

Clinical Comparison Between a Polylactide-polyglycolide Copolymer (Fisiograft®) and an Enamel Matrix Protein Derivative (Emdogain®) for the Treatment of Intrabony Periodontal Defects in Humans

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Introduction

Poly lactides and polyglycolides are known from their pharmaceutical (retard medication supports), surgical (resorbable sutures, screws, microplates, membranes, sinus lift procedures etc.) and TE (bioresorbable supports for cultured cells) applications. A polylactide-polyglycolide copolymer (PLA-PGL) has been documented clinically to enhance bone regeneration in closed bone defects (Bucci et al. 1999, Piatelli et al. 2000, Piatelli 2003, Serino et al. 2003, Rimondini et al. 2005) and to sustain periodontal healing in intrabony defects (Stratul et al. 2004). So far, there are no controlled clinical studies to compare the effect of the PLA-PGL with the effect of other "biological agents" in treating deep intrabony defects.

Objectives

Aim of this clinical controlled study was to compare the treatment of deep intrabony defects with the PLA-PGL copolymer Fisiograft® (Ghimas s.p.a., Casalecchio di Reno, Italy) to the enamel-matrix-protein-derivative EMD Emdogain® (Straumann AG, Waldenburg, Switzerland).

Material and Methods

Nineteen patients (11 male and 8 female), between 32-61 years old, with moderate to severe periodontitis, light- or non-smokers, and displaying a total of 26 deep intrabony defects, were treated either with the combination of flap surgery + Fisiograft® (test) or with FS + EMD (control). All patients underwent initial therapy one month prior to surgery. All patients were instructed and motivated to maintain a good oral hygiene level, verified by a reduction of the PI (Silness and Løe) < 1. Before surgery and six months after, the following clinical parameters were registered: the periodontal pocket depth (PD), the gingival recession (GR) and the clinical attachment level (CAL). All measurements were performed with a rigid periodontal probe (PCP 12, Hu-Friedy), at six sites per tooth (buccal: mesiobuccal, central, distobuccal; oral: mesiooral, central, distooral). Radiographic examination was performed using the conventional RIO technique. For each patient, the highest measured value was taken into account and the mean PD, GR and CAL were calculated. The Wilcoxon paired-samples test was used to compare the differences between baseline values and the values measured six months after and the Mann-Whitney U independent-samples test was used for comparison between the groups. The alpha-error was set 0.05, and the power of the study 0.57. Surgery was performed under local anesthesia. A full thickness flap was raised after intrasulcular incision, without using release incisions. After removal of the granulation tissue, the exposed roots underwent thorough S/RP, using ultrasonic devices and curettes. No resective surgery was performed, nor any root conditioning. Fisiograft® was placed into the defects of the test group. Application form of the product (gel, granules, sponge, gel+granules) was randomly assigned to each defect. The amount of material did not exceed the margins of the defect. The defects of the control group underwent the same surgical protocol, except they were filled with Emdogain® gel. Post surgical care included antibiotherapy for one week (3x500 mg Amoxicillin daily) and 0.2% Chlorhexidin (Dentaton®, Ghimas s.p.a., Casalecchio di Reno, Italy) mouth rinses, twice a day, for the following two weeks, as gentle debridement of the operated area every second week, during two months.

Results

No adverse healing response was observed. No signs of inflammation, infection, allergy or severe pain were present. Pre- and postoperative mean values of the PD, GR and CAL in the two treated groups are displayed in the table No.1 and table No.2.

Patient Nr.	Tooth Type	Defect Type(walls)	PPD (mm)		PPD Diff.	CAL (mm)		CAL gain(mm)	GR (mm)		GR Diff.	CEJ BD	BC BD	CEJ BC
			Pre-operative	After 6 months		Pre-operative	After 6 months		Pre-operative	After 6 months				
1	1.2.d	1	8	3	5	8	4	4	0	1	1	10	6	4
2	1.4.d	2	10	3	7	20	4	16	10	1	-9	20	12	8
3	4.3.m	2	5	3	2	6	4	2	1	1	0	8	4	4
4	3.3.d	2	7	3	4	7	3	4	0	0	0	8	6	2
5	3.6.m	1	7	4	3	7	4	3	0	0	0	8	5	3

6	4.8.m	2	10	5	5	10	6	4	0	1	1	11	8	3
7	4.6.m	2	9	3	6	10	6	4	1	3	2	11	8	3
8	1.4.m	1	8	3	5	8	4	4	0	1	1	9	7	2
9	1.7.m	1	7	4	3	7	4	3	0	0	0	8	6	2
10	1.1.m	1	6	2	4	8	6	2	2	4	2	9	4	5
11	3.4.m	1	7	4	3	7	5	2	0	1	1	7	5	2
12	4.6.m	1	8	3	5	10	6	4	2	3	1	11	4	7
13	1.7.d	2	9	4	5	10	6	4	1	2	1	11	6	5
Mean			7,77	3,38	4,38	9,08	4,77	4,31	1,31	1,38	0,08	10,08	6,23	3,85
SD			1,48	0,77	1,39	3,57	1,09	3,61	2,72	1,26	2,81	3,30	2,20	1,95

Table 1. Six months clinical results of treatment of intrabony defects with Fisiograft®

Patient Nr.	Tooth Type	Defect Type(walls)	PPD (mm)		PPD CAL (mm)		CAL gain(mm)	GR (mm)		GR	CEJ BD	BC BD	CEJ BC	
			Pre-operative	After 6 months	Diff.	Pre-operative		After 6 months	Pre-operative					After 6 months
1	2.6.m	1	7	3	4	9	5	4	2	2	0	10	7	3
2	21	2	6	3	3	7	6	1	1	3	2	11	6	5
3	21	2	7	4	3	9	6	3	2	2	0	11	6	5
4	14	2	8	4	4	8	4	4	0	0	0	9	6	3
5	14	2	6	3	3	6	5	1	0	2	2	9	5	4
6	25	2	8	4	4	8	6	2	0	2	2	9	4	5
7	22	1	7	3	4	7	7	0	0	4	4	9	4	5
8	22	1	10	3	7	10	8	2	0	5	5	10	4	6
9	27	2	8	6	2	8	6	2	0	0	0	10	9	1
10	1.7.m	1	8	7	1	9	8	1	1	1	0	12	9	3
11	3.6.m	1	8	4	4	9	6	3	1	2	1	10	7	3
12	4.3.m	2	9	3	6	9	5	4	0	2	2	11	7	4
13	2.3.m	1	6	3	3	7	4	3	1	1	0	8	5	3
Mean			7,54	3,85	3,69	8,15	5,85	2,31	0,62	2,00	1,38	9,92	6,08	3,85
SD			1,20	1,28	1,55	1,14	1,28	1,32	0,77	1,41	1,66	1,12	1,71	1,34

Table 2. Six months clinical results of treatment of intrabony defects with Emdogain®

No differences in any of the investigated parameters were observed at baseline between groups (Table 3). Six months after the treatment, the sites treated with PLA-PGL showed a reduction in probing pocket depth (PPD) from 7.77 ± 1.48 mm to 3.38 ± 0.77 mm ($p=0.001$) and a change in clinical attachment level (CAL) from 9.08 ± 3.57 mm to 4.77 ± 1.09 mm (n.s.). In the group treated with EMD, PPD was reduced from 7.54 ± 1.20 mm to 3.85 ± 1.28 mm ($p=0.001$), CAL changed from 8.15 ± 1.14 mm to 5.85 ± 1.28 mm ($p=0.016$) (Table 4). No or little hard tissue fill was observed radiographically in the defects treated with PLA-PGL.

Treatment	CAL (mm)	CEJ-BD (mm)	CEJ-BC (mm)	INTRA (mm)
EMD (n=13)	$5,85 \pm 1,28$	$9,92 \pm 1,12$	$3,85 \pm 1,34$	$6,08 \pm 1,71$
Fisio (n=13)	$4,77 \pm 1,09$	$10,08 \pm 3,30$	$3,85 \pm 1,95$	$6,23 \pm 2,20$

Table 3 Intraoperative measurements for the Fisiograft(R) and Emdogain(R) groups

Treatment	Baseline	6 months	Difference	Significance
Probing depth				
EMD	$7,54 \pm 1,20$	$3,85 \pm 1,28$	$3,69 \pm 1,55$	$p=0,001$
Fisio	$7,77 \pm 1,48$	$3,38 \pm 0,77$	$4,38 \pm 1,39$	$p=0,001$
			n.s.	
Gingival recession				
EMD	$0,62 \pm 0,77$	$2,00 \pm 1,41$	$1,38 \pm 1,66$	$p=0,002$
Fisio	$1,31 \pm 2,72$	$1,38 \pm 1,26$	$0,08 \pm 2,81$	$p=0,001$
			n.s.	
Clinical attachment level				
EMD	$8,15 \pm 1,14$	$5,85 \pm 1,28$	$2,31 \pm 1,32$	$p=0,016$
Fisio	$9,08 \pm 3,57$	$4,77 \pm 1,09$	$4,31 \pm 3,61$	n.s.
			$p=0,029$	

Table 4. Clinical parameters at baseline and 6 months for the EMD (n=13) and the fisio surgery groups (n=13)

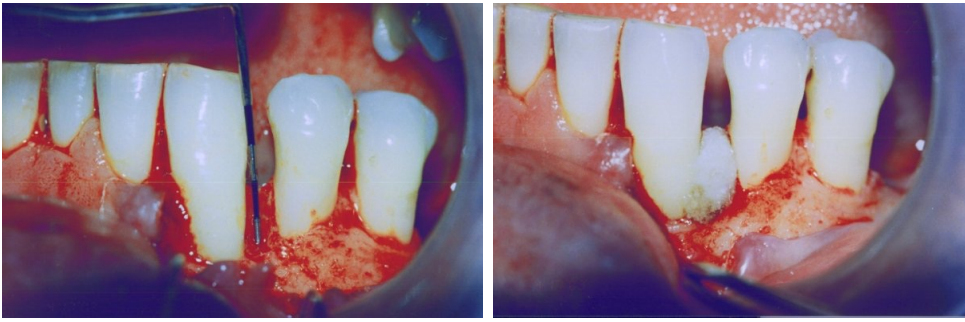


Fig.1 Case A a) The bone defect exposed

Fig.1 Case A b) Fisiograft® in place

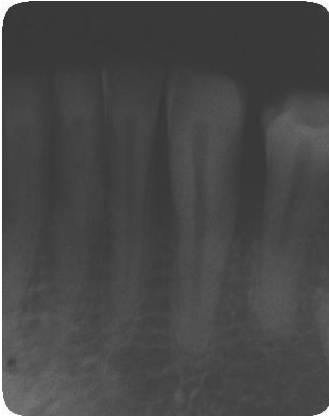


Fig.1 Case A c) Rx image before treatment



Fig.1 Case A d) Rx image at six months

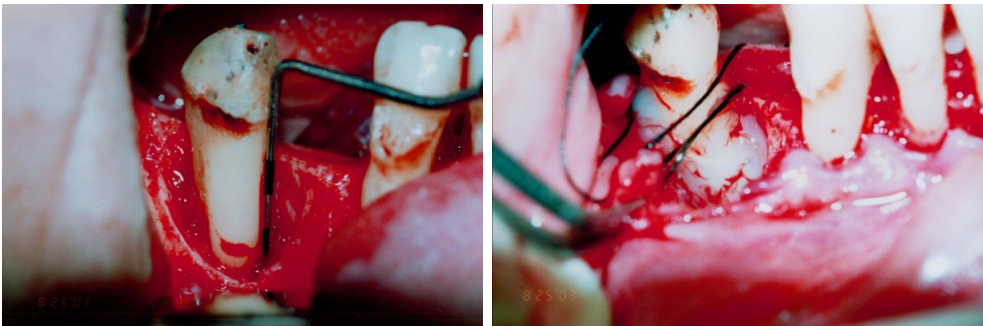


Fig.2 Case B a) The bone defect exposed

Fig.2 Case B b) Emdogain® in place



Fig.2 Case B c) Rx image before treatment

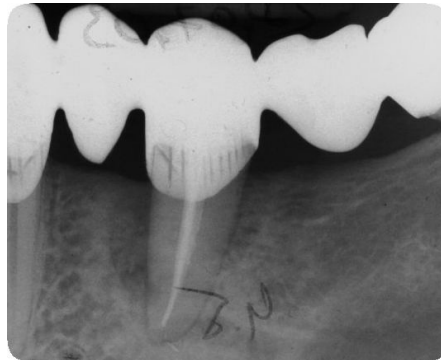


Fig.2 Case B d) Rx image at six months

Conclusions

Both treatments resulted in improvements of PPD and CAL. A statistically significant difference between the groups in favor of Fisiograft® group was observed with respect to CAL gain ($p=0.029$), no statistically significant PPD reduction difference between groups in favor of Fisiograft® was observed. At six months, both therapies seemed to lead to significant improvements of the investigated clinical parameters.

Abbreviations

PLA-PGL: polylactide-polyglycolide
 EMD: enamel-matrix-protein-derivative
 PPD: probing pocket depth
 CAL: clinical attachment level
 GR: gingival recession
 TE: tissue engineering
 PII: plaque index
 GI: gingival index
 BOP: bleeding on probing

This Poster was submitted by Assist. Prof. Dr. Dr. Stefan-Ioan Stratul.

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Poster Faksimile:

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ABSTRACT

A polylactide-polyglycolide (PLA-PGL) has been documented clinically to enhance bone regeneration in closed bone defects and to sustain periodontal healing in intrabony defects. So far, there are no controlled clinical studies to compare the effect of the PLA-PGL with the effect of other "biological agents" in treating deep intrabony defects. Aim of the study: to compare treatment of deep intrabony defects with PLA-PGL (Fisiograft®, Ghimes, Italy) or an enamel-matrix-protein-derivative (EMD, Emdogain®, Straumann AG, Waldenburg, Switzerland). Nineteen patients, displaying 21 intrabony defects, were randomly treated with PLA-PGL (test) or with EMD (control). Soft tissue measurements were made at baseline and 6 months after. No differences in the investigated parameters were observed at baseline between groups. Wilcoxon and Mann-Whitney tests were used for statistics. Alpha error was set 0.05, the power-of-the-study 0.57. No adverse healing response was observed. Six months after, sites treated with PLA-PGL showed reduction in probing pocket depth (PPD) from 7.77±1.49mm to 3.36±0.77mm (p=0.001) and a change in clinical attachment level (CAL) from 9.08±2.57mm to 4.77±1.01mm (n.s.). In the group treated with EMD, PPD was reduced from 7.04±1.20mm to 3.85±1.28mm (p=0.001), CAL changed from 8.15±1.14mm to 5.85±1.28mm (p=0.016). No or little hard tissue fill was observed radiographically in the defects treated with PLA-PGL. Both treatments resulted in improvements of PPD and CAL. A statistically significant difference between the groups in favor of Fisiograft® group was obtained with respect to CAL gain (p=0.029), no statistically significant PPD reduction difference between groups was observed. At six months, both therapies seemed to lead to significant improvements of the investigated clinical parameters.

INTRODUCTION

Polyactides and polyglycolides are known from their pharmaceutical (inert medication supports), surgical (resorbable sutures, screws, microplates, membranes, sinus lift procedures etc.) and TE (bioresorbable supports for cultured cells), applications. A polylactide-polyglycolide copolymer (PLA-PGL) has been documented clinically to enhance bone regeneration in closed bone defects (Basso et al 1999, Fusi et al 2000, Fusi et al 2003, Serrao et al 2003, Rimondini et al 2005) and to sustain periodontal healing in intrabony defects (Stratul et al 2004). So far, there are no controlled clinical studies to compare the effect of the PLA-PGL with the effect of other "biological agents" in treating deep intrabony defects.

AIM OF THE STUDY

Aim of this clinical controlled study: was to compare the treatment of deep intrabony defects with the PLA-PGL copolymer Fisiograft® (Ghimes s.p.a., Casalecchio di Reno, Italy) to the enamel-matrix-protein-derivative EMD Emdogain® (Straumann AG, Waldenburg, Switzerland).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Nineteen patients (11 male and 8 female), between 32-61 years old, with moderate to severe periodontitis, light- or non-smokers, and displaying a total of 26 deep intrabony defects, were treated either with the combination of flap surgery + Fisiograft® (test) or with FS + EMD (control). All patients underwent initial therapy one month prior to surgery. All patients were instructed and motivated to maintain a good oral hygiene level, verified by a reduction of the PI (Silness and Loe) to 1. Before surgery and six months after, the following clinical parameters were registered: the periodontal pocket depth (PPD), the gingival recession (GR) and the clinical attachment level (CAL). All measurements were performed with a rigid periodontal probe (PCP 12, Hu-Fredy®), at six sites per tooth (buccal, mesobuccal, central, distobuccal, oral, mesoral, central, distoral). Radiographic examination was performed using the conventional RPO technique. For each patient, the highest measured value was taken into account and the mean PPD, GR and CAL were calculated. The Wilcoxon paired-samples test was used to compare the differences between baseline values and the values measured six months after, and the Mann-Whitney U independent-samples test was used for comparison between the groups. The alpha-error was set 0.05, and the power of the study 0.57. Surgery was performed under local anesthesia. A full thickness flap was raised after infraalveolar incision, without using release incisions. After removal of the granulation tissue, the exposed roots underwent thorough SRP, using ultrasonic devices and curettes. No resective surgery was performed, nor any root conditioning. Fisiograft® was placed into the defects of the test group. Application form of the product (gel, granules, sponge, gel-granules) was randomly assigned to each defect. The amount of material did not exceed the margins of the defect. The defects of the control group underwent the same surgical protocol, except they were filled with Emdogain® gel. Post surgical care included antibiotic therapy for one week (3000 mg Amoxicillin daily) and 0.2% Chlorhexidine (Daktacolin®, Ghimes s.p.a., Casalecchio di Reno, Italy) mouth-rinse, twice a day for the following two weeks, as gentle debridement of the operated area every second week, during two months.

RESULTS

No adverse healing response was observed. No signs of inflammation, infection, allergy or severe pain were present. Pre- and post-treatment mean values of PPD, GR and CAL in the two treatment groups are displayed in the table No.1 and table No.2.

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Table 1. Six months clinical results of treatment of intrabony defects with Fisiograft®

Parameter	Baseline	6 months	p-value
PPD (mm)	7.77 ± 1.49	3.36 ± 0.77	0.001
CAL (mm)	9.08 ± 2.57	4.77 ± 1.01	n.s.

Table 2. Six months clinical results of treatment of intrabony defects with Emdogain®

Parameter	Baseline	6 months	p-value
PPD (mm)	7.04 ± 1.20	3.85 ± 1.28	0.001
CAL (mm)	8.15 ± 1.14	5.85 ± 1.28	0.016

No differences in any of the investigated parameters were observed at baseline between groups (Table 3). Six months after the treatment, the sites treated with PLA-PGL showed a reduction in probing pocket depth (PPD) from 7.77±1.49mm to 3.36±0.77mm (p=0.001) and a change in clinical attachment level (CAL) from 9.08±2.57mm to 4.77±1.01mm (n.s.). In the group treated with EMD, PPD was reduced from 7.04±1.20mm to 3.85±1.28mm (p=0.001), CAL changed from 8.15±1.14mm to 5.85±1.28mm (p=0.016) (Table 4). No or little hard tissue fill was observed radiographically in the defects treated with PLA-PGL.

Table 3. Intraoperative measurements for the Fisiograft® and Emdogain® groups

Parameter	FISI	EMD	p-value
Hard tissue fill (%)	100 ± 0	100 ± 0	1.000
Soft tissue fill (%)	100 ± 0	100 ± 0	1.000

Table 4. Clinical parameters at baseline and 6 months for the EMD (n=13) and the Fisiograft® groups (n=13)

Parameter	Baseline	6 months	p-value
PPD (mm)	7.77 ± 1.49	3.36 ± 0.77	0.001
CAL (mm)	9.08 ± 2.57	4.77 ± 1.01	n.s.

Fig.1 Case A.



Fig.2 Case B.



CONCLUSIONS

Both treatments resulted in improvements of PPD and CAL. A statistically significant difference between the groups in favor of Fisiograft® group was observed with respect to CAL gain (p=0.029), no statistically significant PPD reduction difference between groups was observed. At six months, both therapies seemed to lead to significant improvements of the investigated clinical parameters.