The effect of different scanning techniques on the retention of monolithic zirconia crowns constructed with two convergence angles

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Dedication This work is dedicated to

My Dear parents

Beloved wife and sisters

My brothers in law

My beloved son Selim

And our father Prof. Dr. Tarek
Abbass, and all my friends and
colleagues

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At the beginning, I would like to thank **God** for this accomplishment

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Introduction

Full coverage crowns are one of the most common fixed prosthodontic treatments, and for many years elastomeric impression materials have been used in their fabrication with success. Recent technological advancements have introduced alternatives to conventional impression methods through the use of Computer Aided Design-Computer Assisted Manufacturing (CAD-CAM) and intra-oral digital scanners. These new technologies may offer similar or better results compared to conventional methods. Some benefits of CAD-CAM production may include a more standardized method of prosthesis fabrication and the use of highly homogenous materials. Additionally, the workflow associated with prosthesis fabrication by digital impression methods may offer benefits such as decreased length and number of appointments, and decreased material cost.

For intra-oral and extraoral scanning devices to be considered an acceptable alternative to conventional impressions methods, it is important that they yield crowns with similar or better clinical success. Of factors that can predict clinical success are internal fit and retention, which should be as maximum as possible.

The everyday improvement in the digital dentistry and the outstanding technologies present make it obligatory that one should follow and understand the benefits and limitations of such technologies.

Statement of problem:

Evolution of digital dentistry had lead to production of multiple scanning techniques. The effect of these scanning techniques on the accuracy of final restorations needs to be more closely assessed.

Review of literature

All the required steps during the fabrication of a crown necessitate precision and exactness in order to produce an accurately fitting restoration. Recent advances in technology have dramatically altered impression and crown fabrication procedures; specifically, digital impressions and computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) systems have been introduced in dental clinical practice.

The impression of the hard and soft tissue of the oral cavity is one of the most crucial steps for a successful dental restoration. The dental impression can strongly affect the fit and accuracy of the indirect restoration. Over the past several decades, the impression materials have changed and today with proper selection and manipulation, excellent impressions can be obtained 1-6. In addition to the impression material, the choice of the impression technique is of great importance⁷. The combination of the proper material, the most reliable technique and adequate understanding and knowledge by the operator gives the most accurate result⁸. The introduction of dental digital impressions is a breakthrough in our specialty 9-12. Digital or virtual impression systems have the potential to produce accurate results while simplifying the entire prosthesis fabrication process, since several laboratory steps are eliminated ^{13–16}. Nevertheless, the recent introduction, the limited use and the very limited research with conflicting results do not allow for valid conclusions with regard to the accuracy and reliability of digital impression systems ¹⁷.

Most digital impression systems are designed to be used in conjunction with all ceramic restorations. This has coincided with the growing demand for all-ceramic restorations that most closely mimic tooth appearance and the development of all-ceramic materials with strength comparable to metal-ceramic restorations^{18–21}.

Dental impressions

The dental impression is of great importance in dentistry in general, and in fixed prosthodontics in particular. The materials and techniques have gone through major evolution throughout the years. At the beginning, rigid materials including zinc oxide eugenol paste, wax, modeling compound and impression plaster were used. Because of the obvious rigidity, distortion and breakage that occurred, their use was significantly reduced during the later years. In the 20th century, elastomeric materials were introduced.

They are classified as aqueous and non-aqueous elastomers. The first category consists of the reversible hydrocolloid (agar) and the irreversible hydrocolloid (alginate). Agar is dimensionally unstable thus casts must be poured immediately. Alginate is the most commonly used material for diagnostic impressions, mainly because it is inexpensive. However, it is also dimensionally unstable and it must be poured within 10 minutes to get better results ¹.

The second category, non-aqueous, consists of polysulfides (1950), condensation silicones (1955), polyethers (1965) and addition silicones (1975). Polysulfides were also called "rubber base"; they reproduced details with excellent results, were not rigid and captured subgingival margins but they were dimensionally unstable, did not have good elastic recovery and had long setting time. For the condensation silicones, the release of ethyl alcohol during polymerization that causes shrinkage was the main disadvantage.

However, it was shown that this shrinkage was greater in the low viscosity than in the putty-like viscosity. Polyethers are hydrophilic (contact angle 49 degrees); thus they have superior detail reproduction in the presence of moisture. They are, also dimensionally stable and they provide an excellent reproduction of detail. However, strict disinfection guidelines should be respected in order to prevent expansion. Also, their rigidity makes them more difficult to remove than addition silicones and more likely to fracture delicate gypsum dies.

Addition silicones, Polyvinyl siloxanes (PVS), have become the most widely used impression material in dentistry³. They have the best detail reproduction and elastic recovery of all available materials, and their dimensional stability allows multiple pours; thus, PVS materials are the materials of choice in fixed prosthodontics^{3,4}. They are moderately rigid, have good tear strength, relatively short setting time and can be used with most disinfection protocols. Their disadvantages include susceptibility to contamination as a result of sulfur and sulfur compound and hydrophobic behavior (contact angle 98 degrees) caused by hydrophobic aliphatic hydrocarbon groups around the siloxane bond. Today, in order to overcome this, nonionic surfactants (nonylphenoxypolyethannol homologues) have been incorporated and the new PVS materials, have improved wettability (contact angle 53 degrees); however they are still clinically acceptable only in dry conditions².

According to the ANSI/ADA Specification No. 19 (ISO 4823) regarding detail reproduction, all elastomeric materials, except from very high-viscosity products, should reproduce a V-shape groove and a 0.02mm wide line². *Walker et al.* evaluated the detail reproduction of polyether and PVS material by observing the continuous replication of at least two out of

three horizontal lines²². The impressions were made under dry and moist conditions. They found that under dry conditions all materials produced satisfactory detail reproduction 100% of the time; however under moisture only 29% of PVS materials produced satisfactory detail while 100% of polyether met the detail criteria.

Dimensional stability over time allows the operator to pour the impression at any time. *Thongthammachat et al.* evaluated the influence on dimensional accuracy of dental casts made with different types of trays and impression materials when they were poured at different and multiple times⁸. The researchers concluded that an impression made from polyether should be poured only once within one day after impression making because of the distortion of the material that occurs over time. Addition silicone impression materials had clearly better dimensional stability than polyether up to 720 hours which is in agreement with previous studies²³. In the study, addition silicone also showed deviations increasing over time, but these were relatively small. The possibility of imbibition should be considered-especially with polyether impression materials due to the fact that polyether absorbs water from the gypsum and swells with each successive pour.

Elastic recovery allows the material to return to its original dimensions when the impression is removed from the mouth. No contemporary material has 100% elastic recovery. PVS materials have the best elastic recovery at over 99% with a specific test undercut²⁴.

In addition to the material, the impression technique is a factor that has been studied with relation to the influence on the success of the impression. *Hung et al.* reported that the accuracy of addition silicone was affected more by the type of materials than by the technique²⁵, while *Johnson and Craig* stated that accuracy could be better controlled with