Anchorage loss in corticotomy assisted tooth movement

P.P Biswas1, Makal Madhav M.P2, Navedha3, Subairuddeen P4, Priyanka Jayaram5

1Professor and HOD, 2-4PG Student, Dept. of Orthodontics & Dental Facial Orthodontics, KUHS, Royal Dental College, Palakkad, Kerala, India

*Corresponding Author: P.P Biswas
Email: makalmadhav@gmail.com

Abstract
In orthodontic treatment, anchorage loss is a potential side effect of fixed mechanotherapy and one of the major causes of unsuccessful results, on the other hand considerable worry to the orthodontist. A major concern to the orthodontic patients is treatment time. Reducing the treatment time requires increasing the rate of orthodontic tooth movement. Orthodontic force induces a cellular response in the periodontal ligament, which brings about bone resorption on the pressure side and bone deposition on the tension side. Tooth movement can be accelerated by either employing certain adjunctive orthodontic procedures or by using advanced mechanotherapy.

Aim: of this study is to compare and evaluate the anchor loss in corticotomy assisted cases and control cases without corticotomy.

Materials and Methods: The study was conducted among 20 patients who were divided into two groups with 10 cases in each group. Group A patients were treated with corticotomy, allograft procedure along with fixed mechanotherapy while group B patients treated with conventional fixed mechanotherapy and was taken as controls and both groups underwent first bicuspid extractions and were treated with 0.022 MBT appliance.

Result: Corticotomy assisted retraction cases had increased anchorage loss but was statistically insignificant compared to conventional method.

Conclusion: Based on the outcome of this study, it is reasonable to conclude that corticotomy-assisted retraction cases had increased anchorage loss, compared to conventional retraction cases but was statistically insignificant, this may be due to a small sample size. Further studies are recommended on corticotomy-assisted retraction anchorage loss.

Keywords: Anchorage loss, Corticotomy, First molar.

Introduction
Orthodontic tooth movement is a multistep biologic process characterized by sequential reactions of periodontal tissue against biomechanical forces. The recruitment of osteoclast and osteoblast progenitor cells, and the balanced activation of these cells around and within the periodontal ligament (PDL) are essential for alveolar bone remodeling. Various cell-signaling pathways are activated, leading to localized bone turnover.1 The rate of orthodontic tooth movement is estimated at 0.8 to 1.2 mm per month when continuous forces are applied to the teeth. It would take almost two years or more to complete treatment. Accelerating orthodontic tooth movement (OTM) and reducing the length of orthodontic treatment may help to reduce not only discomfort but also possible dental and periodontal complications. The various adjunctive orthodontic procedures used to accelerate tooth movement are mechanical or device assisted methods, chemical methods, surgical methods. Mechanical or device assisted stimulation can be induced by laser irradiation, electric, vibrations etc. Chemical method Vitamin D, Prostaglandin, Interleukins and Surgical methods are corticotomy, dental distraction osteogenesis, micro-osteoperforations. Among various procedure one of the popular method is corticotomy with allografts.2

Adult patients who seek orthodontic treatment often desire that their treatment be completed in as short a period as possible. In 1959, Köle introduced a technique called selective alveolar decortications to enable movement of the bone segment. In 2001, Wilcko et al developed a new method of combining corticotomy, alveolar augmentation, and orthodontic treatment. Frost reported that bone remodeling is accelerated and the regional bone density reduced by a noxious stimulus to the bone in a process he termed the Regional acceleratory phenomenon (RAP) which decreases the amount and density of bone around teeth and thereby increases rates of tooth movement. The particulate Corticotomies leads to increased osteoclastic and osteoblastic activity, increased levels of local and systemic inflammation markers in area around cuts that extend to the marrow. Vijayashri Saktbi et al states that increased rate of retraction in corticotomy cases when compared to conventional cases (Reduced treatment time).6,8,9,10

If anchorage loss anticipated well before it can be incorporated into treatment plan to ensure fair results. Orthodontic treatment requiring closure of the extraction space, has side effects such as bone loss, root resorption, gingival recession, root dehiscence, fenestration, caries and white spot lesions can be reduced as treatment time is reduced in corticotomy assisted retraction cases.7 Corticotomy assisted retraction helps in resolving crowding, facilitate eruption of impacted teeth, molar intrusion and open bite correction, mesialisation of molars, correction of mild skeletal cases, facilitate slow orthodontic expansion. Corticotomy assisted retraction is contraindicated patients showing any sign of active periodontal disease, individuals with inadequately treated endodontic problems, patients with systemic disease like diabetes mellitus, bleeding disorders, congenital heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension, under prolonged use of corticosteroids. Purpose of this study was to assess the anchorage loss
anchor molar in corticotomy assisted retraction case and conventional retraction cases.

**Materials and Methods**

This study consists of 20 patients, divided into two groups, group A consisting of 10 patients with first bicuspid extractions treated with corticotomy allograft procedure using MBT mechanics and group B consisting of 10 patients treated with 1st bicuspid extractions using regular 022 MBT mechanics which served as control. Utilizing various cephmometric parameters anchor loss (mesial movement) of the first molar was analyzed.

**Inclusion criteria**

1. Age group of 10 to 25 years.
2. Patients requiring extraction of the 1st bicuspids.

**Exclusion criteria**

1. First molar missing cases were avoided.
2. Periodontally compromised patients.
3. Medically compromised patients and patient under medications systemic for disease like diabetes mellitus, bleeding disorders, congenital heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension.

**Method of data collection**

Pre-treatment and post-treatment standardized lateral cephalograms of 10 patients with first bicuspid extractions treated with corticotomy allograft procedure using MBT mechanics were selected cephalograms of 10 patients treated with 1st bicuspid extractions using regular 022 MBT mechanics with transpalatal arch for anchorage were taken as controls. All patients were selected from the record library of the Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopaedics, Royal dental college. The anchor loss was assessed by measuring the position of anchor molar (1st molar) in pre and post treatment tracings of lateral cephalograms, by using four different methods (Superimposition method, Perpendicular FH to Xi point method, Pancherz method and Pterygoid vertical method).

**Superimposition method**

**Maxillary molar**

Superimposition of pre-treatment and post-treatment lateral cephalometric tracings are done. ANS-PNS plane (palatal plane) registered at ANS (Fig. 1).

**Mandibular molar**

For assessing the mandibular anchor molar movement pre and post tracings are superimposed on the Xi point to Pm plane registred at Pm (Fig. 2).

**Perpendicular FH to Xi point method**

Horizontal anchor molar movement in upper and lower arch would be determined by the distance between the distobuccal cusp of the anchor molar to a perpendicular drawn from FH to Xi point (Fig. 3).

**Pterygoid vertical method**

Horizontal anchor molar movement in upper and lower arches would be measured as the distance from the most distal point on the distal surface of the anchor molar to pterygoid vertical (Fig. 4).

**Pancherz method**

Horizontal anchor molar movement in upper and lower arches would be measured as distance from the most mesial contact point of anchor molar to the Occlusal line perpendicular (OLP), (Fig. 5).

The molar anchorage loss was compared in the corticotomy group and in the conventional group.

**Statistical analysis**

All statistical analyses were performed using SPSS software package (SPSS for Windows XP, version 17.0, Chicago, IL) student t test was used.

**Results**

Rate of anchorage loss in the maxilla and mandible compared to corticotomy group and control group [Table 1 and table 2].

### Table 1

| Maxillary Arch | N  | Mean(mm) | Std.Deviation |
|----------------|----|----------|--------------|
| Superimposition Method | First Bicuspid | 10 | 4.1 | 1.29 |
| Corticotomy       | 10 | 4.95     | 1.17         |
| FH perpendicular  | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.9 | 1.07 |
| Corticotomy       | 10 | 4.5      | 1.51         |
| Pancherz Method   | First Bicuspid | 10 | 4.15| 1.27 |
| Corticotomy       | 10 | 4.25     | 1.48         |
| Pterygoid vertical Method | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.9 | 0.99 |
| Corticotomy       | 10 | 4.1      | 1.29         |

### Table 2

| Mandibular Arch | N  | Mean(mm) | Std. Deviation |
|-----------------|----|----------|---------------|
| Superimposition Method | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.1 | 0.77 |
| Corticotomy     | 10 | 4.45     | 0.86         |
| FH perpendicular | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.1 | 1.02 |
Anchorage loss

Maxilla
Corticotomy group showed increased anchorage loss in all four methods and difference was statistically insignificant compared to control group.

Mandible
Corticotomy group showed increased anchorage loss in all four methods and difference was statistically insignificant except for superimposition method compared to control group superimposition method p value 0.002(p value<0.005) was significant.

Anchor loss

Maxilla
Average molar anchor loss of approximately 4.5 mm occurred in the study group, and 4.1 mm occurred in the control group.

Mandible
Average molar anchor loss of approximately 4.0 mm occurred in the study group, and 3.2 mm occurred in the control group.

| Method                  | Corticotomy | 10 | 3.6   | 0.99 |
|-------------------------|-------------|----|-------|------|
| Pancherz                | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.3   | 0.92 |
| Method                  | Corticotomy | 10 | 4     | 1.15 |
| Pterygoid vertical      | First Bicuspid | 10 | 3.15  | 0.97 |
| Method                  | Corticotomy | 10 | 4     | 1.25 |

Fig. 1: Superimposition method Maxillary arch

Fig. 2: Superimposition method Mandibular arch

Fig. 3: Perpendicular FH to Xi point method

Fig. 4: Pterygoid vertical method

Fig. 5: Pancherz method
Discussion
In orthodontics the common treatment, approach usually consists of extraction of four first bicuspids for maximum anchorage cases. Corticotomy is an effective and safe procedure to accelerate orthodontic tooth movement. Additionally, to other procedures for accelerated tooth movement, corticotomy is the most commonly used approach. There is sufficient evidence in the literature by Wilcko et al and many others suggesting that the corticotomy procedure shortens the conventional orthodontic treatment time, and it has been claimed that teeth can be moved two to three times faster.\textsuperscript{6-10} Thus, to take advantage of the maximum regional acceleratory phenomenon on which an average exists for four months,\textsuperscript{6,8} delayed extraction of the first bicuspids just before retraction would be advantageous in accelerating tooth movement in protrusion cases. This protocol has been used effectively to enhance the en-masse retraction of the anterior segment compared with the conventional en-masse retraction in bimaxillary protrusion patients. The teeth were retracted with stainless steel wire (0.019” \times 0.025”) to minimize torque loss and to bring about bodily movements during retraction. The posterior segment (second premolar, first and second molar) was not decoricated to enable them to serve as an anchorage unit.

Molar anchor loss has not been documented convincingly in the literature for corticotomy assisted retraction. Therefore, our study aimed to evaluate the molar anchor loss that occurred in the study group and control group.

Conventional corticotomy\textsuperscript{6} both buccal and lingual plates are perforated in surgical procedure of corticotomy as was the case in this study. Michele Cassetta et al\textsuperscript{11} perforated only the buccal and labial cortical plate situating advantages like and to avoiding the lingual surface reduce operation time and postoperative patient discomfort. It also avoid the risk of damaging vital lingual structures. Microosteoperforation is carried out without flap elevation but it uses a special instrument Profel for Micro-osteo-perforation.\textsuperscript{12}

Anchor loss was assessed with the help of lateral cephalogram taken pretreatment and post treatment anchorage loss was measured using four different methods Superimposition method, Perpendicular FH to Xi point method, Pterygoid vertical method, pancherz method. An increased anchorage loss was present in the corticotomy group compared to the control group, an average of 4.5 mm in the maxilla and 4.0 mm in the mandible for corticotomy group and an average of 4.1mm in the maxilla and 3.2 mm in the mandible in the control group. The probable reason for increased anchorage loss in corticotomy cases would be that activation was done in every two weeks whereas in control group activation was done in six weeks of time. A study by Vijayashri Sakthi et al\textsuperscript{12} is also in agreement with the present study suggesting the occurrence of anchor loss with corticotomy. Most studies have micro implant assisted anchorage for anterior retraction and thus anchorloss comparsion would not be justified.

Summary and Conclusion
Based on the outcome of this study, it is reasonable to conclude that corticotomy-assisted retraction cases had increased anchorage loss, compared to conventional retraction cases but was stastically insignificant, this may be due to a small sample size. Further studies are recommended on corticotomy-assisted retraction anchorage loss.

Source of Funding
None.

Conflict of Interest
None.

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