



Comparison of Two Different Mini-Implant Position in Maxillary Incisors Intrusion (Cone Beam Study)

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KEYWORDS

Mini-implant, CBCT,
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3-D Measurement

ABSTRACT

Aim: To compare, through cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), the root resorption of two different mini-implant-assisted modalities in intruding the maxillary incisors. **Subjects and Methods:** The present study composed of 26 patients (males, females) aged between 12-18 years who had deep bite and need maxillary incisors intrusion. They were randomly selected and divided into two group: anterior mini-implant group (AMG) and posterior mini-implant group (PMG). In the AMG, approximately 40 g of force was applied per side with elastic chains and in the PMG, with beta-titanium wires with modification of three pieces intrusive arch. This study was conducted on cone beam computed tomography scans taken before intrusion and after 18 weeks of intrusion. **Results:** The incisors showed a significant reduction in length, this amount was greater in AMG than PMG. **Conclusion:** Posterior mini-implants assisted maxillary incisors intrusion show less root resorption than anterior mini-implant assisted maxillary incisor intrusion.

INTRODUCTION

Deep bites can affect a person's esthetic appearance and smile. Anterior deep bites caused by overeruption of the maxillary incisors can be determined by using lateral cephalometric radiographs. If the lower lip covers more than 4 mm of the maxillary central incisors on a patient's lateral Cephalometric radiographs, it is the result of maxillary incisor overeruption.⁽¹⁾

Orthodontic treatment often includes the correction of a deep overbite.^(2,3) depending on the diagnosis and treatment objectives, deep overbites can be corrected by intruding the maxillary or mandibular incisors, extruding the buccal segments, or a combination of these.

In recent years, the integration of mini-implants into intrusion mechanics has been proposed as an alternative technique to conventional mechanics, which have side effects on anchorage segments such as

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narrowing of the buccal segment^(3,4) and elongation and distal tipping of the posterior teeth.^(5,6)

In published incisor intrusion studies, the mini-implants are located in the anterior region between the central incisors,^(7,8) the central and lateral incisors,⁽⁹⁾ or the laterals and canines.^(5,6,10,11) Though the effectiveness of anteriorly placed mini-implant-assisted intrusion mechanics have been investigated thoroughly, the information on root resorption of the incisors is limited, and no data has been published about incisor intrusion supported by posterior mini-implants.

Researchers have observed severe resorptive root damage from intrusive movements.⁽¹²⁻¹⁴⁾ Hence, a precise and unequivocal diagnostic method of imaging is needed to both prevent and monitor resorption, which is possible only by three-dimensional volumetric evaluation.

Currently, cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), as employed in rapid maxillary expansion and molar intrusion, is the leading tool for in vivo dental imaging in the field of root resorption research. However, only few studies⁽¹⁵⁾ using three-dimensional imaging techniques has been performed on root resorption and treatment efficacy as a consequence of incisor intrusion.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

According to sample size equation, 26 patients (males, females) aged between 12-18 years who had deep bite and need for maxillary incisors intrusion were randomly selected from orthodontic clinic faculty of dental medicine – AlAzhar university Assiut branch.

Inclusion Criteria:

The sample included in the study were subjects requiring maxillary incisor intrusion according to the following criteria:

1. Overbite $\geq 65\%$

2. Angle Class I or II discrepancy
3. Maxillary anterior crowding > 5 mm
4. Maxillary incisors positioned below the functional occlusal plane

Exclusion criteria:-

Patients were excluded if they have any of the following criteria:

1. The maxillary incisors had a history of any trauma or endodontic treatment.
2. Systemic disease or required periodic medication.
3. The patient exhibited poor oral hygiene

The patients were divided into two group: Anterior Mini-implant Group (AMG) and Posterior Mini-implant Group (PMG). Detailed case history was taken for the patients and all patients were examined for conformity with criteria for inclusion in the study. Then for each patients, impression were taken and study cast was made then intraoral and extraoral photographs were taken before treatment. Panoramic view for each patients were taken before treatment as a routine records for examination of the teeth that been used in study.

Clinical procedure:

A. Preparation of the subject:-

After obtaining the pretreatment records, the both group received a straight wire appliance (Ormco Roth 0.018 inch slot brackets) was bonded to maxillary incisors with light cure Ormco composite. According to individual case need, sequential leveling and aligning arch wires were used until teeth can be consolidated by figure-eight ligature ties of 0.017 * 0.025-inch stainless steel wires.

B. Mini-implant placement:-

Two mini-implants made of biocompatible titanium with different size were implanted in



different position according to each group with screw driver tool.

In the AMG, self-drilling mini-implants were inserted between the maxillary laterals and canines with help of periapical films to detect appropriate position, and mini-implants of 1.4-mm diameter and length of 6 mm were chosen due to the limited interradicular space in the anterior segment.

In the PMG, the mini-implants were inserted between the second premolars and first molars with help of periapical films to detect appropriate position. To minimize the disadvantage of the counter-clockwise moment of mini-implant stability on the right side due to the planned intrusion mechanics and relying on the fact that the interradicular space was wider in this area, mini-implants of 1.6-mm diameter and 7-mm length were chosen.

C. Assessment of the mini-implants:-

The mini-implants were checked for mobility and inflammation of the gingiva around the neck of the screw before loading of force and at every clinical appointment. Evaluation of the health of the attached gingiva around the head of mini-implant was based on the color, the bleeding tendency and overgrowth of the gingiva.

D. The loading procedure:-

Before loading intrusion force for each group, CBCT scans were performed. In AMG, Elastic power chain were used to apply intrusion force from the mini-implants to the archwire. In PMG, Burstone's three-piece intrusion arch was modified, allowing the mini-implants to be integrated into this approach. One end of the 0.032-inch beta-titanium wire (TMA, Ormco) was slenderized so that it would fit through the hole in the mini-implant head

while the other end was bent to be clinched to the anterior archwire.

Force levels were adjusted at 40 g per side with force renewal at **3 weeks** intervals for each anterior and posterior mini-implant groups by means of force gauge. After four and half months of intrusion, CBCT scans were performed for compared with initial CBCT scans.

Evaluation procedure:

To evaluate linear root resorption, measurements were made between the cemento-enamel junction and apex, followed by calculating percentages of respective root losses.

Statistical analysis:

Descriptive statistics were computed for all measurements (before and after intrusion). To test reproducibility and reliability, 20 images were reexamined using intraclass correlation coefficient (intraobserver) after 1 week. The **paired t-test** was used for significance of mean changes within groups, and comparisons of mean changes in both groups were performed using an **independent t-test**. All the statistical analysis and tests were carried out the SPSS version 22 computer software.

RESULTS

Twenty-four patients were included in the final assessment due to the loss of one patient in each group who did not continue the treatment due to different causes.

Intragroup changes and intergroup differences due to treatment mechanics are presented in Table (1)

All the incisors in both groups showed significant reduction in length, with greater decreases in the AMG. When resorption percentages are considered, the central incisors displayed significantly more linear decreases than did the laterals.



Fig. (1) A case presenting AMG before, during and after intrusion



Fig. (2) A case presenting PMG before, during and after intrusion

Table (1): Preintrusion (T1) and Postintrusion (T2) CBCT Measurement Changes and Intergroup Comparisons.

	Anterior Mini-Implant Group			Posterior Mini-Implant Group			Intergroup difference
	X	SD	P	X	SD	P	P
LL-RL (mm)	-0.94	±0.20	<0.001	-0.72	±0.06	<0.001	0.06
LC-RL (mm)	-1.19	±0.15	<0.001	-0.84	±0.04	<0.001	0.002
RC-RL (mm)	-1.20	±0.14	<0.001	-0.89	±0.09	<0.001	0.004
RL-RL (mm)	-1.20	±0.13	<0.001	-0.72	±0.11	<0.001	0.005

X indicates mean change; *SD*, standard deviation; *LC*, left central incisor; *RL*, right lateral incisor; *LL*, left lateral incisor; *RC*, right central incisor; *RV*, root volume; *RL*, root length * $P < .05$; ** $P < .001$.

DISCUSSION

Since mini-implants reduce the need for complicated mechanics and eliminate the side effects of conventional methods, mini-implant-assisted incisor intrusion has gained popularity in later years. It is important to compare its intrusive ability against

its possible side effects, as intrusion increases the chances of root resorption.⁽⁶⁾

Many previous studies,⁽¹⁶⁻¹⁸⁾ which compared a conventional method and mini-implant assisted method to intrude the maxillary incisors. But in present study, the comparison was between two



different positions of mini-implant assisted maxillary incisor intrusion to found other advantages of mini-implant assisted maxillary incisors intrusion.

The greater the need for intrusion, the greater the concern, since it is well-known that the degree of root resorption increases with intrusion, especially in single rooted teeth.⁽¹⁹⁾ The magnitude of force applied is a major concern, since it can affect the degree of EARR observed. Nevertheless, intrusion does not require heavy forces, as revealed in a previous clinical study wherein no difference was observed in the amount of incisor intrusion when forces ranged from 40 to 80 g.⁽²⁰⁾

Maxillary incisors are among the teeth most susceptible to EARR; hence, the length of these teeth was evaluated in this study.⁽²¹⁾ In previous study⁽²²⁾ the measurement period included the duration of the leveling phase that commonly used to observe the first evidence of resorption but in present study the measurement period include only the intrusion period to compare two different methods.

Periapical radiography is the most widely used test for detecting EARR, because it was considered compact radiographic devices that can be located in offices, which are also usually more affordable than other forms of imaging diagnostics.⁽²³⁾ In this study, cone beam computed tomography was used to detect root resorption linear with more accurate details.

Variations in the type (continuous or transient) and magnitude of force (80 g per side according to Burstone recommended intrusive force), duration of intrusion (18 week with force renewal at 3 weeks), and measuring methods in conventional radiographs can be responsible for the extent of root resorption observed, which at the same time leads to difficulty in comparing previous studies with our present study.

As regarding to position of mini-implant in present study, mini-implant was placed in AMG between lateral incisor and canine in attempt to be

near to center of resistant of four incisor, while in PMG was placed between second premolar and first molar (most common position of posterior mini-implant that used for retraction) to used it in both retraction and intrusion in cases that required retraction and intrusion.

Only one study⁽¹⁵⁾ used CBCT images to compare EARR of maxillary incisors subjected to intrusive forces using mini-screws in anterior and posterior region for anchorage. The results of this study with agree with present study.

When resorption percentages are considered, volumetric decreases are relatively smaller than length losses. Because of the root's conical shape, volume loss in the apical region accounts for much smaller percentages compared with the whole root. Although resorption occurred in all teeth, this degree of root resorption might be clinically irrelevant. Nonetheless, it could assume more importance if there had been additional loss of root material during the remaining span of orthodontic treatment, especially in the AMG.

Since this study aimed to determine the amount of root resorption attributable exclusively to intrusion, our observation period was fairly short in terms of treatment duration, which, incidentally, is an important shortcoming of this study.

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الأزهر

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مقارنه بين وضعين مختلفين للزرعة الدقيقة في ارجاع القواطع العلوية (دراسة بالأشعة المخروطية)

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الملخص:

الهدف: المقارنة من خلال التصوير المقطعي المخروطي تآكل الجذر لطريقتين مختلفتين بمساعدة الزرع الصغير في اقتحام القواطع العلوية.

المواد والاساليب: تتكون الدراسة الحالية من 26 مريضًا (ذكور، إناث) تتراوح أعمارهم بين 12-18 عامًا من لديهم قواطع عميقة وطويلة في الفك العلوي. تم اختيارهم عشوائيًا وقسموا إلى مجموعتين: مجموعة الزرع الصغير الأمامي ومجموعة الزرع المصغر الخلفي. في مجموعة الزرع الصغير الأمامي تم تطبيق 40 جم تقريبًا من القوة لكل جانب بسلاسل مرنة وفي مجموعة الزرع المصغر الخلفي بأسلاك بيتا تيتانيوم. أجريت هذه الدراسة على فحوصات الأشعة المقطعية المخروطية قبل الاقتحام وبعد 18 أسبوعًا من الاقتحام.

النتائج: أظهرت القواطع انخفاضًا كبيرًا في الطول والحجم. وكانت هذه الكمية أكبر في مجموعة الزرع الصغير الأمامي من مجموعة الزرع المصغر الخلفي.

الخلاصة: اقتحام القواطع العلوية بمساعدة الغرسات المصغرة الخلفية ينتج عنها تآكل الجذور اقل من اقتحام القواطع العلوية بمساعدة الغرسات المصغرة الأمامية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: القواطع العلوية، الاقتحام، التصوير المقطعي المخروطي، الزرعات الدقيقة.