catonella* in 65%, *Desulfovibrio* in 54%, *Mogibacterium* in 47% and *Peptostreptococcus* in 38%, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* in 24%, *Porphyrmonas gingivalis* in 20%, *Tannerella forsythensis* in 21% and *Treponema denticola* in 15%. Figure 2 shows that the three most abundant OTUs linked with the implant were *Pseudomonas* in 58%, *Leptotrichia hongkongensis* in 42% and *Granulicatella adiacens* in 24%.

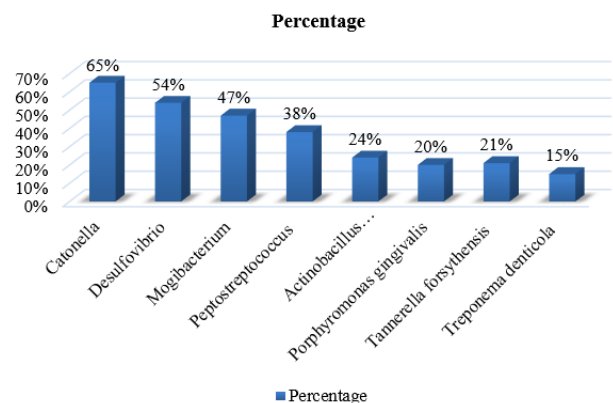


Fig. 1: Assessment of microbiomes in group I

4. Discussion

Periodontitis is most prevalent microbial disease characterized by significant destruction of attachment loss and ultimately loosening and loss of teeth.⁸ Microbial species commonly seen in patients with chronic periodontitis is *Catonella*, *Desulfovibrio*, *Mogibacterium*, *Peptostreptococcus*, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*, *Porphyrmonas gingivalis*, *Tannerella forsythensis* etc.⁹ Numerous periodontal microorganisms may be seen in healthy sites apart from

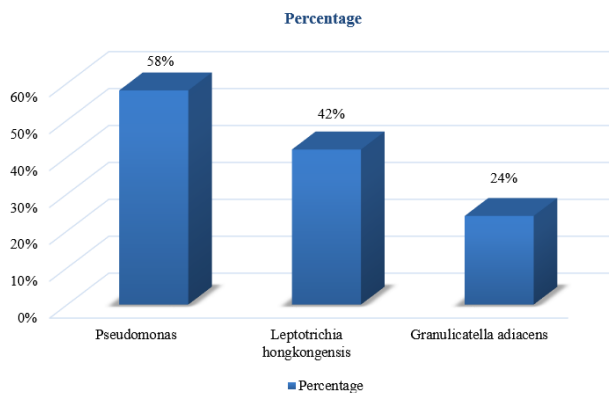
Table 1: Assessment of parameters in both groups

Parameters (Mean± SD)	Group I	Group II	P value
Probing depth (PD)	6.8± 2.1	2.4± 2.1	0.01
Clinical attachment levels (CAL)	7.3± 3.2	0	0.001
Bone loss (BL)	6.7± 1.4	0	0.001

Table 2: Assessment of estimates of sequences and the alpha diversity

Variables	Group I	Group II	P value
Tags	9846.2± 3412	12120± 4246	0.01
Operational taxonomic unit (OUT)	252.4± 46	210± 52	0.001
Chao	360.8± 58	292± 76	0.001
Ace	378.2± 90	326± 92	0.05
Shannon	390.2± 110	324± 116	0.05
Simpson	0.062±0.12	0.16± 0.02	0.001

Significance, $P < 0.05$, fishers exact test

**Fig. 2:** Assessment of microbiomes in group II

unhealthy site in chronic periodontitis patients which can initiate and propagate periodontitis.¹⁰

Dental implant therapy has revolutionized the field of dentistry and it has gained importance in last few years in Periodontics, Oral surgery and Prosthodontics owing to high survival rates. Thus, it is considered to be best treatment option for replacing missing one or multiple teeth. Recent data mentioned difference in occurrence of periodontal microorganisms in diseased as well as healthy individuals.¹¹ Similarly there is variation in presence of microbial flora in chronic periodontitis patients and in patients with dental implants. It has been observed that dental implants frequently manipulate the bacterial microenvironment. Moreover, studies have mentioned presence of low anaerobic and aerobic bacteria and periodontal pathogens around implants in healthy subjects.¹² The present study was conducted to assess microorganisms around dental implants inserted in site of missing mandibular first molars and in subgingival plaque of patients with chronic periodontitis.

In this study, we found that mean probing depth in group I was 6.8 mm and in group II was 2.4 mm, clinical attachment level in group I was 7.3 mm and in group II was 0 and bone loss in group I was 6.7 mm and in group II was 0. Zhang et al¹³ determined the microbiota composition of 10 healthy dental implants and 10 chronic periodontitis patients using 454-sequencing of bacterial V1 to V3 regions of 16S rDNA. There was significant bacterial diversity in chronic periodontitis patients in comparison to implant subjects. The genera *Catonella*, *Desulfovibrio*, *Mogibacterium*, *Peptostreptococcus* and *Propionibacterium* were present in higher abundance in chronic periodontitis subjects, while implant subjects had higher proportions of *Brevundimonas* and *Pseudomonas* species.

We found that estimates of sequences and the alpha diversity found with tags, operational taxonomic unit (OUT), Chao, Ace, Shannon and Simpson. The difference between both the groups was significant ($P < 0.05$). The microorganisms in group I were *Catonella* in 65%, *Desulfovibrio* in 54%, *Mogibacterium* in 47% and *Peptostreptococcus* in 38%, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* in 24%, *Porphyromonas gingivalis* in 20%, *Tannerella forsythensis* in 21% and *Treponema denticola* in 15%. The three most abundant OTUs linked with the implant were *Pseudomonas* in 58%, *Leptotrichia hongkongensis* in 42% and *Granulicatella adiacens* in 24%.

Huntin et al¹⁴ assessed microbial profile in 17 partly edentulous patients (98 implants) around implants and teeth in patients with peri-implantitis with 19 subjects as controls. Results showed a putative periodontal microflora at teeth and implants in patients and controls as done with microbiological DNA-probe analysis. Patients with peri-implantitis had high levels of periodontal pathogens, *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans*, *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Prevotella intermedia*, *Bacteroides forsythus* and *Treponema denticola*. These findings indicate a site-specific inflammation rather than a patient-associated specific host

response.

Ong et al¹⁵ examined and assessed microbial flora in 19 patients with periodontitis. Patients were given dental implants (osseointegrated titanium implants). It was found that *Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans* was present in 1 site, and *Prevotella intermedia* was found in 7 sites. 22 of 37 sites had a greater proportion of anaerobes than aerobes. Authors suggested that the submucosal plaque of implants must be monitored regularly for the presence of these periodontitis-associated species. The drawback of this study is little tested size.

5. Conclusion

Comparison of subgingival biofilms in patients with chronic periodontitis and biofilms around dental implants revealed significant diversity. It was found that dental implants may alter the composition of microbiome.

6. Source of Funding

None.

7. Conflict of Interest

None.

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Author biography

Kunal Kumar Senior Resident

Vikas Vaibhav Associate Professor

Rachna Raj Dental Officer

Abhinav Kumar Singh Professor

Gunjan Kedia Lecturer

Sudhanshu Kumar Senior Resident

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