

## Optical characteristics of resin composite before and after polymerization

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### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** The aim of this study was to evaluate the optical characteristics such as color and translucency changes before and after light curing, to quantify the CQ and to measure refractive indices of body and opaque shade of resin composites materials.

**Materials and Methods:** Resin composites used in this study were A2 body and A2 opaque shade of Esthet-X, Filtek supreme, Gradia Direct, Clearfil Majesty and Beautifil II. Color and translucency changes before and after light curing were evaluated by colorimeter, the CQ was quantified by GC-MS and refractive index changes were measured by spectroscopic ellipsometer.

**Results:** Translucency parameter (TP) was significantly increased after curing. The CQ content of body shades are higher than that of opaque shades in all resin composites. Refractive index increased after polymerization in all materials and significant difference in  $\Delta$ refractive index was found between body and opaque shade (significance level 0.05).

**Conclusions:** For an accurate shade match, direct shade matching of resin composite should be performed by using the cured material. [J Kor Acad Cons Dent 2011;36(3):219-230.]

**Key words:** Color; CQ content; Refractive index; Resin composite; Translucency

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### INTRODUCTION

Shade matching of resin composite restorations is crucial in esthetic dentistry.<sup>1-3</sup> However, there seems to be several difficulties in shade matching for resin composite restorations. The color difference still exist even between the Vitapan shade guide system used generally and the corresponding shade of resin paste. A way to match the shade is to compare directly the color of the tooth to be restored with the shade of the paste of the material itself.<sup>4,5</sup> This direct shade matching procedure is as follows: a small amount of

resin composite is placed on a tooth to be restored and is polymerized, then shade of the resin and tooth are compared.<sup>5</sup> This procedure seems to be especially beneficial in clinical cases in which the background color has a direct effect on the shade of the restorative resin composite used, as the material contacts the background directly.<sup>6</sup>

In direct shade matching, light curing is necessary, as materials often show perceptible color changes before and after polymerization.<sup>5,7-9</sup> One of the problems in direct shade matching is the time wasted with each material placed.<sup>4</sup> However, if the optical

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properties such as color and translucency of the resin composites do not change before and after light curing, direct shade matching can be performed without light curing, resulting in spending less time. Therefore, stability in color and translucency before and after light curing would be an important property in esthetic restorative materials.

Resin composite restorations may provide relatively poor color matches, specially a grayish shade is often seen after restoration, which is caused by a projection of the darkness in the oral cavity. From this point of view, the translucency of resin composites must be considered as a critical property just like the color of the material itself.<sup>10,11</sup> The translucency parameter (TP) is the color difference of a material having uniform thickness black and white backings, and corresponds directly to common visual assessments of translucency.<sup>12</sup>

The composite curing features are strongly influenced by the type and amount of photoinitiators inside.<sup>13</sup> Camphorquinone (CQ) is the photosensitizing agent used in most of the brands available on the market. The increase in CQ amount in resin composites leads to a higher level of monomer conversion, improving mechanical and biological properties of these materials.<sup>14,15</sup> Studies have shown that there is a limit for the increase of CQ concentration.<sup>16,17</sup> Above this limit the increase in photoinitiator does not benefit the final grade conversion. CQ has the aspect of an intense-yellow-colored powder. Additionally, it has poor photobleaching, which means the yellow color remains the same after light irradiation. Thus, CQ addition turns the material yellowish, making it difficult to be incorporated when lighter shades are desired.<sup>16,18</sup>

Most of the organic molecules present in the matrix phase of dental composites and fillers do not effectively transmit visible light. As a result, scattering of light might be considered as the main reason for low translucency. Magnitude of light scattering depends on the dimensions and surface area of the dispersed phase (fillers), their segregation, microporosity, and surface roughness. These properties of the microstructure also affect the overall refractive index of the composite material. It should be noted that in general, magnitude and direction of scattering

depends on the average magnitude of refractive index change in the composite material. Therefore, individual refractive indices of the dispersed phase and matrix phase (resin) should be perfectly matched in order to obtain translucency close to that of tooth tissue. Otherwise, the tooth would have poor esthetic properties and reduced cure depth with visible light. In this respect, refractive indices are extensively used for the selection of composite materials.

It is important to be able to predict the amount of change in color and translucency of resin composite before and after curing for the successful restoration. Manufacturers do not disclose the CQ content and refractive index in their products, although this information is absolutely relevant for the clinician to evaluate the color matching of the resin composite.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the optical characteristics such as color and translucency changes before and after light curing, to quantify the CQ and to measure refractive indices of body and opaque shade of resin composites materials.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Resin Composites

The materials (Table 1) selected for this study were five resin composites: Esthet-X (Dentsply, USA), Filtek supreme (3M ESPE, USA), Gradia Direct (GC Corporation, Japan), Clearfil Majesty Esthetic (Kuraray, Japan), and Beautifil II (Shofu, Japan). As the name of the same opaque shades vary in different products, for simplicity, the A20, OA2, AO2 and A2D shades were given the generic name "A20" in this study. Similarly, the A2 and A2B for body shades was described as "A2B".

### Specimen Preparation and Measurement

Translucent acrylic plates (1-mm thick) with holes 10-mm in diameter were used as molds for making standardized disk-shaped specimens. The number of specimens for each group was 5. To determine the inherent color of each material, a measurement was made using a disk, 10-mm in diameter and 4-mm thick.<sup>12</sup> Each mold was filled with resin composite

**Table 1.** Resin composites used in this study

| Code-shade | Products         | Composition  | Manufacturer                       |
|------------|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| EXB<br>EXO | Esthet-X         | Filler: 60 vol% of barium boron fluoroaluminosilicate glass with an mean particle size below 1 $\mu\text{m}$ and nanofiller silica (0.04 $\mu\text{m}$ )<br>Resin: urethane modified bis-GMA dimethacrylate                                  | DENTSPLY Caulk, Milford, DE, USA   |
| FSB<br>FSO | Filtek supreme   | Filler: 59.5 vol% combination of aggregated zirconia/silica cluster filler with primary particle size of 5-20 nm, and a non-agglomerated 20 nm silica filler<br>Resin: bis-GAM, bis-EMA, UDMA, TEGDMA  | 3M ESPE, St. Paul, MN, USA         |
| GRB<br>GRO | Gradia Direct    | Filler: 64-65% of fluoro-alumino silicate glass, silica and pre-polymerized fillers with particle size of 0.85 $\mu\text{m}$<br>Resin: urethane dimethacrylate   | GC Corpo., Tokyo, Japan            |
| MJB<br>MJO | Clearfil Majesty | Filler: 78 wt% (66 vol%) silanated barium glass filler, pre-polymerized organic filler<br>Micro-filler (glass filler): mean 1.5 $\mu\text{m}$<br>Nano-filler: mean 20 nm<br>Base resin: Bis-GMA, TEGDMA, hydrophobic aromatic dimethacrylate | Kuraray Medical Inc., Tokyo, Japan |
| BTB<br>BTO | Beautifil II     | Filler: multi-functional glass and S-PRG filler based on fluoroboroluminosilicate glass<br>Particle size range: 0.01-4.0 $\mu\text{m}$ (mean 0.8 $\mu\text{m}$ )<br>Base resin: Bis-GMA, TEGDMA  | Shofu Dental Corp., Kyoto, Japan   |

material, covered with clear celluloid strips on the top and bottom of the hole, and, with the acrylic plate, was pressed between two glass slides under a weight to achieve uniform thickness of the disk specimens. After removing the glass slides, the color of the materials was measured separately using a colorimeter: NF999 (Nippon Denshoku IND., Japan) against 2 backings: a black tile and a white tile. Calibration of the equipment was performed immediately before the series of measurements using a white tile supplied by the manufacturer. For each color measurement, the values obtained were expressed as CIELAB parameters ( $L^*$ ,  $a^*$  and  $b^*$ ).  $L^*$  refers to lightness, where 100 is white and 0 is black,  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  are the red-green and yellow-blue chromatic coordinates and a positive  $a^*$  or  $b^*$  indicates a red or a yellow shade, respectively. The white and

black backings employed in this study were a white ceramic tile ( $L^* = 90.43$ ,  $a^* = -0.3$ ,  $b^* = 0.04$ ) and a black ceramic tile ( $L^* = 10.86$ ,  $a^* = -2.03$ ,  $b^* = 2.42$ ).

After the initial series of color measurements of each uncured disk, light curing was performed through thin plastic film, using a Spectrum 800 (Dentsply, USA) at 600 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> for 60 seconds each side. The color measurements were then repeated for each cured disk.

#### Calculation of color change ( $\Delta E^*$ ) before and after light curing

The color change of each specimen ( $\Delta E^*$ ) before and after light curing was calculated using the equation:  $\Delta E^* = [(L^*_{\text{after}} - L^*_{\text{before}})^2 + (a^*_{\text{after}} - a^*_{\text{before}})^2 + (b^*_{\text{after}} - b^*_{\text{before}})^2]^{1/2}$ , where  $L^*_{\text{after}}$ ,  $a^*_{\text{after}}$ , and  $b^*_{\text{after}}$

were CIELAB values of each specimen, the material itself, evaluated after light curing and  $L^*_{\text{before}}$ ,  $a^*_{\text{before}}$ , and  $b^*_{\text{before}}$  were those values of each specimen, the material itself, evaluated before light curing.

#### Calculation of translucency parameter

The translucency of the materials 1-mm thick before and after light curing was calculated using the translucency parameter (TP) formula:  $TP_{(D = 1 \text{ mm})} = [(LW^* - LB^*)^2 + (aW^* - aB^*)^2 + (bW^* - bB^*)^2]^{1/2}$ , where the subscript "W" refers to the CIELAB values for each 1-mm thick specimen on a white backing and the subscript "B" refers to the values for specimens on a black backing.<sup>6,10,19,20</sup>

#### CQ content quantification

In order to extract the organic portion of the resins, 2 g of each material were weighed, using an analytical balance, and inserted into centrifuge tube. In each tube, 4 mL of HPLC-degree methanol were added and the sets were then taken to the ultrasonic appliance for 50 minutes so as to facilitate extraction.

Afterwards, the 1.5 mL polypropylene tubes were centrifuged in a microcentrifuge at a speed of 13,000 rpm for 200 seconds in order to increase the efficiency of filler sedimentation. After centrifuging, 3 mL of the supernatant portion in each polypropylene tube were collected with a pipette and transferred to individual vials.

The samples were injected into the gaseous chromatography appliance (HP 6890 plus GC) coupled to the mass spectrometer (HP 5973 MSD). A DB-5 column and a temperature slope from 40 to 280°C in 25 minutes were used for the test.

In order to create a calibration curve, 97% CQ (Sigma-Aldrich), containing a high level of pureness and no additional purification was used. The CQ was dissolved in methanol, HPLC level, so as to obtain solutions at concentrations of 0.1, 1, 10, 50, 100 ppm. These solutions were injected into the chromatograph under the same analysis conditions previously described for the samples, so that the calibration curve could be obtained, as shown in Figure 1.

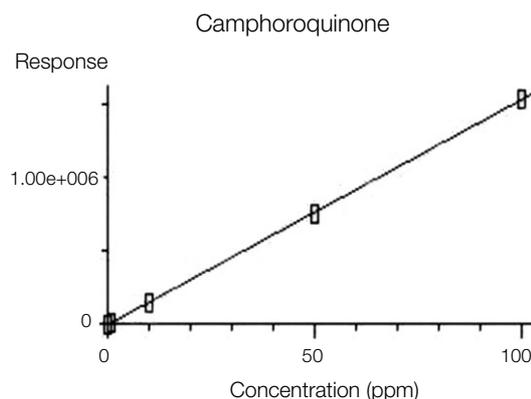


Figure 1. Calibration curve of CQ.

#### Measurement of refractive index

Refractive indices of resin composite samples were determined by spectroscopic ellipsometer (M-2000, J.A.Woollam Co., USA) at a 70° angle of incidence before and after light curing at 380-770 nm wavelength, where visible light is located.

#### Statistic Analysis

One-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, Tukey's post-hoc test and *t*-test were used for statistic analysis. The  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$ ,  $b^*$  changes and  $\Delta E^*$  before and after light curing were evaluated using one-way ANOVA and Tukey's post-hoc tests to detect statistically significant differences between groups (significance level 0.05). *T*-test was employed to detect statistically significant differences in a group before and after light curing (significance level 0.05). To detect any statistical changes in TP and refractive index before and after light curing, as primary factors, two-way ANOVA and Tukey's post-hoc test were carried out regarding products/shades and before or after light curing. When this analysis revealed interaction of any of the primary factors, one-way ANOVA and Tukey's post-hoc tests were employed to detect statistically significant differences between groups (significance level 0.05). *T*-test was employed to detect statistically significant differences in a group before and after light curing (significance level 0.05).

RESULTS

L\*, a\*, b\* before and after light curing

The L\*, a\*, b\* before and after light curing are indicated in Table 2. Comparing the L\*, a\*, b\* before and after light curing, significant differences were detected in all materials except for a\* of Esthet-X opaque and Filtek supreme opaque. The L\* of opaque shades are higher than that of body shades in all resin composites after curing. The L\* and b\* of FSO after curing is highest, it means FSO is the most bright and yellow material.

Changes of L\* after curing are indicated in Figure

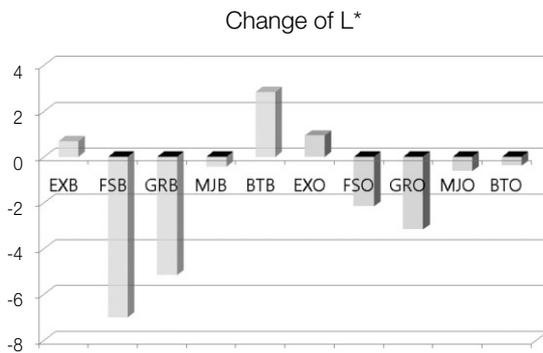


Figure 2. Change of L\*.

2. Body shade and opaque shade are divided into color of histogram. Changes of b\* are indicated in Figure 3. b\* was decreased after curing, it means yellowness was reduced and blueness was increased in all resin composites. Significant difference was detected in Δb\* between body shades and opaque shades.

ΔE\* before and after light curing

Table 3 summarizes the results in color differences (ΔE\*) before and after light curing. The ΔE\* of body shade was significantly greater compared with the opaque shade except for Clearfil Majesty.

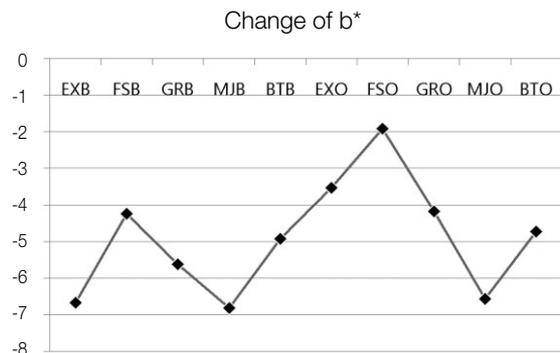


Figure 3. Change of b\*.

Table 2. L\*, a\*, b\* before and after light curing

|     | L*           |              | a*           |              | b*           |              |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|     | Before       | After        | Before       | After        | Before       | After        |
| EXB | 54.78 (0.04) | 55.47 (0.13) | -1.31 (0.04) | -1.40 (0.04) | 8.6 (0.07)   | 1.92 (0.04)  |
| FSB | 62.08 (0.02) | 55.08 (0.17) | -1.30 (0.02) | -0.88 (0.06) | 7.11 (0.07)  | 2.87 (0.19)  |
| GRB | 59.15 (0.12) | 53.99 (0.03) | -0.57 (0.03) | 0.17 (0.04)  | 7.53 (0.10)  | 1.90 (0.17)  |
| MJB | 53.81 (0.03) | 53.39 (0.04) | -2.15 (0.12) | -0.88 (0.11) | 2.86 (0.08)  | -3.96 (0.08) |
| BTB | 53.34 (0.05) | 56.18 (0.10) | -0.11 (0.21) | 0.74 (0.18)  | 4.45 (0.17)  | -0.48 (0.13) |
| EXO | 63.60 (0.02) | 64.55 (0.09) | -1.39 (0.07) | -1.44 (0.06) | 14.38 (0.08) | 10.85 (0.06) |
| FSO | 72.59 (0.06) | 70.44 (0.04) | -1.66 (0.02) | -1.62 (0.07) | 13.41 (0.05) | 11.49 (0.06) |
| GRO | 68.60 (0.01) | 65.44 (0.03) | -0.38 (0.10) | 0.10 (0.10)  | 12.09 (0.10) | 7.91 (0.08)  |
| MJO | 57.92 (0.03) | 57.30 (0.03) | -1.82 (0.20) | -0.55 (0.17) | 4.68 (0.13)  | -1.89 (0.09) |
| BTO | 63.96 (0.01) | 63.58 (0.18) | 0.17 (0.17)  | 1.00 (0.19)  | 9.77 (0.10)  | 5.04 (0.14)  |

Mean (SD), n = 5

One-way ANOVA, Tukey's post-hoc test and t-test: significance level 0.05.

The values connected with a horizontal line indicate no statistical differences (p > 0.05).

**Table 3.** Color change ( $\Delta E^*$ ) before and after light curing

|                       | Body shade  | Opaque shade |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| EX (Esthet- X)        | 6.71 (0.06) | 3.66 (0.10)  |
| FS (Filtek supreme)   | 7.99 (0.39) | 3.12 (0.52)  |
| GR (Gradia Direct)    | 7.77 (0.42) | 5.37 (0.31)  |
| MJ (Clearfil Majesty) | 7.15 (0.45) | 6.86 (0.31)  |
| BT (Beautifil II )    | 5.69 (0.34) | 4.80 (0.17)  |

Mean (SD),  $n = 5$

The values connected with a horizontal line indicate no statistical difference ( $p > 0.05$ ).

**Table 4.** Translucency parameters before and after light curing

|     | Before      | After       | $\Delta TP$ |
|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| EXB | 5.42 (0.09) | 6.77 (0.08) | 1.35*       |
| FSB | 2.35 (0.08) | 4.56 (0.04) | 2.22*       |
| GRB | 3.93 (0.06) | 6.77 (0.05) | 2.84*       |
| MJB | 5.51 (0.12) | 6.66 (0.05) | 1.15*       |
| BTB | 5.90 (0.13) | 6.36 (0.15) | 0.47*       |
| EXO | 3.67 (0.05) | 3.98 (0.08) | 0.30*       |
| FSO | 1.94 (0.08) | 3.14 (0.56) | 1.20*       |
| GRO | 2.68 (0.15) | 3.33 (0.05) | 0.64*       |
| MJO | 3.66 (0.08) | 4.21 (0.03) | 0.55*       |
| BTO | 2.98 (0.08) | 4.24 (0.05) | 1.26*       |

Mean (SD),  $n = 5$

\*means statistically significant difference before and after curing in a group.

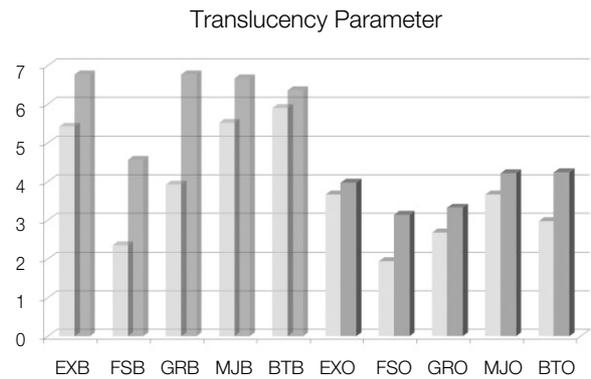
One-way ANOVA, Tukey's post-hoc test and  $t$ -test: significance level 0.05.

#### Translucency parameter before and after light curing

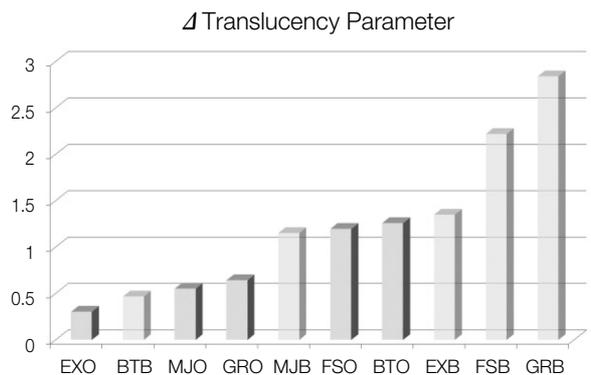
Table 4, Figures 4 and 5 are about translucency parameter. All resin composites showed a statistically significant increase in TP after curing. Generally,  $\Delta TP$  of body shades are greater than that of opaque shades. Specially,  $\Delta TP$  of Gradia Direct body shade and Filtek supreme body shade are great.

#### Camphorquinone content

CQ contents are indicated in Table 5 and Figure 6. It showed from 0.046 %p/p to 0.113 %p/p. The con-



**Figure 4.** TP before and after curing.



**Figure 5.** Change of translucency parameter.

**Table 5.** CQ contents (%p/p)

|                       | Body shade | Opaque shade |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| EX (Esthet-X)         | 0.087      | 0.083        |
| FS (Filtek supreme)   | 0.095      | 0.061        |
| GR (Gradia Direct)    | 0.080      | 0.061        |
| MJ (Clearfil Majesty) | 0.073      | 0.058        |
| BT (Beautifil II )    | 0.113      | 0.046        |

tent of body shades are higher than that of opaque shades in all resin composites. The CQ content and  $\Delta E^*$  showed a proportional trend ( $\gamma = 0.311$ ) in Figure 7.

#### Refractive index before and after light curing

Table 6 summarized the means of refractive indices between 380-770 nm before and after light curing. After curing, the refractive indices were increased in

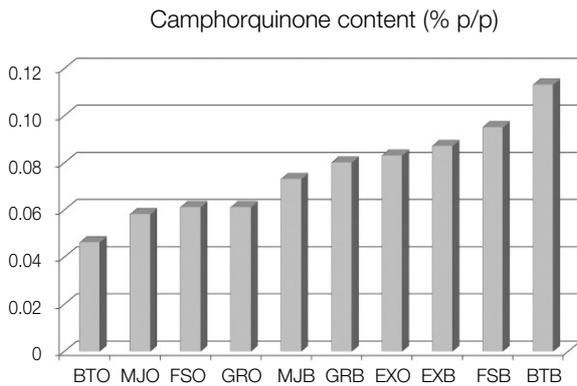


Figure 6. CQ content (%p/p).

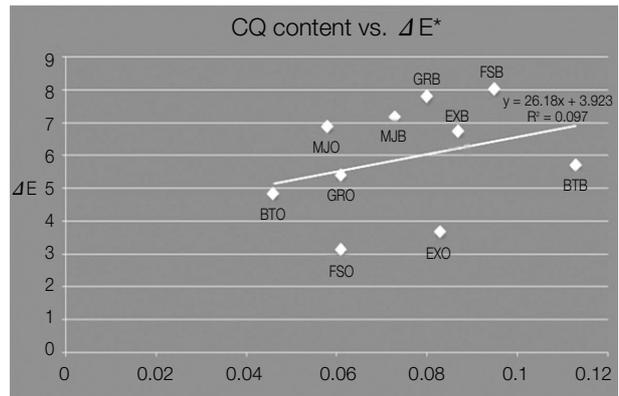


Figure 7. Correlation between CQ content and ΔE\*.

Table 6. Refractive index before and after light curing

|     | Before        | After         | ΔRefractive index   |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| EXB | 1.513 (0.020) | 1.549 (0.012) | 0.036 <sup>a*</sup> |
| FSB | 1.512 (0.017) | 1.532 (0.009) | 0.020 <sup>b*</sup> |
| GRB | 1.506 (0.015) | 1.511 (0.009) | 0.004 <sup>c*</sup> |
| MJB | 1.513 (0.016) | 1.554 (0.011) | 0.041 <sup>d*</sup> |
| BTB | 1.511 (0.014) | 1.547 (0.011) | 0.036 <sup>a*</sup> |
| EXO | 1.510 (0.021) | 1.550 (0.013) | 0.040 <sup>e*</sup> |
| FSO | 1.511 (0.015) | 1.533 (0.010) | 0.023 <sup>b*</sup> |
| GRO | 1.510 (0.015) | 1.512 (0.009) | 0.001 <sup>f*</sup> |
| MJO | 1.511 (0.014) | 1.557 (0.011) | 0.046 <sup>b*</sup> |
| BTO | 1.514 (0.017) | 1.550 (0.011) | 0.036 <sup>a*</sup> |

Mean (SD), n = 196

Same superscripts show no statistically significant differences.

\*means statistically significant difference before and after curing in a group.

One-way ANOVA, Tukey's post-hoc test and t-test: significance level 0.05.

all materials in Figure 8. The growth of refractive indices are indicated in Figure 9. ΔRefractive index of Clearfil Majesty is the greatest and that of Gradia Direct is the smallest in body and opaque shade both. Figure 10 showed correlation between Δrefractive index and Δtranslucency parameter ( $\gamma = -0.523$ ). In all resin composites except for Gradia Direct opaque, Δrefractive index and Δtranslucency parameter showed an inverse proportional trend.

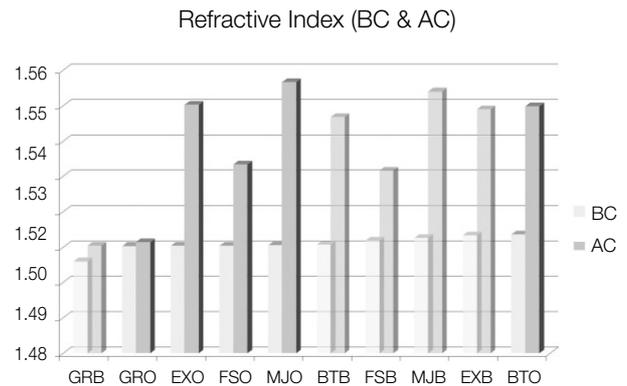


Figure 8. Refractive index before and after curing.

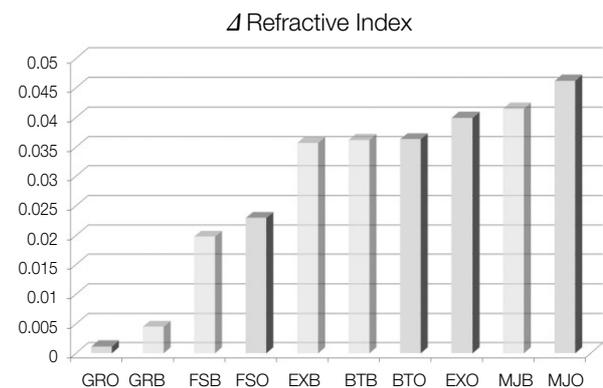
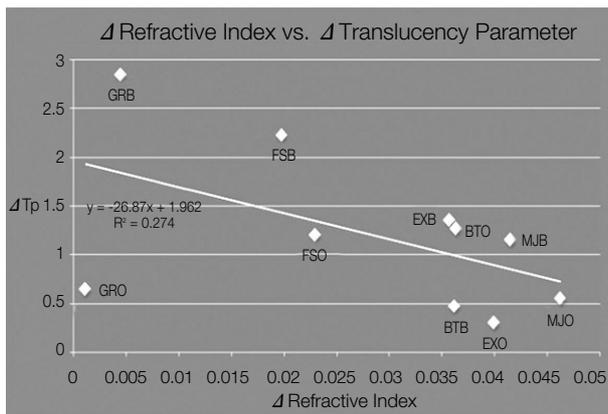


Figure 9. Change of refractive index.



**Figure 10.** Correlation between  $\Delta$ refractive index and  $\Delta$ translucency parameter.

## DISCUSSION

In terms of the  $L^*$ ,  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  changes after light curing, statistical change was indicated, except for the opaque A2 of Esthet X and Filtek supreme in  $a^*$  change. All the products/shades showed a significant decrease in  $b^*$ . The same phenomenon, in terms of a decrease in  $b^*$ , was also reported by Seghi and others.<sup>7</sup> These authors explained that the reason for the color change was due to a decrease in absorption of blue light by degradation of CQ after light curing.<sup>7</sup> Although Johnston and others attached importance to the  $L^*$  as an indicator of color change, the  $b^*$  appeared to reflect color change in this study, which agrees with Seghi and others.<sup>7,20</sup>

As for the color change ( $\Delta E^*$ ) before and after light curing, a significantly smaller  $\Delta E^*$  was observed in Filtek supreme opaque and Esthet-X opaque. However, all the  $\Delta E^*$  except for FSO were above 3.3, which was considered a clinically perceptible color difference.<sup>21</sup> Therefore, direct shade matching using uncured resin paste seemed inadequate for these products. This study has highlighted the fact that, in order to get a precise shade match, direct shade matching of these materials should be performed by using the cured composite.

The inherent translucency of resin composites may contribute to shade matching with a tooth by allowing the shade of the adjacent and underlying tooth structure to shine through. Clinicians have commonly

observed this “chameleon” effect of composite restoration adjacent tooth substrate.<sup>6,22</sup>

However, in situations where there is no tooth structure to provide a backing for the restoration, such as in a large Class III or IV cavities, translucent materials may provide relatively poor color matches.<sup>10,23,24</sup> More specifically, a grayish or bluish shade is often seen in comparison with the surrounding tooth structure, as relatively translucent materials are probably affected by the darkness of the oral cavity. In such situations, opaque shade resin composites have been utilized.

Regarding the opaque shade, larger  $L^*$  and  $b^*$  were observed when compared to the body shade. Hence, the opaque shade may serve to add brightness and yellowish characteristics alongside opacity to a layered resin composite restoration. However, the effect of the underlying opaque shade on the resultant color of a layered restoration remains to be known. Therefore, more detailed studies should be conducted to clarify how the opaque shade affects the color of the layered restorations.

The technique employed in this study generated considerable data to evaluate color and translucency change before and after light curing. One of the advantages of the technique is that the CIELAB parameters on the 2 backings before and after light curing can be obtained from the same specimen in order to make the paired data. As a result, in this study, statistical analysis of color and TP change before and after light curing became possible. Since translucency of resin composite can be influenced by the thickness of specimens, the inherent colors of the resin composites were evaluated by using 4 mm thick specimens. For all the 4 mm thick specimens, their TP values were always below 1.1, regardless of shade. These TP values fall within the imperceptible range by human visual sense.<sup>12,25</sup> Therefore, the colors of the 4 mm thick specimens could be considered as the inherent colors of the resin composites not affected by the background color.

The most used photoinitiator in dental polymers is CQ.<sup>13,18,26-30</sup> CQ is a  $\alpha$ diketone that features a conjugated dicarbonilic group and also good absorption within the visible range of the spectrum, with a peak at the wavelength of 470 nm. CQ is featured as an

intense yellow powder.<sup>16,18,29,31</sup> Its peculiar color is due to its chromophore; it absorbs light in the region of 470 nm, thus, it reflects a resulting shade ranging between yellow and orange. Some photoinitiators break the chromophore after irradiation, losing the yellow color, in a process called photobleaching. However, CQ shows poor photobleaching maintaining the same color after free radical generation. This feature limits the addition of CQ to the composites, since it can turn them excessively yellow, hazarding the final esthetic result.<sup>13,29</sup>

The content of CQ evaluated in this present study, among the resins that use this photoinitiator, varied from 0.046 to 0.113 %p/p. These results are similar to those obtained by Shintani *et al.* who found concentrations of CQ from 0.032 to 0.095 %p/p.<sup>28</sup> These authors evaluated different brands of resin composites, comparing the results between microfilled and conventional filled composite, with no reference to the resin shade used. The same happened in the study performed by Taira *et al.* where only brands were compared, while the shades tested were not quoted.<sup>29</sup> The results found by these latter authors may seem at odds when compared to the others, since the amount of CQ varied from 0.17 to 1.03 %p/p. However, they calculated the amount of CQ related only to the resinous phase. When considering this feature of resins, with on average from 60 to 80% of inorganic filler, the results tend to be similar to those found in the present study and that carried out by Shintani *et al.* (approximately 0.04-0.275 %p/p of CQ).<sup>28</sup>

The CQ contents of body shades are higher than that of opaque shades in all resin composites in this study. The CQ content and  $\Delta E^*$  showed a proportional trend. With the breakdown of CQ, color difference ( $\Delta E^*$ ) is created. So, CQ content is less in opaque shade.

There are many reports about factors that contribute to the opacity of resin composites. Inokoshi and others<sup>6,32</sup> stated that, the greater the difference between the refractive indices of inorganic particles and the matrix phase of resin composites, the greater the opacity of the materials, due to multiple reflection and refraction at the matrix particle interfaces. Campbell *et al.* stated that, in experimental PMMA

resin composites, the efficiency of light scattering for a quartz filler decreased as the size of the filler increased.<sup>6,33</sup> Kawaguchi *et al.* mentioned that certain types of hybrid resin composites could show smaller transmission coefficients because of the wide range of particle size.<sup>24</sup> Johnston and Reisbick insisted that the color and translucency of esthetic restorative materials is determined not only by more macroscopic phenomena, such as matrix and filler composition as well as filler content, but also by relatively minor pigment additions and potentially by all other chemical components of these materials.<sup>20</sup>

In this study, the refractive indices increased in all materials after polymerization.  $\Delta$ Refractive index of Clearfil Majesty is the greatest and that of Gradia Direct is the smallest in body and opaque shade both. In all resin composites except for Gradia Direct opaque,  $\Delta$ refractive index and  $\Delta$ translucency parameter showed an inverse proportional trend.

## CONCLUSION

It is important to be able to predict the amount of change in color and translucency of resin composite before and after curing for the successful restoration. The CQ content and refractive index influence on color and translucency of resin composite.

Resin composites used in this study were A2 body and A2 opaque shade of Esthet-X, Filtek supreme, Gradia Direct, Clearfil Majesty and Beautifil II. Color and translucency changes before and after light curing were evaluated by colorimeter, the CQ was quantified by GC-MS and refractive index changes were measured by spectroscopic ellipsometer. One-way ANOVA, two-way ANOVA, Tukey's post-hoc test and *t*-test were used for statistical analysis. Within the limit of this study, following conclusion can be obtained.

1. When comparing the  $L^*$  and  $b^*$  before and after light curing, significant differences were detected and  $b^*$  showed a significant decrease in all materials. Significant difference was detected in  $\Delta b^*$  between body shades and opaque shades.
2. The  $\Delta E^*$  of body shade was significantly greater compared to that of opaque shade except for the Clearfil Majesty. All the  $\Delta E^*$  except for Filtek

supreme opaque were above 3.3, which was considered a clinically perceptible color difference.

3. Translucency parameter (TP) was significantly increased after curing. The  $\Delta$ TP of body shades are greater than that of opaque shades.
4. CQ content (%p/p) varied between 0.046 - 0.113. The CQ content of body shades are higher than that of opaque shades in all resin composites. The CQ content and  $\Delta E^*$  showed a proportional trend.
5. Refractive index increased after polymerization in all materials and significant difference in  $\Delta$  refractive index was found between body and opaque shade ( $p < 0.05$ ). In all resin composites except for Gradia Direct opaque,  $\Delta$ refractive index and  $\Delta$ translucency parameter showed a inverse proportional trend.

For an accurate shade match, direct shade matching of resin composite should be performed by using the cured material. From the viewpoint of different color and translucency between the products of the same shade, the using of custom shade guides made from the material itself is suggested.

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국문초록

광중합 전후 복합레진의 광학적 특성

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**연구목적:** 복합레진의 광중합 전후에 일어나는 색과 투명도 변화를 측정하고, CQ의 함량을 정량하였으며, 광중합 전후 복합레진의 굴절률을 측정해 이들의 상관 관계를 알아보려고 하였다.

**연구 재료 및 방법:** Esthet-X, Filtek supreme, Gradia Direct, Clearfil Majesty, Beautifil II에 대하여 Colorimeter NF999를 이용하여 광중합 전후의 색과 투명도를 각각 측정하고, GC-MS를 이용해 각 복합레진의 CQ 함량을 측정하였으며, spectroscopic ellipsometer를 이용해 광중합 전후의 굴절률을 측정하였다.

**결과:** 투명도는 광중합 후에 증가하였고, body shade에서 opaque shade보다 투명도 차이가 크게 나타났다. 모든 레진에서 body shade의 CQ 함량이 opaque shade의 CQ 함량보다 높았다. 굴절률은 광중합 후에 모든 레진에서 증가하였으며, body shade와 opaque shade간에 굴절률의 변화는 유의한 차이가 있었다.

**결론:** 광중합 후에는 복합레진의 색과 투명도가 상당한 차이를 나타낸다. 따라서 임상에서 direct shade matching을 시행할 때는 중합된 레진을 사용하여야 한다.

**주요단어:** 굴절률; 복합레진; 색; 투명도; CQ함량