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Root canal obturation: Correlation between obturation technique and long term endodontic treatment success.

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Success in endodontic treatment is based on the equally important triad of debridement, disinfection, and obturation. When a step in the endodontic or restorative procedure is inadequate, apical seal is adversely affected. The ultimate goal of endodontic obturation has remained the same for the past 50 years: achieve a fluid-tight seal of the root canal system, from the coronal opening to the apical termination. Three-dimensional obturation of the radicular space is essential to long-term success. For this purpose, several techniques have been advocated for obturation. An ideal filling technique should assure complete filling of the canal without overfill and with minimal or no voids. Thus, it is important to select an obturation technique that offers consistency and is easy to use. Most of obturation studies show that all materials and techniques result in some degree of microscopic voids. Although a poorly obturated canal and voids are correlated, radiographic evaluation of obturation does not correlate well with obturation imperfections. An adequate radiographic appearance of the obturation does not confirm an adequate seal. Fortunately, clinical success rates after endodontic treatment are high despite the varied conditions, materials, and techniques employed. Our presentation will review obturation techniques and evaluation methods and discuss actual success rate in endodontic treatment based on clinical reliable studies.

Biography

Carla Zogheib has completed her PhD in 2012 from Saint Joseph University with collaboration of Bretagne Occidentale University, Brest, France. She is an Assistant Professor in the Endodontic Department of the School of Dentistry in Saint Joseph University, Beirut and an active scientific board member of the Lebanese Society of Endodontics since 2009. She has published many papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of the Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice JCDP, the International Journal of Oral Health IJOH and the Journal of the Lebanese Dental Association JLDA.

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