Analysis of submerged implant towards mastication load using 3D finite element method (FEM)

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The surgical procedure of dental implant comprising one stage surgery for the non-submerged implant design and two stages for submerged. Submerged design is frequently used in Faculty of Dentistry Padjadjaran University as it is safer in achieving osseointegration. This study has been carried out to evaluate resistant capacity of an implant component design submerged against failure based on location and the value of internal stress during the application of mastication force using the 3D Finite Element Method (FEM). Methods: The present study used a CBCT radiograph of the mandibular patient and Micro CT Scan of one submerged implant. Radiograph image was then converted into a digital model of 3D computerized finite element, subsequently inputted the material properties and boundary condition with 87 N occlusion load applied and about 29N for the shear force. Results: The maximum stress was found located at the contact area between the implant and alveolar crest with stress value registered up to 193.31 MPa located within an implant body where is understandable that this value is far below allowable strength of titanium alloy of 860 MPa. Conclusion: The location of the maximum stress was located on the contact area between the implant-abutment and alveolar crest. This implant design is acceptable and no failure observed under mastication load.

Keywords: Stress value, submerged implant, mastication load, 3D finite element method

INTRODUCTION

The replacement of the missing tooth with root form implant become one of the most significant improvements in restorative dentistry history. Implant performance and durability are dependently determined by the osseointegration process, which was introduced in 1952 by Branemark saying that the dental implant that was united with the bone (osseointegration) has a high success rate to restore the masticatory and aesthetics function of toothless patients.1-5 Surgical technique of dental implants can be done through one stage surgical procedure (non-submerged) or two stages (submerged). For the submerged implant placement, healing of soft tissue around the implant take place at the same time with osseointegration. The threaded implant portion is inserted as deep as the top of the bone so that the mucoperiosteal flap can be closed over
the buried implant. The second stage was carried out the placement of healing abutment through opening the mucosal tissue. This implant type is commonly used in Faculty of Dentistry Padjadjaran University up today.

Implant and abutment was basically two components that is mix up by a screw, this interface has a gap of about 10 microns, and therefore the failure of the implant therapy frequently occur at the connection between the abutment and the implant due to broken or looseness of the screw. Such failures occur due to an increase of unpredictable loading on the implant, abutment and screw. Stress transfer mechanism and the failure of the osseointegration is influenced by the micro gap control, implant geometry, the surgical process of the implant placement, and the presence of excess load (overloading) on the bone. It is difficult to evaluate clinically, so that needed another methods that can analyze the mechanism of stress transfer and failure of implant components.

Finite Element Methods (FEM) have been widely used to predict the distribution and value of stress in the implant region, investigating the influence of implant design, the magnitude and direction of the load, as well as the mechanical properties of bone. This numerical technique is also being used in analyzing the effectiveness and reliability of implants, implant failure, and implant-bone structure mechanical interaction. Through biomechanical approach, researchers wanted to analyze the to failure (fracture) of submerged implant design based on the location and value of the stress due to mastication loading using 3D FEM.

**METHODS**

Type of this research is an observational descriptive research using 3D FEM. The materials used include: CBCT image of mandible patient that containing embedded osseointegrated implant and the Micro CT scan image of the Osstem® TSIII implant submerged design.

The procedure of this method is described below, as follow: First stage, the preparation of the CBCT photo implant patients and CT scan of the lower jaw of the patient was taken after a CT Scan osseointegrated and body micro implant and abutment of the Osstem® implant submerged design TSIII type. Second stage was geometry modeling of three dimensional, the aim of this stage is to construct images of three-

![Figure 1](image_url)  
**Figure 1.** Model 3D geometry dental components: lower molar alveolar bone; (b) second premolar teeth; (c) second molar teeth; (d) periodontal dental ligament p2; (e) second molar periodontal ligament; (f) first molar dental prosthesis.
dimensional geometry of the lower jaw bone (cortical and trabecular bone), second premolars and second molars, periodontal ligament, body implants, abutments and prostheses. Meanwhile, the modeling of dental components, implant components, and prostheses is done separately.

Third stage: modeling component dental and prosthesa. This stage is to make an images of three-dimensional geometry of the lower jaw bones (bone cortical and trabecular), dental second premolar and second molar, periodontal ligament, and the prosthesis which is done by transforming the picture image of CBCT mandible patient to three-dimensional digital model by using finite element software-DOCTOR® and CATIA V5R19® (Fig. 1). The Implant Component used in this study was TSIII Osstem type (TS3S4011S) brand implants with 11.5 mm height, 4.0 mm platform diameter and 2.8 mm body diameter. Type abutment used is GSRA5620 with outer diameter 4.8 mm, gingival height 2 mm and 5.5 mm head height. Abutment threaded part has an internal thread size, the diameter of the pitch 1.74 mm, 0.4 mm pitch distance and angle screw 60°. Modeling of the implants body and abutments are using CATIA V5R19 software® (Fig. 2).

Apart from above, Merging Solid Model (Model Assembly) components of teeth, dentures, and implant components into a complete three-dimensional geometry model of the jaw submerged implants implanted patients are using CATIA V5R19 software® (Fig. 3). Ultimately, the whole Finite Element Modeling, carried out using ANSYS 17.1 software®. The procedure begins by converting the three-dimensional geometry model that has been done using software CATIA assembly V5R19® software into the ANSYS® 17.1 and then do the meshing (the division of the model into small elements) (Fig. 4).

Fourth stage: Afterward, all material properties for the static analysis of each component (Table 1) as well as determine the boundary conditions (environment) can be done in the form of pedestal types and styles of working. The type of pedestal used is a fixed pedestal which is located on both ends of the lower jaw surface.
Table 1. Data material properties

| Name               | Material                  | Modulus of elasticity (MPa) | Poisson’s ratio | Shear modulus (MPa) |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Prothesis          | Feldspathic Porcelain     | 61200                      | 0.19            |                     |
| Implant body and Abutment | Ti-6Al-4V                | 110,000                    | 0.32            |                     |
| Alveolar bone      | Cortical                 | E Is 12,600 Vxy 0.300 Gxy 4,850 |                 |                     |
|                    |                           | E Is 12,600 Vxy 0.253 Gxy 5,700 |                 |                     |
|                    |                           | E Is 19,400 Vxy 0.253 Gxy 5,700 |                 |                     |
| Alveolar bone      | Trabecular               | E Is 1,148 Vxy 0.055 Gxy 68 |                 |                     |
|                    |                           | E Is 210 Vxy 0.010 Gxy 68  |                 |                     |
|                    |                           | E Is 1,148 Vxy 0.322 Gxy 434 |                 |                     |
| Molar              | Periodontal ligament     | 18,600                      | 0.35            |                     |
| Periodontal ligament | Periodontal ligament     | 50                          | 0.49            |                     |

Kayabasi et al. and Huang et al. 14,15

Table 2. Data number of elements of convergence test results

| Component                          | Number of elements |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Prothesa                           | 108459             |
| Abutment                           | 67794              |
| Implant Agency                     | 34239              |
| Second Premolar                    | 104235             |
| Second Molar                       | 128994             |
| Second Premolar Periodontal Ligament | 61480             |
| Second Molar periodontal ligament  | 207106             |
| Cortical Bone                      | 294155             |
| Trabecular Bones                   | 100192             |

The load simulation applied to the model is a load simulation that is similar to the process of mastication where the load applied to the model consists of an occlusion load and a shear load with 3:1 ratio, which are 87 N and 29 N respectively (Fig. 5).

Fifth stage: The next stage is a convergence test to obtain the number of elements in which a component has a test result leading to a certain value with the smallest error with a 99% confidence level (Table 2).

Sixth stage: Running/solving, this stage is made to exhibit the desired output analysis include: location of maximum stress with color code that is distributed to each component of the model as well as obtaining a maximum stress value that occurs in the component models. From this stage, the researcher are able to interpret and analyze the location as well as the stress values to evaluate the robustness of submerged design implant component toward it failure (fracture) mode due to mastication loading.
RESULTS

This study was carried out to enable further understanding of location and maximum stress value that could possibly occurs in the implant submerged components and periodontal tissue. The results are presented both using qualitative and quantitative analysis. Qualitative analysis has been done by looking at the color pattern where the red color indicates the location of the maximum von-Mises stress that occurs. The location of maximum stress was found located at implant body more particularly at the joining area between implant body and abutment (crest module) with alveolar bone crest (Fig. 6 and 7).

Other than that, the quantitative analysis has been done by evaluating the maximum stress value within the area of implant component. That value is then compared against the strength of the materials to evaluate performance and resistant capacity of an implant component design submerged against failure due to mastication force, exactly at the implant body and abutment. The maximum von-Mises stress of submerged design was found at the implant body with registered stress up to 193.31 MPa, meanwhile in abutment are goes up to 134.62 MPa. Its fully understandable that this maximum value of von-Mises stress in the implant components are far below the yield strength value of titanium alloy (860 MPa).

DISCUSSION

This study has been carried out using 3D FEM, to evaluate resistant capacity of an implant component design submerged against failure due to mastication force by analyzing the value and location of the maximum stress. The location of maximum stress was located in implant body more particularly at the joining area between implant body and abutment joint (crest module) with alveolar bone crest.

The design of the implant components itself will affect location and the value of maximum stress where for the submerged implant design there is no part of implant body that is protruding from alveolar bone crest. Other than that, position of implant neck toward alveolar bone crest was also one of main governing factor that control the stress distribution pattern. Referring to study made by Huang’s\(^\text{15}\) related to stress distribution at 20 type of implant which has different in the mounting position toward alveolar bone crest, the result of the study clearly shows that the stress value for the implant with the implant’s neck above alveolar bone crest has always higher stress compare to one sitting on top of alveolar bone crest.\(^\text{15}\) Ormianer\(^\text{16}\) and Zamani\(^\text{17}\) in their research about stress and strain distribution pattern for implant system 1-piece (non-submerged) and 2-piece (submerged) resulting obtain similar stress concentration distribution for both that is at the area of alveolar bone crest. The reason to that might be due to critical joint between two different component that has different physical properties between bone material and titanium alloy, other than that is because of significant gap between prosthesis crest to the abutment and implant body joint in the submerge design\(^\text{3}\).

Stress concentrations that were located at contact area between crest bone and implant body-abutment joint are due to sudden geometrical changes at the area within crest module and alveolar crest bone. According to Hermann\(^\text{18}\), these changes were influenced by the microgap between alveolar bones with the implant component.

The internal stress value is also determined by the modulus of young (stiffness) of the material. The dental implant was made from the titanium alloy with modulus of young five to six times larger than the cortical bone. The principle technique called composite beam states that when two materials with different elastic modulus are placed together and then one of the materials is stressed, the material with stiffer member will attract more stress, which could lead to the increasing stress at that particular location. This principle is in accordance with the phenomenon that occurs in the interface area between the bone-implant and alveolar bone crest. This phenomenon can be observed through photoelasticity and FEM analysis.\(^\text{19}\)

CONCLUSION

The location of the maximum stress was located on the contact area between the implant-abutment and alveolar crest. This implant design
Computational analysis of submerge design failure for implant component towards mastication load (Widya Hafsyah SR et al.)

is acceptable and no failure observed under mastication load.

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