

5 **A Comparative Evaluation between the efficacy of Scaling & Root Planing**
6 **(SRP) with Local Delivery of Chlorhexidine Gluconate and SRP alone in**
7 **Periodontal Pocket Reduction Therapy.**

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11 **ABSTRACT:**

12 **Aim:** The aim of the present study was to compare the efficacy of locally delivered
13 chlorhexidine as an adjunct to scaling and root planning (SRP) & SRP alone in bringing
14 reduction of pocket depth in the treatment of moderate to severe periodontitis patients.

15 **Materials and Methods:** A total number of 15 patients both males and females in the age group
16 of 30-55 years were selected with total number of 30 sites with periodontal probing pocket depth
17 measuring 5-8mm in different quadrant of the mouth. A randomized, double blind, controlled
18 clinical trial design was followed for the study. On one side scaling and root planning was done
19 and on the other side scaling and root planning was done along with local delivery of
20 chlorhexidine gluconate then the patient was examined after 0, 45, and 60 days using The
21 clinical parameters the Plaque Index (PI), gingival index (GI), Bleeding on probing (BOP),
22 Clinical attachment level (CAL) and Probing pocket depth (PPD).

23 **Statistical Analysis:** Student paired T-test has been carried out for this present study.

24 **Results:** The mean reduction of Plaque Index score between 0-45 day between control site and
25 test site was 1.58 ± 0.11 and the mean reduction of Plaque Index score between 0-60 day between
26 control site and test site was 2.42 ± 0.34 which is found not significant. At the Control site the

27 mean plaque index score on 0 day was 2.2, on 45th day was 1.88 and on 60th day was 1.82. At the
28 test site the mean plaque index score on 0 day was 2.6, on 45th day was 1.82 and on 60th day was
29 1.59. There was change from the base line values of mean plaque index between the control sites
30 and test sites but was not significant.

31 **Conclusion:** There was improvement in all the clinical parameters of the test sites in comparison
32 to the control sites from base line to 60 days, but the adjunctive use of chlorhexidine showed a
33 significant improvement only on the clinical attachment level.

34 **Keyword:** Periodontitis, Gingiva, Periodontal Disease

36 INTRODUCTION:

37 Successful periodontal treatment depends upon marked reduction or elimination of pathogenic
38 micro-organisms in sub gingival sites. Destructive periodontal disease is associated with a
39 variety of microbial species, including the major pathogens *Actinobacillus*
40 *actinomycetemcomitans*, *Porphyromonas gingivalis* and *Bacteriodes forsythus* , and some
41 putative pathogens including *Dialister pneumoniae* , *Prevotella intermedia*, *Campylobacter*
42 *rectus* , *Fusobacterium nucleatum*, and various gram-negative enteric rods, pseudomonas ,
43 enterococci, staphylococci and yeasts. Efficacy of periodontal treatment may be assessed by its
44 ability to control these micro-organisms. Mechanical root debridement, to remove dental
45 calculus is important in periodontal therapy but is frequently inadequate in curing severe
46 periodontal infections.¹

47 Rolla, Loe and Rindom Schiott in 1970² had suggested that chlorhexidine, in addition to its
48 antibacterial effect react specifically with organic and inorganic components in and on the
49 surface of the tooth thereby enhancing the topical use of the antibacterial agent.

50 It had been clearly shown that the bacterial flora of the gingival crevice is important in the
51 etiology of periodontal disease (Loe, Theilade & Jensen 1965, Socransky 1977, Slots 1979)^{3, 4, 5}
52 and thus the treatment of the disease is directed to control this flora. The most widely used
53 approach till date has been mechanical methods of cleaning the oral cavity. Antibacterial agents
54 such as chlorhexidine and quaternary ammonium salts in the form of mouth rinses have proved

55 to be successful in prevention of disease. Goodson et al 1979⁶, proposed the use of a device that
56 could be placed within the pockets which would provide a sustained release of antibacterial
57 agents to control the pocket flora.

58 Systemic antibiotics, on the other hand, necessitate the administration of massive doses in order
59 to achieve adequate concentration at the site of infection, and they come with the risk of bacterial
60 tolerance, drug interactions, and inconsistent patient compliance (Purucker, et al in 2001)⁷, one
61 of the most effective topical agents reported till date may be chlorhexidine , which have long
62 been used as an effective antimicrobial therapy for the treatment of gingivitis , however it is
63 generally poorly effective in the treatment of periodontitis. **Probably due to its failure to achieve**
64 **proper biologically meaningful drug concentrations over a long period of time within the**
65 **periodontal pockets.**⁸

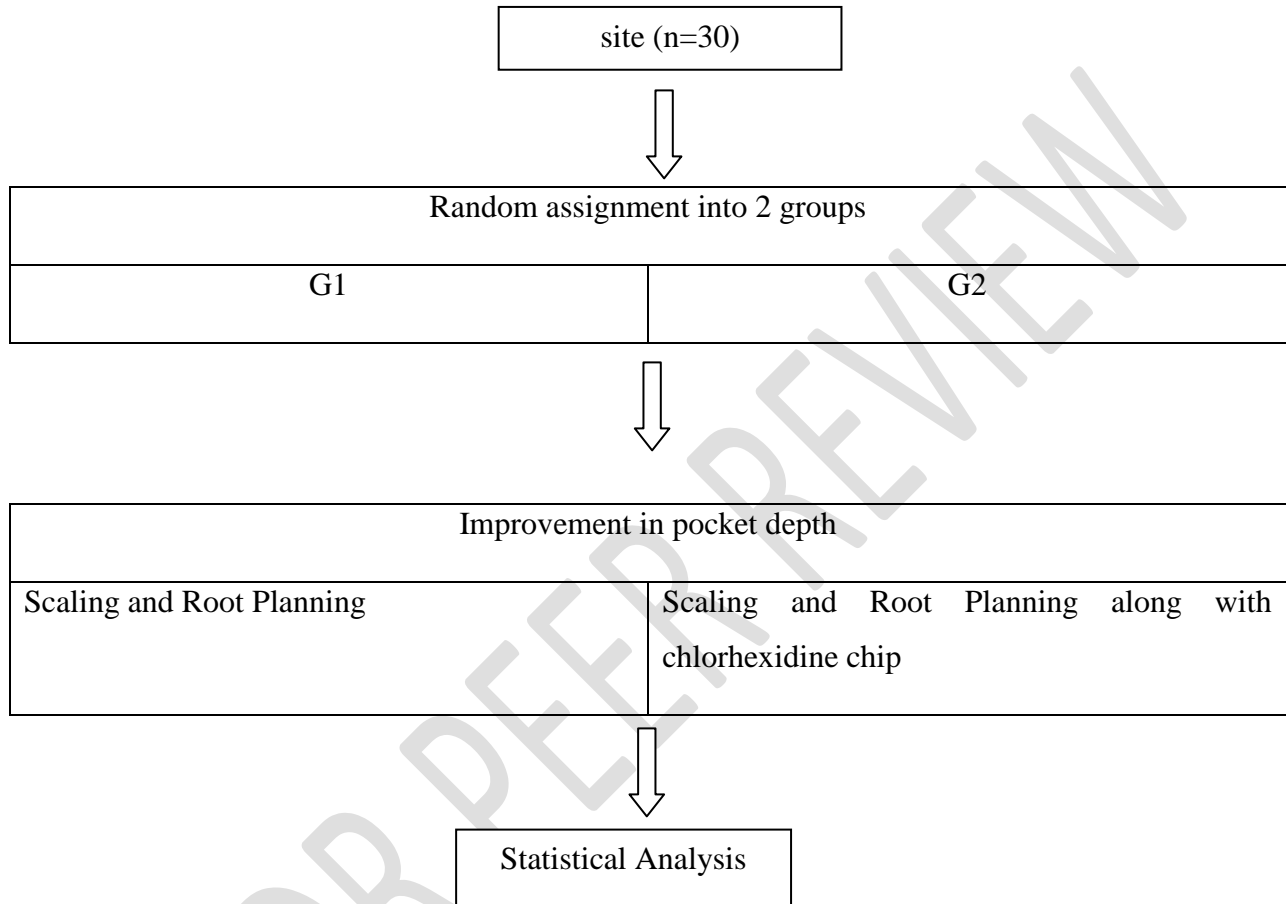
66 A biodegradable chip for the controlled delivery of chlorhexidine directly to the periodontal
67 pocket had been developed by Aubrey Soskolne et al in 1997⁹. In its present formulation the chip
68 biodegrades and release chlorhexidine within the pocket for over 7 to 10 days, maintaining an
69 average concentration of chlorhexidine in the gingival crevicular fluid, greater than 125ug/ml for
70 8 days (Azmak et al 2002)¹⁰. **A previous report has** indicated that, at a concentration of 125ug/ml
71 chlorhexidine, the mean percentage of sub gingival bacteria inhibited in vitro was 99%. Because
72 it is biodegradable, the chlorhexidine chip need not be removed. Reports conducted with a
73 prototype , non-biodegradable chlorhexidine controlled-release local delivery system have
74 indicated that the adjunctive use of chlorhexidine administered in this fashion is effective in
75 reducing probing depth , clinical attachment levels, and bleeding on probing compared with
76 scaling and root planning alone in patients for as long as 2 years (Soskolne et al 2003)¹¹.
77 Additionally, the sub gingival bacterial flora were markedly suppressed, effect of which were
78 evident up to 11 weeks after administration. The chlorhexidine chip was also found (Soskone et
79 al 1997)⁹ to be similarly effective as an adjunct to scaling and root planning in large, multi-center
80 clinical trials conducted in Europe and Israel.

81 **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

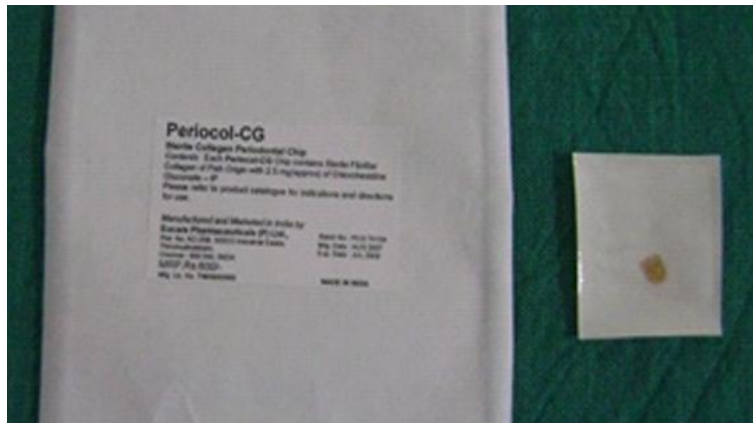
82 The aim of the present study was to compare the efficacy of locally delivered chlorhexidine as an
83 adjunct to scaling and root planning alone in bringing reduction of pocket depth.

84 The objective of the study was to reduce surgical intervention in treatment of periodontal pocket
85 and to use locally available material so as to reduce the financial burden on the patient and
86 thereby making cost effective management.

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102 **Fig 1- A (Periocol - CG)**



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104 **Fig. 1 – B (placement of chlorhexidine chip “Periocol - CG” in gingival sulcus as controlled**
105 **release method for chlorhexidine gluconate)**



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115 **MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

116 **Materials:**

- 117 1. Periocol-CG containing chlorhexidine gluconate and collagen.
- 118 2. 15 (8 males and 7 females) patients of age 30-55 years with adult periodontitis having
119 pocket depth of 5-8mm.
- 120 3. Sterile curettes.
- 121 4. Periodontal probe.
- 122 5. Scaling and root planning instruments.

123

124 **Methods:**

125 This Randomised Control Trial study was conducted in Department of Periodontology, Kalinga
126 Institute of Dental Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Ethical approval was obtained from institutional
127 review board of the Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences.

128 Adults in between age group 30-55 years, patient having periodonitis with a pocket dept of 5-
129 8mm. Subjects willing to participate in the study and who will be present during the study were
130 included. Subjects with systemic disease, and subjects with uncontrolled systemic diseases and
131 are not willing to participate in study were excluded.

132 A total number of 15 patients both males and females in the age group of 30-55 years who were
133 eligible for the study were selected randomly from the outpatient department of Periodontics and
134 Oral Implantology. A total number of 30 sites from 15 patients with periodontal pocket
135 measuring 5-8mm in different quadrant of the mouth were selected.

136 A randomized, double blind, controlled clinical trial design was followed for the study. The
137 patient was checked before prophylactic measure for any probing depth, bleeding on probing and
138 clinical attachment level. On one side scaling and root planing was done and on the other side
139 scaling and root planing will be performed and Periocol-cg was placed in the pocket with the

140 help of a tweezer. Then the patient was examined after 0, 45, and 60 days respectively. (Fig. no.
141 1 A & 1 B)

142 Parameters checked:

- 143 1. Plaque index.
- 144 2. Gingival index.
- 145 3. Sulcular bleeding index.
- 146 4. Probing pocket depth.
- 147 5. Clinical attachment level.

148 Plaque index (Sillness & Loe 1967) and Gingival index (Loe & Sillness 1967)¹² were recorded
149 as follows.

150 Soft tissue parameters:

151 Soft tissue changes were evaluated by measuring probing attachment level, reduction in probing
152 pocket depth and gingival recession. The measurements were taken using Williams periodontal
153 probe (marking at 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10)

154 Following measurements were recorded

- 155 1. RP (reference point) to GM (Gingival margin)
- 156 2. RP (reference point) to CEJ (cemento-enamel junction)
- 157 3. RP (reference point) to BOP (Base of pocket)

158 Pocket depth was recorded pre-operative by noting the difference between measurements
159 from the reference point to the base¹³.

160
$$PD \text{ (pocket depth)} = RP \text{ to BOP} - RP \text{ to GM}$$

161 Probing attachment level was calculated by subtracting the distance between reference
162 point to cemento-enamel junction and from distance between reference points to base of the
163 pocket.

164 PAL= RP to BOP- RP to CEJ

165

166 Patient preparation:

167 The patient was made to sit comfortably on the dental chair and pocket depth was measured with
168 help of probe and stent. The tooth of two sites with pocket depth of 5mm or more were selected.
169 Then scaling and root planing on both the sites was done. Then site for insertion of chlorhexidine
170 chip was selected randomly. Gingival retraction cord was used retract the gingival sulcus &to
171 mount the chip, which was then sealed with cyanoacrylate. This site was named as “test site”
172 and the site without chip was named as “control site”.

173 Clinical Parameters:

174 All clinical parameters which were Plaque Index, Gingival Index, Sulcular Bleeding Index,
175 Clinical Attachment Level and Pocket Depth were recorded on 0 day then on 45th days and
176 finally on 60th day for statistical analysis.

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179 **STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:**

180 The values for all the recorded Clinical parameters were assessed and analyzed by using the
181 following statistical test and formulae. Student paired t-test was employed to test the significance
182 of mean changes at different time intervals within the group.

183 **RESULTS:**

184 This clinical study evaluates the efficacy of chlorhexidine chip as an adjunct to Scaling and root
185 planing in the treatment of pocket depth of 5mm or more. Total number of patients evaluated
186 were 15; control site and test site were evaluated at 0 days then on 45th day and finally on 60th day.
187 In the control site only scaling and root planing was done and on test site scaling and root
188 planing with chlorhexidine chip insertion was done. All 30 sites treated appeared to be free from
189 clinically detectable inflammation in 45th and 60th day after treatment, indicating that the

190 materials used were well tolerated. After 45days and 60days all measurements was taken and
 191 results were evaluated by using Student-paired t-test.

192 The mean reduction of Plaque Index score between 0-45 days between control site and test site
 193 was 1.58±0.11 and the mean reduction of Plaque Index score between 0-60 days between control
 194 site and test site was 2.42±0.34 which is found not significant. At the Control site the mean
 195 plaque index score on the 0,45th and 60th day were 2.2, 1.88 and 1.82 respectively. At the Test
 196 site the mean plaque index score on 0,45th and 60th were 2.6, 1.82 and 1.59 respectively. There
 197 was change from the base line values of mean plaque index between the control sites and test
 198 sites but was not significant; however there was a minor change when chlorhexidine chip was
 199 used as an adjunct to scaling and root planing alone. (Table-1)

200

201 **Table 1:-** Comparison of mean plaque index scores and percentage changes within control site
 202 and test site at different time points

Time	Control site				Test site			
	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	significance
0 Day	2.2 ± 0.30				2.5			
45 th Day	1.8 ± 0.46	0.4	18.1%	2.25	1.8 ± 0.2	0.7	28%	7.56
60 th Day	1.8 ± 0.7	0.4	18.1%	1.97	1.6 ± 0.35	0.9	36%	6.4

203 *Student paired t-test*

204 The mean reduction of Gingival Index score between 0-45 days between control site and test site
 205 was 3.24±0.1 and the mean reduction of Gingival Index score between 0-60 days between

206 control site and test site was 5.24 ± 0.11 which is found not significant. There was change in base
 207 line values of mean gingival index between control sites and test sites but was not significant.
 208 This signifies that there is a minor change when chlorhexidine chip was used as an adjunct to
 209 scaling and root planning alone. (Table-2)

210 **Table 2:-**Comparison of mean gingival index scores and percentage changes within site, control
 211 site and test site at different time points

Time	Control site				Test site			
	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significan ce	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	significan ce
0 Day	2.0				2.3			
45 th Day	1.85 ± 0.35	0.15	7.5	4.35	1.75 ± 0.31	0.55	23	5.69
60 th Day	1.71 ± 0.39	0.29	12.5	4.88	1.6 ± 0.41	0.7	30	7.7

212 *Student paired t-test*

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214 The mean reduction of Sulcular Bleeding Index score between 0-45 day between control site and
 215 test site was 2.84 ± 0.19 and the mean reduction of Sulcular Bleeding Index score between 0-60
 216 day between control site and test site was 3.24 ± 0.3 which was not statistically significant. These
 217 values show that there was change in the base line values of mean sulcular bleeding index
 218 between control sites and test sites; however there was only little significant change in the t-
 219 value test. This signifies that there is a minor change when chlorhexidine chip was used as an
 220 adjunct to scaling and root planing alone. (Table-3)

221

222 **Table 3:-** Comparison of mean sulcular bleeding index scores and percentage changes within
 223 site, control site and test site at different time points

224

	Control site				Test site			
Time	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance
0 Day	3.7				3.9			
45 th Day	2.93 ± 0.5	0.77	20.8	5.2	2.78 ± 0.6	1.1	28.2	5.76
60 th Day	2.92 ± 0.48	0.78	21.0	6.48	2.3 ± 0.9	1.6	41.0	4.4

225 *Student paired t-test*

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227 The mean reduction of Periodontal pocket depth score between 0-45 day between control site
 228 and test site was 2.55±0.19 and the mean reduction of Periodontal pocket depth score between 0-
 229 60 day between control site and test site was 3.6±0.19 which **was not statistically significant.**

230 There was change from the base line values of mean probing depth between control site and test
 231 site; however there was no significant change in the t-value test. This signifies that there is a
 232 minor change when chlorhexidine chip was used as an adjunct to scaling and root planning
 233 alone. (Table-4)

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237 **Table 4:-**Comparison of mean periodontal pocket depth scores and percentage changes within
 238 site, control site and test site at different time points and its significance.

Time	Control site				Test site			
	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance
0 Day	5.8				5.8			
45 th Day	5.18 ± 0.64	0.62	10.7	4.54	5.05 ± 0.6	0.75	12.9	5.1
60 th Day	4.97 ± 0.51	1.03	17.7	6.5	4.77 ± 0.68	1.13	19.4	5.6

239

240 *Student paired t-test*

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242 The mean reduction of Clinical attachment level score between 0-45 day between control site
 243 and test site was 3.06±0.2 and the mean reduction of Clinical attachment level score between 0-
 244 60 day between control site and test site was 4.95±0.24 which **was not statistically significant.**

245 There was change from the base line values of mean clinical attachment levels between control
 246 site and test site and there was slightly significant change in the t-value test. This signifies that
 247 there was a minor change when chlorhexidine chip was used as an adjunct to scaling and root
 248 planning alone. (Table-5)

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250 **Table 5:-**Comparison of mean clinical attachment level scores and percentage changes within
 251 site, control site and test site at different time points and its significance.

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Time	Control site				Test site			
	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance	Mean ± SD	Changes From Baseline	% change	Significance
0 Day	7.4				7.4			
45 th Day	7.17 ± 0.65	0.23	3.1	4.25	7.0 ± 0.65	0.4	5.4	4.7
60 th Day	6.49 ± 0.5	0.91	12.3	4.8	6.2 ± 1.1	1.2	16.2	2.8

253 *Student paired t-test*

254

255 **DISCUSSION:**

256 Over the last two to three decades, periodontal research has brought dramatic changes in the
257 understanding of periodontitis.¹⁴

258 After the establishment of a causal link between bacterial plaque accumulation and inflammatory
259 changes in the marginal periodontium (Loe et al 1965)³, several links of evidence gained
260 between the late 70s and early 90s have led to the establishment of the bacterial etiology of
261 periodontitis.¹⁵ Many investigations have assessed the possibility of using anti-microbial as a
262 therapy for periodontal infections. As evidence for the infectious etiology of periodontitis was
263 emerging, profound changes were happening in the pharmaceutical technology to optimize
264 delivery of drugs at their sites of action.¹⁶ Significant decrease in bleeding on probing and in
265 probing pocket depth, and increase in probing attachment levels, has been reported on controlled
266 clinical trials.¹⁷

267 Based on these findings the present study was done. Chlorhexidine gluconate is an antimicrobial
268 agent and is active against a broad spectrum of microbes.¹⁸ The chlorhexidine molecule, due to
269 its positive charges, react with microbial cell surface, destroys the integrity of the cell

270 membrane, penetrates into the cell, precipitate the cytoplasm leading to cell death.. This
271 consequently leads to improvement of gingival and periodontal health.¹⁹ PERIOCOL-CG is a
272 small, orange-brown rectangular chip form rounded at one end for easy insertion into periodontal
273 pockets. Each Periocol-CG contains approximately 2.5mg of chlorhexidine gluconate in a
274 biodegradable matrix of Type 1 collagen derived from fish sources.²⁰ It is Gamma sterilized and
275 supplied in individual aluminum blister packing. Periocol-CG releases chlorhexidine in vitro
276 with a release profile of approximately 40-45% within 24 hours and thereon in a linear fashion
277 for 7-8 days. The release profile may be explained as initial burst effect, due to diffusion of the
278 drug from the chip followed by release of the drug due to enzymatic degradation.²¹

279 In the control site the mean difference of Plaque Index between 0-45 days was 0.4 ± 0.46 with a
280 18.1% percentage of reduction and between 0-60 days was 0.4 ± 0.7 with a percentage of
281 reduction of 18.1% both of which was not significant. In the test site the mean difference of
282 Plaque Index between 0-45 days was 0.7 ± 0.2 with 28% percentage of reduction and between 0-
283 60 days was 0.9 ± 0.35 with a percentage of reduction of 36% both of which was not
284 significant. This was in accordance with the findings of Soskolne W.A et al (1997)⁹ whom in a
285 clinical study evaluated the efficacy of a subgingival delivery system containing 2.5 mg
286 chlorhexidine in a randomized, blind multicenter study of 118 patients with moderate
287 periodontitis. A split mouth design was used to compare a treatment outcome of scaling and root
288 planning alone or with the combined use of SRP and chlorhexidine in pocket with probing depth
289 of 5-8 mm.

290 Ayala Stabholz et al (1991)²² also had found that the mean plaque index at the site receiving
291 chlorhexidine treatment showed no significant difference from that at sites receiving regular
292 maintenance therapy at the commencement of the study (0.35 ± 0.09 and 0.54 ± 0.20 respectively).
293 There was a distinct increase in the plaque index during the first 3 to 6 months following both
294 treatments, after which it levels out until the end of the study. There are no significant
295 differences in the change in plaque index from baseline between the 2 treatment groups at any of
296 the examination periods.

297 Majorie K. Jet al 1998²³ in their study had also found that the mean plaque index was about 1.2 at
298 baseline and was reduced 0.01 to 0.17 from baseline during the study and was not significant.
299 The reason for this absence of significant reduction in plaque index level may be due to the

300 presence of the cyanoacrylate dressing given in the test site which might have hindered thorough
301 mechanical plaque control measures by the patients.

302 The mean difference of Gingival Index in the control site between 0-45 days was 0.15 ± 0.35 with
303 a percentage of reduction of 7.5 percent and between 0-60 days was 0.29 ± 0.39 with a percentage
304 of reduction of 12.5% both of which was not significant.

305 At the test site between 0-45 day was 0.55 ± 0.31 with a percentage of reduction of 23% and
306 between 0-60 days was 0.7 ± 0.41 with 30% percentage of reduction both of which was not
307 significant. Majorie K.J et al 1998²³ in their study had also found that there were no clinically
308 significant changes in the gingival index. At baseline, the mean gingival index ranged from 1.50-
309 1.57; reduction from baseline for the duration of the study ranged from 0.22-0.33 which was not
310 clinically significant.

311 The reason for the absence of significant reduction in the mean gingival index may be attributed
312 to the fact that the presence of cyanoacrylate dressing given in the test site might have hindered
313 thorough mechanical plaque control measures by the patients.

314 The mean difference of Sulcular Bleeding Index in the control site between 0-45 days was
315 0.77 ± 0.5 and the percentage of reduction was 20.8% and the mean difference of Sulcular
316 Bleeding Index between 0-60 days was 0.78 ± 0.48 and the percentage of reduction was 6.48%
317 which was not significant. The mean difference of Sulcular Bleeding Index in the test sites
318 between 0-45 days was 1.1 ± 0.6 and the percentage of reduction was 28.2% and the mean
319 difference of Sulcular Bleeding Index between 0-60 days was 1.6 ± 0.9 and the percentage of
320 reduction was 41.0% which was not statistically significant.²⁴

321 The results of our study is in agreement with the findings of Majorie K.J et al 1998²³ who had
322 reported a slight trend for reduction of bleeding on probing in the chlorhexidine chip plus scaling
323 and root planning treatment group compared with the 2 control groups. Sulcular bleeding index
324 during the study at baseline was 0.51 to 0.59, and changes during the study ranged from 0.18 to
325 0.07 which was not significant.

326 In the control site the mean difference of Periodontal Pocket Depth between 0-45 days was
327 0.62 ± 0.64 and the percentage of reduction was 10.7% and between 0-60 days was 1.03 ± 0.51
328 with a percentage of reduction of 17.7% which was not significant. The mean difference of

329 Periodontal Pocket Depth in the test group between 0-45 days was 0.75 ± 0.6 and the percentage
330 of reduction was 12.9% and between 0-60 days was 1.13 ± 0.68 and the percentage of reduction
331 was 19.4% which was not statistically significant.²⁴

332 The results of our study is in agreement with that of Wilson T.G. et al(1999)²⁵ who had found
333 significant reduction in probing pocket depth and a gain in clinical attachment level after a study
334 period of 6 months. However, follow up study on the same subjects after a period of 5 years
335 showed a loss of clinical attachment level and increase in probing pocket depth, showing that the
336 significant results obtained initially was transient.

337 Killoy W.J. et al (1998)²⁶ comparing scaling and root planing and chlorhexidine chip in
338 periodontal pocket of 5mm or more found a significant improvement in probing pocket depth at
339 1,3,and 6 months and clinical attachment levels at 6 months.

340 The mean difference of Clinical Attachment Level in the control site between 0-45 days was
341 0.23 ± 0.65 and the percentage of reduction was 3.1% and between 0-60 days was 0.91 ± 0.5 and
342 the percentage of reduction was 12.3% which was not statistically significant. The mean
343 difference of Clinical Attachment Level in the test site between 0-45 days was 0.4 ± 0.65 and the
344 percentage of reduction was 5.4% and between 0-60 days was 1.2 ± 1.1 and the percentage of
345 reduction was 16.2% which was slightly significant.

346 The results of our study is in accordance to the results of that of Wilson T.G. et al(1997)²³ who
347 had found significant reduction in probing pocket depth and a gain in clinical attachment level
348 after a study period of 6 months.

349 W A Soskolne et al (1997)⁹ had also shown that the improvement in the clinical attachment level
350 obtained with chlorhexidine was greater than that obtained by SRP alone at three months.

351 Killoy W.J. and Polson A.M. (1998)²⁶ comparing scaling and root planing and chlorhexidine
352 chip in periodontal pocket of 5mm or more found a significant improvement in probing pocket
353 depth at 1,3,and 6 months and clinical attachment levels at 6 months.

354 In the present study there were significant differences from 0 to 45th and 0 to 60th day in all the
355 clinical parameters in control site and test site but no significant difference between the two
356 treatment sites were found regardless of whether combined antimicrobial mechanical therapy

357 was performed, except for clinical attachment level which showed slightly significant difference
358 from 0-day to 60th day.

359 The above findings of the study show that the use of chlorhexidine chip along with scaling and
360 root planning does not offer any significant advantage over scaling and root planning alone,
361 excepting for a marginal benefit of resolution of gingival inflammation and clinical attachment
362 level. This emphasizes the importance of mechanical therapy in the form of subgingival
363 debridement and root planing.^{27,28}

364 However, the limitation of this study should be borne in mind and further studies with an
365 increased number of sites and a longer follow up period should throw more light on the effect of
366 locally delivered chlorhexidine chip in the treatment of periodontitis.²⁹

367

368 **CONCLUSION:**

369 The present study was undertaken to compare the adjunctive use of efficacy of chlorhexidine to
370 scaling and root planing, and to compare it with scaling and root planing alone in the treatment
371 of chronic periodontitis. The clinical parameters used were Plaque Index, Gingival Index,
372 Sulcular Bleeding Index Probing pocket depth and clinical attachment level. There was
373 difference in plaque index, gingival index, and sulcular bleeding index in both test site and
374 control site at different time points, from baseline to 45 days and baseline to 60 days. As evident
375 from the present study it can be concluded that there was improvement in all the clinical
376 parameters of the test sites in comparison to the control sites from base line to 60 days, but the
377 adjunctive use of chlorhexidine chip showed a significant improvement only on the clinical
378 attachment level.

379 Further long term studies are recommended to evaluate the adjunctive use of chlorhexidine and
380 also to compare it with other local drug delivery systems.

381 **COMPETING INTERESTS DISCLAIMER:**

382

383 Authors have declared that no competing interests exist. The products used for this research
384 are commonly and predominantly use products in our area of research and country. There is
385 absolutely no conflict of interest between the authors and producers of the products because we
386 do not intend to use these products as an avenue for any litigation but for the advancement of

387 knowledge. Also, the research was not funded by the producing company rather it was funded
388 by personal efforts of the authors.
389

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