

**"A COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF FRACTURE RESISTANCE  
OF ENDODONTICALLY TREATED TEETH OBTURATED WITH  
DIFFERENT OBTURATING TECHNIQUES  
: AN IN VITRO STUDY"**

**DISSERTATION**

Submitted to

**BABU BANARASI DAS UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW, UTTAR PRADESH**

**In the partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree**

*of*

**MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY**

**In the subject of**

**CONSERVATIVE DENTISTRY & ENDODONTICS**

Submitted by

**DR. SHIVANI AGARWAL**

Under the guidance of

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**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATIVE DENTISTRY & ENDODONTICS**

**BABU BANARASI DAS COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES, LUCKNOW**

**Batch: 2021-24**

**Enrolment No.: 12103222931**

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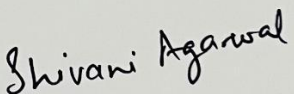
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I hereby declare that this dissertation entitled “**A COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF FRACTURE RESISTANCE OF ENDODONTICALLY TREATED TEETH OBTURATED WITH DIFFERENT OBTURATING TECHNIQUES: IN VITRO STUDY**” is a bonafide and genuine research work carried out by me under the guidance of **DR. TANU TEWARI**, Reader and, **DR. PRAGYAN PALIWAL**, Senior Lecturer as Co-Guide in Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, Babu Banarasi Das College of Dental Sciences, Babu Banarasi Das University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

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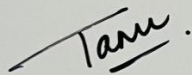
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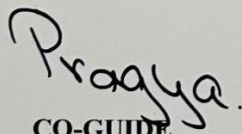


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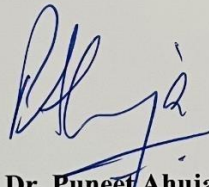


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**DR. SHIVANI AGARWAL**

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# **ABSTRACT**

**ABSTRACT**

**Aim:** The study aims to compare the fracture resistance of endodontically treated root canals obturated with four distinct obturating techniques. The goal is to determine how endodontically treated teeth are fracture resistant from cold lateral condensation, fluid gutta-percha, cross-linked thermoplastic gutta-percha, and down-pack backfill obturation technique.

**Methodology:** 30 freshly extracted single-rooted mandibular human premolars teeth were divided based on the type of obturation done into control groups where, Group I (n = 6): where teeth were instrumented but not obturated; Group II (n = 6): instrumented and obturated by Continuous-wave condensation, Group III (n = 6): Obturated using cold lateral compaction technique, Group IV (n = 6): Obturated using fluid gutta percha and Group V (n = 6): obturated using cross-linked thermoplastic gutta-percha.

**Result:** the evaluation of fracture resistance was done using a universal testing machine and, Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA and student t-test. The fracture resistance of five different groups (Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Group 4, and Group 5) was summarised in Table 2 and depicted. The mean fracture resistance of Group 5 was found the highest followed by Group 4, Group 3, Group 2, and Group 1, the least (Group 1 < Group 2 < Group 3 < Group 4 < Group 5).

**Conclusion:** Group 5 Gutta core had the highest fracture resistance among all the groups. This may be attributed to the highest gutta-percha content within the filled canal space when using the core-carrier technique for obturation of the root canals.

**Keywords:** cold lateral condensation, Thermanfil-Down pack backfill, Guttaflow 2, Gutta Core, fracture resistance.

# **INTRODUCTION**

### INTRODUCTION

A tooth undergoing endodontic treatment is more susceptible to fractures and is weaker than vital teeth.<sup>1</sup> Around 11%–13% of teeth extracted after endodontic treatment show vertical root fractures, making it the second most frequently recognized cause of tooth loss after root canal therapy.<sup>2,3</sup>

The strength of an endodontically treated tooth is influenced by various factors, including the loss of tooth structure due to caries or trauma, the preparation of access cavities, dentin dehydration, aggressive instrumentation and irrigation during root canal procedures, excessive pressure during root obturation, and the creation of intra-radicular post spaces.<sup>4,5</sup> The combined impact of these factors plays a role in loading the tooth and distributing stresses, increasing the potential for catastrophic failure. Although the most frequently employed root canal filling material is a combination of gutta-percha and sealer, the low elastic modulus of gutta-percha provides minimal or no ability to reinforce roots after treatment.<sup>6,7</sup>

Various obturating materials are accessible and the initiation of this study was to evaluate fracture resistance among them. The lack of a chemical union between the polyisoprene component of gutta-percha and methacrylate-based resin sealers hampers the bonding concept of the root-filling material.<sup>8</sup>

Continuous-wave condensation, introduced to enhance apical control and achieve improved homogeneity and surface adaptation, entails the down-packing of a master cone of gutta-percha as a core material. Subsequently, the remaining portion was backfilled with thermoplasticized gutta-percha using injection devices.<sup>9</sup>

Guttaflow 2, developed by Coltene/Whaledent in Langenau, Germany, was a root canal filling material that comprises a blend of gutta-percha powder, polydimethylsiloxane, and silver particles.<sup>10</sup>

## INTRODUCTION

Guttacore developed by Dentsply Tulsa Dental Specialties in Johnson City, Tennessee, USA, stands out as a carrier-based obturation system. It features an internal core made of cross-linked gutta-percha surrounded by a layer of  $\alpha$ -phase gutta-percha.<sup>11</sup>

The traditional obturation technique, commonly emphasized in undergraduate courses at many dental schools, was cold lateral condensation.<sup>12, 13 14</sup> This technique entails inserting a single cone of gutta-percha with sealer into the prepared root canal and subsequently adding secondary gutta-percha cones. These additional cones are compacted together using a spreader, and they remain in place due to the frictional grip and the presence of a sealer.<sup>15</sup>

Despite being a time-consuming procedure, lateral condensation is preferred for its cost-effectiveness and the controlled placement of gutta-percha within the canal. They comprised numerous gutta-percha cones pressed together, with the sealer filling most of the spaces in between.<sup>16</sup>

The ongoing quest for an ideal obturating material continues, with the goal of not only achieving a satisfactory seal but also strengthening the compromised tooth structure to prevent the occurrence of Vertical Root Fracture. This innovative study aims to compare the fracture resistance of two recently developed obturating materials, namely Guttacore and Guttaflow 2, against conventional techniques such as lateral compaction and continuous-wave condensation in the obturation process.

# AIM AND OBJECTIVES

### **AIM OF THE STUDY:**

This study aims to comparatively evaluate the fracture resistance of root canals obturated with four different obturating systems in endodontically treated teeth. The tooth samples used in this study were obturated with cold lateral condensation, cross-linked thermoplastic gutta-percha, Down pack backfill obturation technique, and fluid gutta-percha, and one control group for the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To assess the fracture resistance of an endodontically treated tooth that was not obturated with a Universal testing machine.
2. To assess the fracture resistance of endodontically treated tooth obturated with lateral condensation technique with a Universal testing machine.
3. To assess the fracture resistance of endodontically treated tooth obturated with continuous wave technique with a Universal testing machine
4. To assess the fracture resistance of endodontically treated tooth obturated with gutta flow 2 with a Universal testing machine
5. To assess the fracture resistance of endodontically treated tooth obturated with gutta core with a Universal testing machine.
6. To compare and evaluate the fracture resistance of the control group with lateral condensation technique with a Universal testing machine.
7. To compare and evaluate the fracture resistance of lateral condensation technique to continuous wave technique with a Universal testing machine.
8. To compare and evaluate the fracture resistance continuous wave technique with gutta flow 2 with a Universal testing machine
9. To compare and evaluate the fracture resistance gutta flow 2 to gutta core obturation with a Universal testing machine.
10. To compare and evaluate the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth amongst each other a Universal testing machine

**REVIEW**  
**OF**  
**LITERATURE**

1. **Trope M, Maltz DO, Tronstad L. (1985)** conducted a study that concluded that the different root filing materials tested in this study (Endofill, Sealer 26, AH Plus, and Epiphany combined with gutta-percha cones, and Epiphany/Resilon system) were not able to increase the fracture resistance of root canals submitted to chemo-mechanical preparation.<sup>17</sup>
2. **Williams C, Loushine RJ, Weller RN, Pashley DH, Tay FR.(1992)** carried out a study to compare the cohesive strength and stiffness of Resilon and gutta-percha under dry conditions and after one month of water, storage to determine if they were stiff enough to reinforce roots. They concluded that the stiffness of Resilon and gutta-percha was too low to reinforce roots after root canal therapy.<sup>6</sup>
3. **Onnink PA, Davis RD, and Wayman BE (1994)** compared the incidence of incomplete root fractures among five groups of mandibular incisors. The groups were no canal preparation, canal preparation, canal preparation and obturation with laterally condensed gutta-percha, canal preparation and obturation with thermoplasticized gutta-percha on a central carrier (Thermafil), and canal preparation and obturation with thermoplasticized injectable gutta-percha (Ultrafil) and they concluded that the incidence of stained fracture in the three obturation groups was not significantly different from the incidence in the group which had only canal preparation.<sup>18</sup>
4. **Saw LH, Messer HH (1995)** assessed the influence of different obturation techniques (lateral condensation, Obtura, and Thermafil) on root strains. The obturation method had a major impact on the root strains; the highest strains were produced by the obtura. Comparing the Thermafil group to the Obtura or lateral condensation groups, a substantial difference in strain was observed. The unexpected discovery was the dentin's thermal expansion. A large proportion of strain in the Obtura and Thermafil groups was found to be due to thermal strain. The mean load required to cause vertical root fracture was five to six times higher than the load used in obturation.<sup>19</sup>

5. **Fuss Z, Lustig J, Tamse A (1999)** Evaluated the prevalence of vertical root fractures in extracted endodontically treated teeth and correlated the findings to previous studies and surveys; they concluded that the relatively high prevalence of vertical root fractures in this survey compared with previous clinical and radiographic surveys was probably related to the difficulties in making a clinical diagnosis of vertical fractures before extraction.<sup>2</sup>
6. **Lertchirakarn V, Timyam A, Messer HH. (2002)** compared vertical forces at fracture of endodontically treated mandibular incisors obturated with different types of root canal sealer-lateral condensation with gutta-percha and AH Plus, Tubliseal, or Ketac-Endo, respectively, and concluded that force at fracture of roots obturated with Ketac-Endo was significantly higher than those obturated with AH Plus and Tubliseal.<sup>20</sup>
7. **Teixeira FB, Teixeira EC, Thompson JY, Trope M (2004)** evaluated the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth filled with either gutta-percha or a new resin-based obturation material. They concluded that filling the canals with the new resin-based obturation material increased the in vitro resistance to fracture of endodontically treated single-canal extracted teeth when compared with standard gutta-percha techniques.<sup>8</sup>
8. **G De-Deus, E D Gurgel-Filho, K M Magalhaes, T Coutinho-Filho (2006)** Determined the percentage of gutta-percha-filled area in the apical third of root canals when filled with either Thermafil, System B or lateral condensation. It was concluded that the coated carrier gutta-percha system thermafil produced a significantly higher gutta-percha-filled area than lateral condensation and System B techniques.<sup>21</sup>
9. **Hammad M, Qualtrough A, Silikas N. (2007)** compared vertical forces at fracture of teeth obturated with different materials- gutta percha and a zinc oxide sealer, EndoRez points and EndoRez sealer, Resilon and RealSeal sealer and Guttaflow. It was found that forces at fracture were statistically significantly higher in the Resilon and EndoRez groups. It was concluded that obturation of roots with resin-based obturation materials (Resilon and

EndoRez) increased the resistance of root canal-filled teeth to vertical root fracture.<sup>22</sup>

10. **Ribeiro FC, Souza-Gabriel AE, Marchesan MA (2008)** To evaluate the influence of different endodontic materials on root fracture susceptibility. The core materials (gutta-percha or Resilon) combined with the tested endodontic sealers were not able to increase the root fracture resistance in canals submitted to chemo-mechanical preparation.<sup>7</sup>
11. **Wadhvani KK, Gurung S. (2010)** compared the fracture toughness of the instrumented roots after obturating it with three different sealers and comparing it with the control group. All the materials used for the study reinforced the prepared root canals.<sup>23</sup>
12. **Asokan S, C. Sooriaprakas, V. Raghu, R. Bairavi (2010)** analyzed volumetrically the efficacy of lateral compaction, Thermafil, Obtura II, and System B obturation techniques using spiral computed tomography. They observed that the percentage of obturated volume obtained with System B and Thermafil was greater as compared to other techniques used. Voids were seen in all 3 filling materials. Vitapex showed the maximum percentage of obturated volume among the 3 groups.<sup>24</sup>
13. **Farea M (2010)** evaluated *in vitro* the apical sealing ability of cold lateral and system B root filling techniques using dye penetration. The results of this study showed that cold lateral condensation leaked significantly more than the system B technique.<sup>25</sup>
14. **Phukan AH, Mathur S, Sandhu M, Sachdev V. (2011)** compared the *in vitro* effects of four different root canal sealers on the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth. resin-based sealer was more effective as compared to other sealers and the control group. However, no significant differences were observed between ZOE and the control group. The effect of

different root canal sealers on the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth-*in vitro* study.<sup>26</sup>

15. **Anantula K, Ganta AK. (2011)** -The results obtained showed GuttaFlow 2 to be inferior to GuttaCore but superior to all other groups. GuttaFlow 2 is a silicone-based material that adapts closely to the dentinal walls, thus providing a homogenous obturation. The high viscosity of this material allows for adequate condensation of the obturating material.<sup>27</sup>
16. **Ghoneim AG, Lutfy RA, Sabet NE, Fayyad DM. (2011)** conducted a study to evaluate and compare the fracture resistance of roots obturated with various contemporary canal-filling systems- iRoot SP sealer with ActiV GP cone, iRoot SP sealer with gutta-percha (GP), ActiV GP sealer with ActiV GP cone, and ActiV GP sealer with GP and observed that the fracture resistance was highest in iRoot SP/ActiV GP cone and lowest in ActiV GP sealer/GP. They concluded that bioceramic-based sealer (i.e. Root SP) is a promising sealer in terms of increasing *in vitro* resistance to the fracture of endodontically treated roots particularly when accompanied by ActiV GP cones.<sup>28</sup>
17. **Makam S, Shashikala K (2011)** Assessed the ability of two obturating systems to reinforce the root canal-treated teeth in which obturations were done using Thermafill with AH plus sealer, and single cone gutta-percha with Guttaflow sealer respectively. They concluded through this study that the Guttaflow system showed better reinforcement of the roots as compared with the Thermafill system.<sup>29</sup>
18. **Manal Farea, Abdulqawee Rani, Adam Husein (2011)** This study aimed to determine the percentage of gutta-percha-filled area (PGFA) in the apical third of root canals after filling with either System B or cold lateral condensation techniques. It concluded that System B produced significantly higher PGFAs than the lateral condensation technique. The results favored the use of System B for better and homogenous obturation of the root canal with a minimal amount of sealer.<sup>30</sup>

19. **Sağsen B, Ustün Y, Pala K, Demirbuğa S. (2012)** compared the fracture resistance of roots filled with gutta-percha (GP) and different root canal sealers. In conclusion, all the root canal sealers used in the present study increased the fracture resistance of instrumented root canals.<sup>31</sup>
20. **Topçuoğlu HS, Arslan H, Keleş A, Köseoğlu M, (2012)** compared in vitro root fracture resistance following root canal filling with AH 26 using lateral condensation, BeeFill, and Thermafil techniques and the results suggest that instrumentation of root canals significantly weakens the tooth structure to fracture and the root canal obturation techniques that are used are not able to form reinforcement.<sup>32</sup>
21. **Shashidhar J, Shashidhar C (2014)** – conducted a study in which the fracture resistance of lateral compaction was lower than guttaflow2. This could be because gutta-percha in combination with sealer has good adaptability to root canal wall and master cone and can be comparable to guttaflow2.<sup>33</sup>
22. **T Sandikci, RF Kaptan (2014)** compared the fracture resistance of teeth filled using different root canal filling systems, Gutta-percha with AH Plus, Thermafil with AH Plus, Resilon/ with Epiphany self-etch, Gutta-percha with Epiphany SE, EndoREZ sealer with EndoREZ cone and Concluded that lateral condensation performed with AH Plus sealer and Gutta-percha and the Thermafil technique was found to be more successful.<sup>34</sup>
23. **Carlos RB, Makam S, Yaragonda VK, (2014)** Compared the vertical root fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth among negative control, guttapercha with TubliSeal EWT sealer, ThermaFil with AH Plus sealer, RealSeal with RealSeal sealer and GuttaFlow obturating system. They concluded obturation of roots with resin-based obturation material RealSeal increased Vertical root fracture resistance compared to the gutta-percha obturation systems.<sup>35</sup>

24. **Wiaam Al-Ashou (2014)** - Compared and evaluated the fracture resistance of root dentin following the application of AH Plus sealer, MTA Fillapex sealer, and BioRoot RCS sealer and concluded that the use of cold lateral condensation technique may weaken the roots which became more susceptible to vertical root fracture. The statistical mean difference between group lateral condensation and gutta core was highly statistically significant.<sup>36</sup>
25. **Khan S, Inamdar MN, Munaga S, Ali SA, Rawtiya M, Ahmad E (2015)** compared in vitro fracture resistance after filling with either Gutta-percha or Resilon by lateral condensation techniques in root canals. This study evaluated a new thermoplastic synthetic polymer based on polyester, which contains bioactive and radiopaque filler, Resilon performs every way as Gutta-percha except that it allows the bonding agent to attach to the resin core and the dentin wall thus forming a monoblock. Within the limitation of the present in-vitro study, Resilon/Epiphany sealer performs better than Gutta-percha/AH 26 sealer with lateral condensation technique.<sup>37</sup>
26. **Langalia AK, Dave B, Patel N, Thakkar V, Sheth S, (2015)** compared fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated with different resin-based adhesive sealers with a conventional obturation technique. concluded that roots obturated with newer resin systems (Resilon and EndoREZ) enhanced the root strength almost up to the level of the intact root.<sup>38</sup>
27. **Ersoy I, Evcil MS, (2015)** compared the fracture resistance of teeth filled with AH Plus and MTA Fillapex root canal sealers by using different root canal obturation techniques. It was concluded that shaping and widening of the root canals reduced the fracture resistance of teeth while Thermafil increased the resistance of roots against fracture.<sup>39</sup>
28. **Hedge V, Arora S (2015)** Compared the fracture resistance of roots obturated with three hydrophilic systems - novel C Point system, Resilon/ Epiphany system, and Endo Sequence BC sealer; and one hydrophobic gold standard gutta-percha/AH Plus system using the universal testing machine. They

concluded that hydrophilic systems showed higher fracture resistance than hydrophobic systems; among the hydrophilic systems, the C Point system and Endo Sequence BC sealer had the highest fracture resistance.<sup>40</sup>

29. **Tavanafar S, Karimpour A, Karimpour H, Mohammed Saleh A, Hamed Saeed M, (2015)** compared the effects of three different instrumentation techniques on vertical root fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth. All three instrumentation techniques caused weakening of the structure of the roots and rendered them susceptible to fracture under lesser load than unprepared roots. The fracture resistance of roots prepared with the single-file reciprocating technique was like that of those prepared with NiTi hand and rotary instrumentation techniques.<sup>41</sup>
30. **Guneser MB, Akman M, Kolcu İB, Eldeniz AU (2016)** evaluated the vertical-fracture resistance of roots obturated with a newly developed tricalcium silicate cement using cold lateral compaction technique or matched-taper single-cone gutta-percha technique. The vertical fracture resistance of roots obturated with BioRoot RCS and iRoot SP sealers using either LC or SC technique was found to be like that of intact teeth. BioRoot RCS, a newly developed tricalcium silicate cement, might have the potential to reinforce the instrumented teeth against vertical root fracture.<sup>42</sup>
31. **Velugu R, Karunakar P, Reddy R (2016)** evaluated the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated using lateral compaction technique with AH plus/Gutta-percha, Resilon/RealSeal self-etch (SE), and Endofill/Gutta-percha using universal testing machine. Their study demonstrated higher fracture resistance values for Resilon/RealSeal SE than AH plus/Gutta-percha, followed by Endofill/Gutta-percha.<sup>43</sup>
32. **Punjabi M, Dewan R, Kochhar R (2017)** evaluated and compared the fracture resistance of root canals obturated with four different obturating systems in endodontically treated teeth. Techniques used for obturation were namely cold lateral compaction technique, cold free-flow compaction technique, warm vertical compaction technique, and injection-molded

thermoplasticized technique. It was concluded that GuttaFlow2 had the potential to strengthen the endodontically treated roots to a level that is like that of intact teeth.<sup>44</sup>

33. **Upadhyay ST, Purayil TP, Guntupalli K (2017)** Evaluated and compared the effect of an epoxy-based sealer and a pozzolan-based mineral trioxide aggregate sealer on the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth and concluded that the new root canal sealer Endoseal MTA was able to reinforce the tooth against fracture as good as AH Plus.<sup>45</sup>
34. **Mittal A, Dadu S, Garg P, Yendrembam B, (2017)** evaluated and compared the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated with gutta-percha using two sealers, AH Plus, and mineral trioxide aggregate Fillapex and concluded AH Plus and mineral trioxide Fillapex gave comparable results as root canal sealer.<sup>46</sup>
35. **Dibaji F, Afkhami F, Bidkhorji B, Kharazifard MJ. (2017)** assessed the fracture resistance of roots following the application of different sealers including Epiphany, iRoot sealer, and AH-plus, and concluded application of AH-Plus, bioceramic, and Resilon sealers did not change the fracture resistance of roots compared to that of unprepared root canals.<sup>47</sup>
36. **Jindal D, Sharma M, Raisingani D, Swarnkar A, Pant M, Mathur R, (2017)** conducted in a study in which the statistical mean difference between group gutta core and continuous wave technique was highly significant. This could be because no heat was used during placement of the material therefore no occurrence of shrinkage while in the downpack backfill technique shrinkage of gutta percha and expansion of root dentin occurred which might decrease the fracture resistance.<sup>48</sup>
37. **Chadha R, Taneja S, Kumar M, and Sharma M (2018)** evaluated the in vitro effect of various obturating materials on fracture resistance of root canal-treated teeth. Teeth were divided into four groups based on the type of obturating materials used. On evaluation teeth obturated with AH Plus and

gutta-percha showed higher fracture resistance than those obturated with Resilon-Epiphan, the group obturated with gutta-percha and zinc oxide eugenol sealer showed the lowest fracture resistance.<sup>49</sup>

38. **Demiriz L, Bodrumlu EH (2018).** examined fracture resistance after filling simulated incomplete vertical fractured permanent teeth using two different bioceramic-based sealers. In conclusion Well Root ST and MTA Fillapex sealer significantly increased the fracture resistance of untreated incomplete vertical fractured roots.<sup>51</sup>
39. **Tanwar P (2019)** - evaluated and compared the fracture resistance of teeth that are prepared by Self Adjusting File (SAF) and filled with three different obturation techniques, i.e. warm vertical compaction technique, cold lateral compaction technique, and thermafil obturation technique. It was concluded that the Control group had the highest fracture resistance, followed by the Thermafil system then warm vertical condensation followed by cold lateral compaction. Cold lateral compaction had the lowest fracture resistance and the control group had the highest fracture resistance.<sup>52</sup>
40. **Gamal S, Shafei J, Asfour H (2019)** assessed the fracture resistance and sealing ability of endodontically treated teeth obturated with the Guttacore root canal obturator as compared with Thermafil root canal obturator, and examined the Guttacore material to verify its cross-linked structure and concluded that the Guttacore material provides strengthening for the root dentin together with adequate sealing ability properties comparable to lateral condensation technique.<sup>53</sup>
41. **Goyal K (2020)** Compared the vertical fracture resistance of teeth obturated with four different obturating techniques, Lateral compaction continuous-wave condensation, GuttaFlow 2, and GuttaCore. Universal testing Machine was used for the evaluation of fracture resistance and the conclusion was that the GuttaCore system showed superior fracture resistance when compared to GuttaFlow 2, continuous-wave condensation, and lateral compaction obturation method.<sup>54</sup>

42. **Guido Migliau, Gaspare Palaia, Daniele Pergolini (2021)** Compared the quality of the root canal obturation obtained with two different techniques, thermoplastic GuttaCore and fluid gutta-percha (GuttaFlow2). They concluded that both systems showed excellent filling qualities and to make the most of their advantages and minimize their limitations, a combination of the two techniques might be considered.<sup>54</sup>
43. **Bhandi S (2021)** conducted a study in which it was observed that heated gutta-percha ie backfill Thermoplastic techniques were more favorable methods of root canal obturation compared to the more widely taught cold lateral condensation.<sup>55</sup>
44. **Chandra P, Singh V, Singh S, (2021)** assessed different root canal filling systems in terms of fracture resistances of endodontically treated teeth and it was found that lateral condensation performed with AH Plus sealer and gutta-percha and the Thermafil technique were the highest among all other methods.<sup>56</sup>
45. **Chaudhari, W. A., Bhadrarao, V. V., Jani, K., (2022)** evaluated the fracture resistance of root canals filled with Resilon and Epiphany, gutta-percha, and AH plus, gutta-percha with Endomethasone sealer using Instron Machine. They concluded that all materials significantly increased the fracture toughness of the instrumented roots after obturation.<sup>57</sup>
46. **Yadav P, Nagpal AK (2022)** evaluated the fracture resistance of root canals obturated with three different obturating systems in endodontically treated teeth to find the effect of cold lateral condensation, Thermafil obturation, and Downpack backfill obturation technique with the positive and negative control group, on the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth and concluded that the negative control group which was neither instrumented nor obturated had the highest fracture resistance among all the groups.<sup>58</sup>

47. **Elnawawy M A, Pullishery F, Alattas M (2023)** The objective of the research was to appraise and contrast the fracture resistance of teeth using lateral condensation technique with, AH+ and gutta-percha, Resilon-Epiphaney System sealed with AH 26 and a group of teeth without any obturation and concluded that AH plus sealer was found to strengthen the tooth structure more effectively than the Resilon-Epiphaney system but there was an insignificant difference with the AH 26 sealer.<sup>59</sup>

# **MATERIALS**

# **AND**

# **METHOD**

## **MATERIALS AND METHOD**

**TABLE A: MATERIALS AND ARMAMENTARIUM USED FOR SAMPLE PREPARATION**

<b>S. NO.</b>	<b>MATERIAL AND ARMAMENTARIUM</b>	<b>MANUFACTURER</b>
<b>1</b>	Straight handpiece	Marathon, Korea
<b>2</b>	Micromotor	Marathon, Korea
<b>3</b>	Scaling machine	Coltene, Switzerland
<b>4</b>	Diamond disc & Mandrel	Shofu, Japan
<b>5</b>	0.1% Thymol	NH Organics, INDIA

**TABLE B: MATERIAL & ARMAMENTARIUM USED FOR SAMPLE SAMPLE-TOOTH BIOMECHANICAL PREPARATION**

<b>S.NO</b>	<b>MATERIALS &amp; ARMAMENTARIUM</b>	<b>MANUFACTURER</b>
<b>1</b>	K-files (NO.10,15)	Dentsply, U.S. A
<b>2</b>	17% Ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid	Safe Endo Dental India Pvt Ltd, India
<b>3</b>	5.25% sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl)	Prevest Denpro, Limited, India
<b>4</b>	Normal Saline (0.9% w/v NaCl)	(KRPL, India)
<b>5</b>	Endo block	(Dentsply, U.S.A.).
<b>7</b>	Normal Saline (0.9% w/v NaCl)	(KRPL, India)
<b>8</b>	Disposable syringe of 5ml	Dispo Van, India
<b>9</b>	Endo motor	NSK, Japan
<b>10</b>	30-gauge side vented needle	Oro, India

**TABLE C: MATERIAL AND ARMAMENTARIUM USED FOR SAMPLE OBTURATION AND RESTORATION**

<b>S.NO</b>	<b>MATERIALS &amp; ARMAMENTARIUM</b>	<b>MANUFACTURER</b>
<b>1</b>	AH Plus sealer	Dentsply, USA
<b>2</b>	Gutta Percha points (#F3)	Meta Aurum Pro, India
<b>3</b>	Gutta flow 2 sealer	Coltene, Switzerland
<b>4</b>	Paper point	Dentsply, U.S.A.
<b>5</b>	AH Plus sealer	Dentsply, U.S.A.
<b>6</b>	ProTaper gold rotary files 21mm size (SX, S1, S2, F1, F2, F3)	Dentsply, U.S.A.
<b>7</b>	Gutta Percha points (#F3)	Dentsply, USA
<b>8</b>	Composite resin	Walldent, India
<b>9</b>	Fast Pack Pro- Down Pack Device for 3D Obturation	Oricam, India
<b>11</b>	Gutta core oven	Dentsply, U.S. A
<b>12</b>	Hand Spreader	GDC, India

**TABLE D: MATERIALS USED FOR BLOCK PREPARATION**

<b>S.NO</b>	<b>MATERIALS &amp; ARMAMENTARIUM</b>	<b>MANUFACTURER</b>
<b>1</b>	Modelling Wax	Pyrax, India
<b>2</b>	Cold cure resin	Pyrax, India
<b>3</b>	Marking scale	Jaxson, India

**Place of the study:**

This study was conducted at the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Babu Banarasi Das College of Dental Sciences, Lucknow, and, Central Institute for Petrochemical Engineering and Technology, Lucknow.

**Sample size:****Based on groups' mean difference using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA)**

The present *in vitro* study evaluates and compares the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated with different obturating techniques. The sample size of the present study was priori based on the mean difference (i.e. effect size:  $f$ ) in fracture resistance among five groups (control, continuous-wave condensation technique, lateral compaction technique, GuttaFlow, and GuttaCore).

Expecting effect size was at least 0.70 ( $N$ ) in fracture resistance among five groups with considering a 5.0% margin of error ( $\alpha=0.05$  i.e. type I error), 80.0% power ( $1-\beta=0.80$  i.e. type II error) and 1:1 ratio, then minimum 30 samples need to be sampled ( $n$ ) for the study or 6 samples per group, evaluated by G\*Power 3.1.9.7 software as

**TABLE E:**

Input parameters	Output parameters
Effect size ( $f$ )=0.70	Non-centrality parameter ( $\lambda$ )=14.7000000
$\alpha$ error probability=0.05	Critical F=2.7587105
Power ( $1-\beta$ error probability) =0.80	Numerator df=4
Number of groups=5	Denominator df=25
Allocation of samples ( $n$ )=1:1	Total sample size=30
	Actual power=0.8089341

**df:** degree of freedom, **Critical F:** ANOVA F value

Thus, a minimum of 30 samples was sufficient for the study, or 6 samples per group.

Thirty single-rooted mandibular premolars were instrumented using ProTaper gold rotary files up to size F3. Samples were obturated using four different methods of obturation (Lateral compaction, continuous-wave condensation (CWC), GuttaFlow 2, and GuttaCore). A universal testing machine was used for the evaluation of fracture resistance. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA and student t-test.

**The following inclusion and exclusion criteria were set to select the teeth:**

**INCLUSION CRITERIA-**

1. Freshly extracted intact single-rooted mandibular premolars extracted for orthodontic reasons were collected and verified radiographically to ascertain the presence of a single straight canal.
2. Tooth with a single canal (one orifice and one foramen) which was determined radiographically.

**EXCLUSION CRITERIA –**

1. Teeth with any crack, caries, or calcification.
2. Teeth with any developmental anomaly.
3. Restored teeth.

**Sampling Method-**

A total of 30 human permanent single-rooted teeth were collected. The collected teeth were cleaned using an ultrasonic scaler and were stored in saline until further use.

## METHODOLOGY

30 Single-rooted human premolar teeth

**TABLE F:**

Treatments/Technique	Group name	Total sample (n=30)
Control	Group A	6
Continuous-wave condensation	Group B	6
Lateral compaction	Group C	6
GuttaFlow 2	Group D	6
GuttaCore	Group E	6

### Specimen preparation:

Thirty freshly extracted intact single-rooted mandibular premolars were collected and verified radiographically to ascertain the presence of a single straight canal. The teeth were disinfected in a solution of 0.1% thymol and stored in saline until the samples were used. Each tooth was horizontally sectioned to obtain a standardized length of 12 mm. Apical patency was established with a size 10 K-file, working length was determined 1 mm short of the working length.

### Preparation of root canals

Chemo mechanical preparation was done up to size #F3 using ProTaper Gold Rotary files (Dentsply Tulsa Dental, Switzerland) as per the manufacturer's instructions.

During instrumentation, the root canals were irrigated with 5 ml of 5% sodium hypochlorite followed by 3 ml of 17% ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid for removal of the smear layer, and a final rinse with 5 -10 ml of normal saline using 30 G side vented needle.

Canals were then dried with sterile paper points of corresponding size (Dentsply Maillefer, Ballaigues, Switzerland).

Teeth were randomly divided into five groups, based on obturating techniques used: -

- Group A (n = 6) – Control

A root canal was instrumented but not obturated to serve as a control.

- Group B (n = 6) – Continuous-wave condensation.

A ProTaper F3 (Dentsply Maillefer, Ballaigues, Switzerland) gutta-percha master cone along with AH plus sealer was selected. A touch “n” heat plugger at 200°C was inserted into the canal to a depth 3–4 mm short of the working length to create an apical plug. The sealer was reapplied and the remaining root canal space was backfilled with softened gutta-percha using System B Heat Source (Oricam, Orange, CA, USA) until the canal filling (According to the manufacturer’s guideline).

- Group C (n = 6) – Lateral compaction technique.

The obturation was performed using a master gutta-percha cone of size F3 and accessory gutta-percha points with AH plus root canal sealer.

- Group D (n = 6) – GuttaFlow 2.

The obturation was performed using GuttaFlow 2 (Coltene/Whaledent, Langenau, Germany) along with a size F3 gutta-percha master cone (According to the manufacturer’s guidelines).

- Group E (n = 6) – GuttaCore.

The canal was coated with AH Plus sealer and GuttaCore Obturator F3 (Dentsply Tulsa Dental Specialities, Johnson City, Tennessee, USA) was inserted after being thermoplasticized in a Therma Prep oven (According to the manufacturer’s guideline).

Teeth were radiographed to confirm the adequacy of the root canal fillings 1mm short of the apex.

The coronal access was sealed with composite resin restoration after removing 1.5 mm of obturating material. All teeth were then kept in a humidifier at 37°C for 7 days, to allow proper setting of the sealer.<sup>10</sup>



FIG 1 SAMPLE COLLECTED



FIG 2: SAMPLES STORED IN SALINE

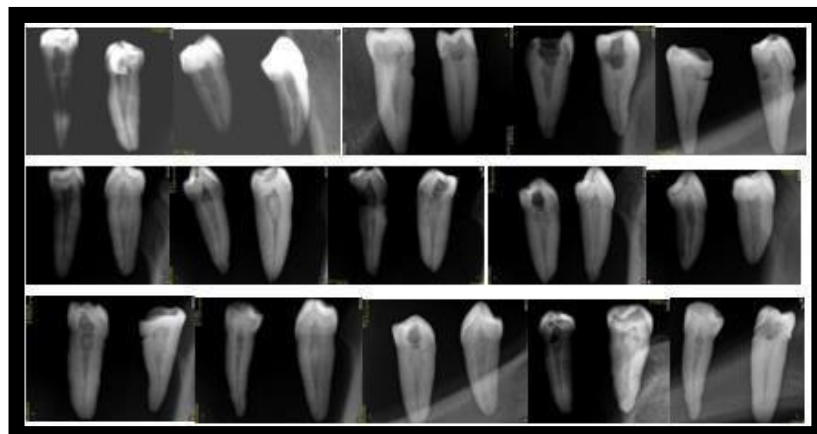


FIG 3: X-RAY FOR SINGLE CANAL CONFIRMATION



FIG 4: IMAGES OF MATERIALS USED

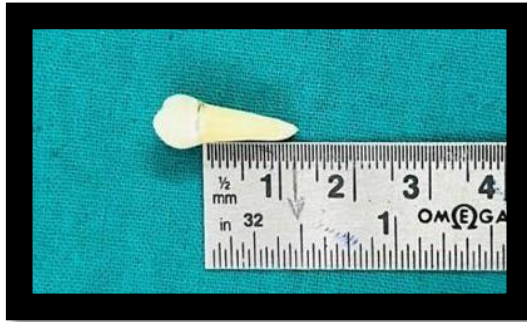


FIG 5: MEASUREMENT OF TOOTH  
AT 12 MM



FIG 6: DECORONATION OF  
SAMPLE TOOTH

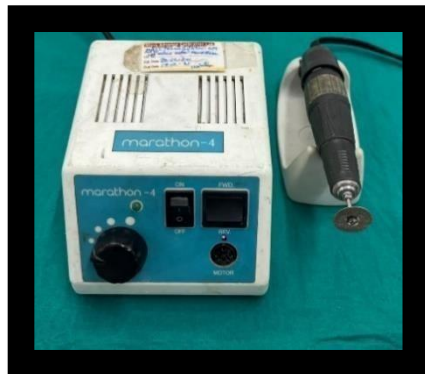


FIG 7: MICROMOTOR WITH  
DIAMOND DISC



FIG 8: PROTAPER GOLD  
ROTARY FILE

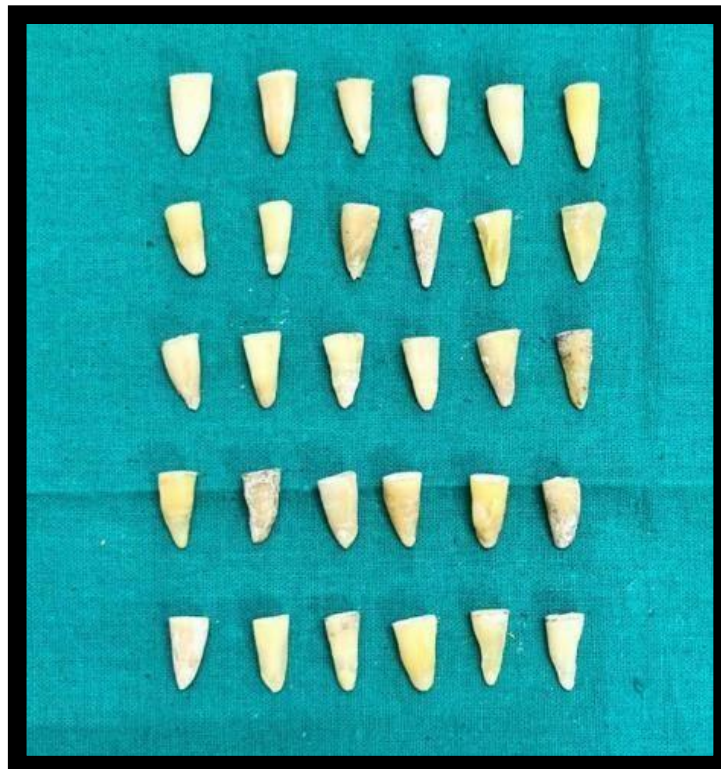


FIG. 9: CORONALLY SECTIONED SAMPLES



FIG 10: MEASUREMENT OF CANAL

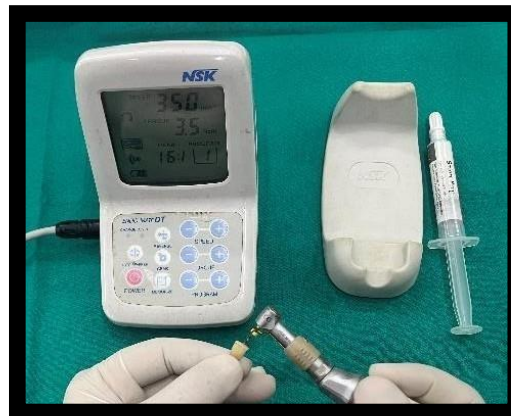


FIG 11: BIOMECHANICAL PREPARATION OF TOOTH CANAL



FIG 12: LENGTH  
CONFIRMATION BY  
RADIOGRAPH

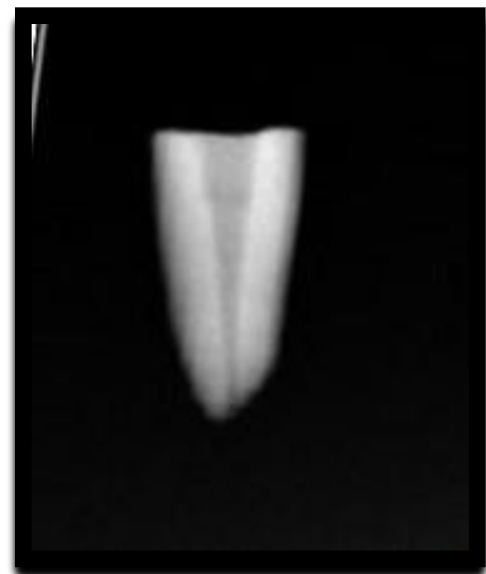


FIG 13: BIOMECHANICALLY  
PREPARED TOOTH  
**GROUP 1**

## GROUP 2



FIG 14: A H PLUS SEALER



FIG 15: PROTAPER F3  
GUTTA-PERCHA

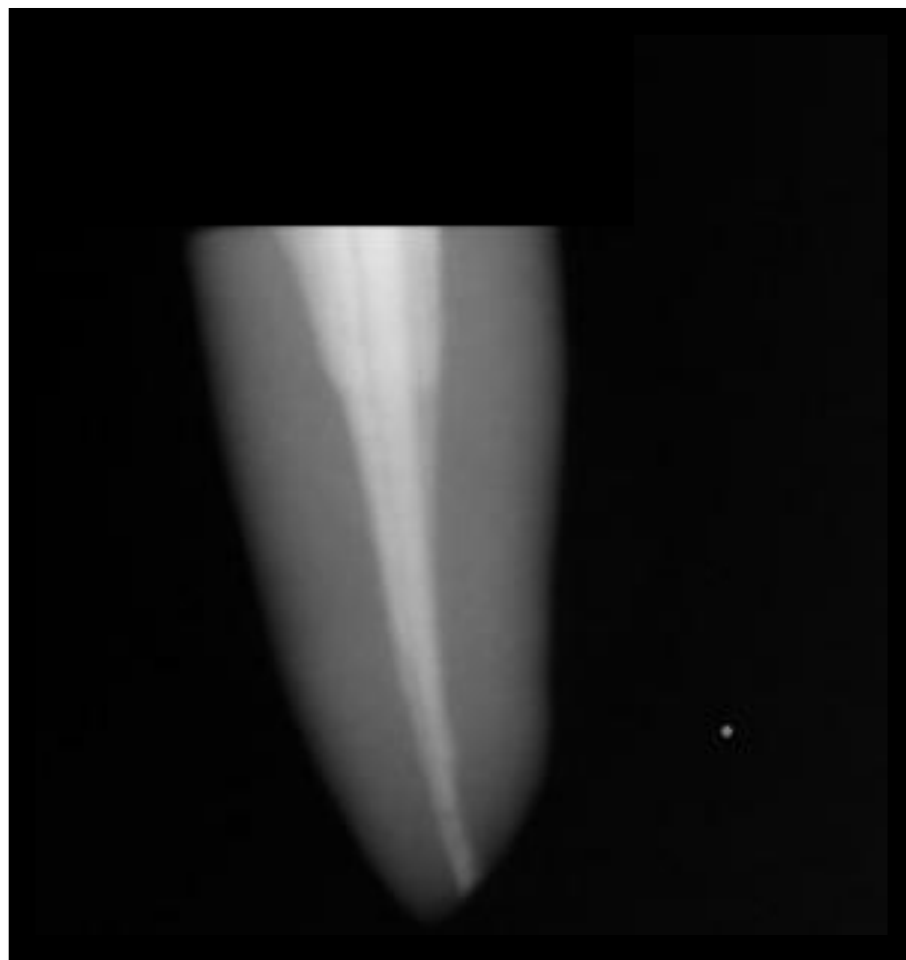


FIG 16: OBTURATION DONE WITH LATERAL CONDENSATION TECHNIQUE

### GROUP 3



FIG 17: FAST PACK PRO- DOWN PACK DEVICE FOR 3D OBTURATOR

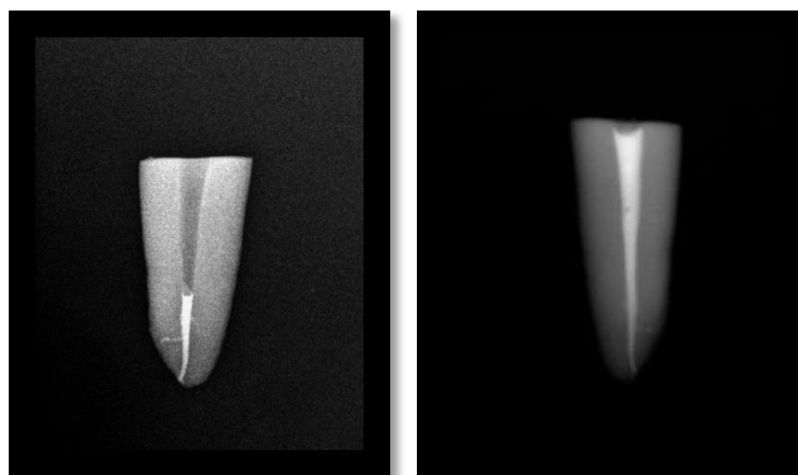


FIG 18: OBTURATION WITH CONTINUOUS WAVE TECHNIQUE

## GROUP 4



FIG 19. GUTTA FLOW 2

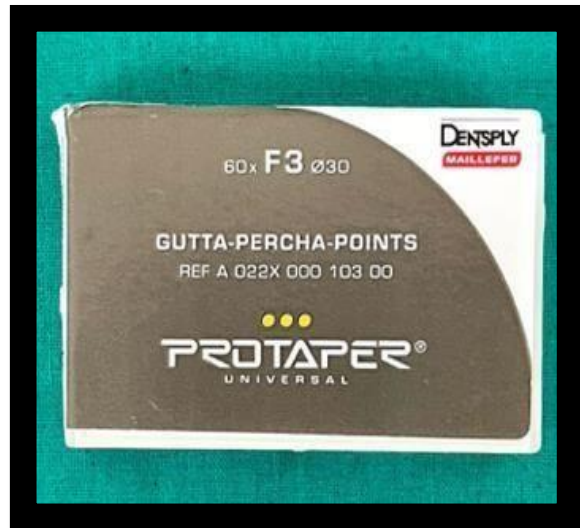


FIG 20: PROTAPER F3

## GUTTA-PERCHA

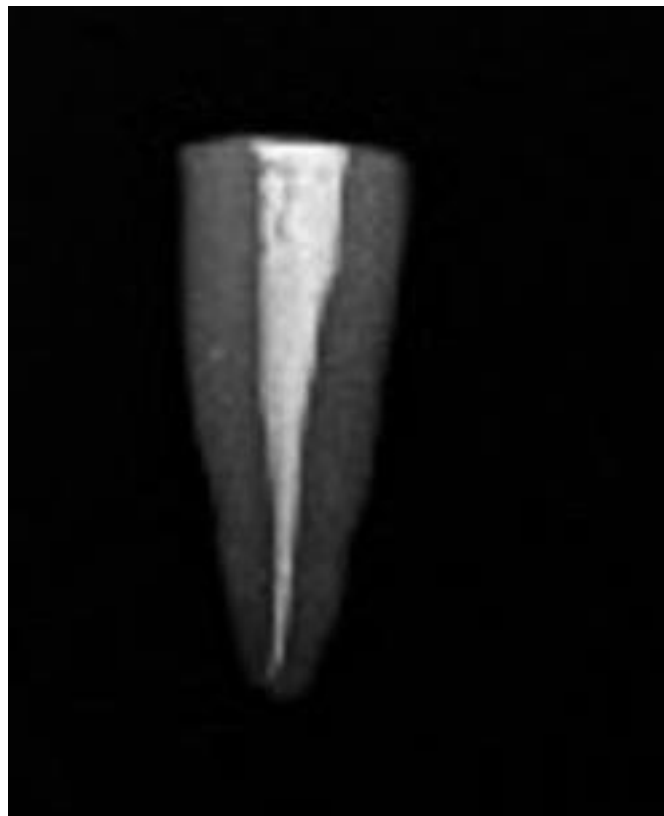


FIG 21: OBTURATION WITH GUTTA FLOW 2

## GROUP 5



FIG 22: GUTTA CORE OVEN AND  
GUTTA CORE



FIG 23: AH PLUS SEALER



FIG 24: OBTURATION WITH GUTTA CORE

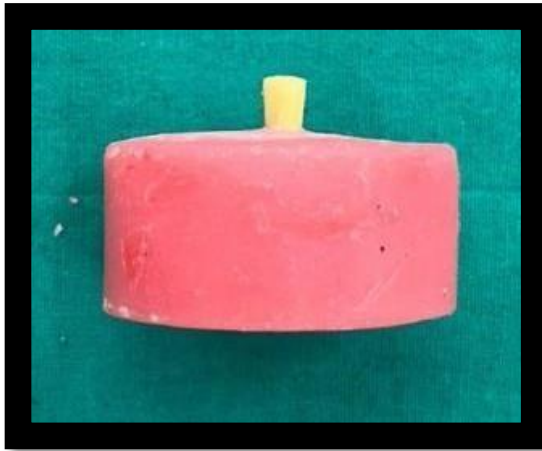


FIG 25: ACRYLIC MOUNTED TOOTH



FIG 26: COMPOSITE  
RESTORED TOOTH

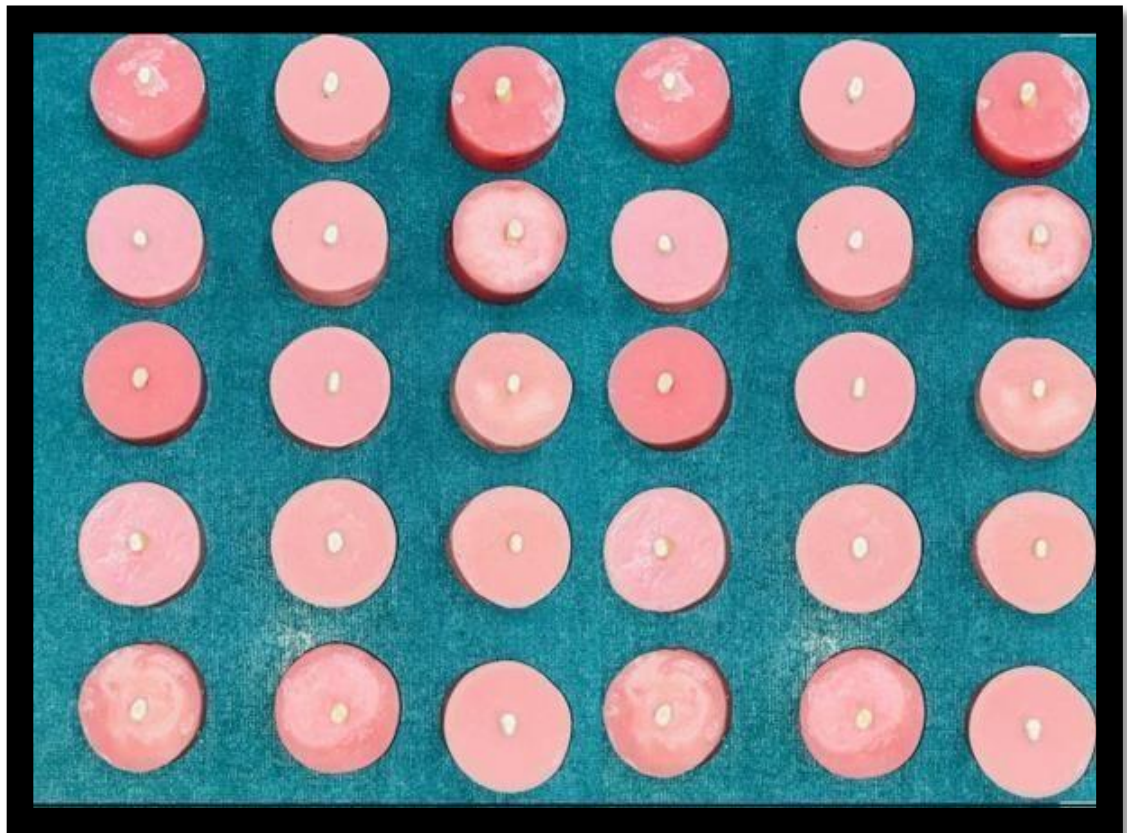


FIG 27: ACRYLIC-MOUNTED TEETH FOR FRACTURE RESISTANCE TEST



FIG 28: INSTRON UNIVERSAL TESTING MACHINE



FIG 29: SPECIMEN MOUNTED  
ON INSTRON TESTING MACHINE



FIG 30:FRACTURED  
SPECIMEN

# **OBSERVATION** **AND** **RESULT**

## **STATISTICAL ANALYSES**

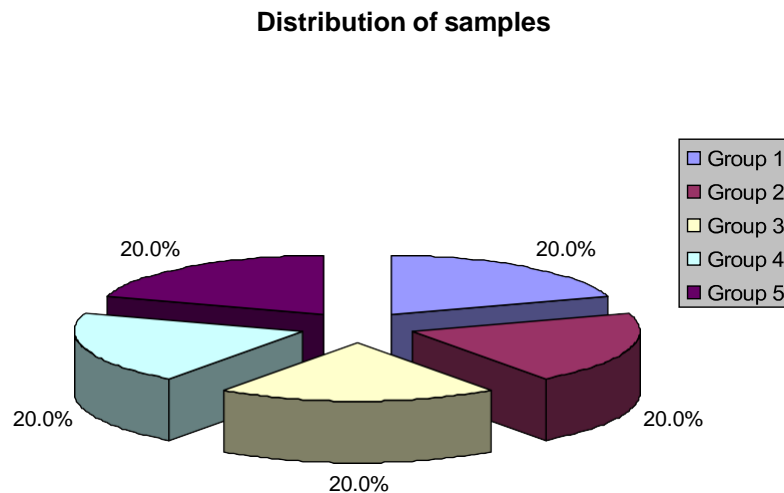
Data were summarised as Mean  $\pm$  SE (standard error of the mean). Groups were compared by one-factor analysis of variance (ANOVA) and the significance of mean difference between the (inter) groups was done by Tukey's HSD (honestly significant difference) post hoc test after ascertaining normality by Shapiro-Wilk's test and homogeneity of variance between groups by Levene's test. A two-tailed ( $\alpha=2$ )  $P < 0.0$  is considered statistically significant. Analysis was performed on SPSS software (Windows version 22.0).

## **RESULTS AND OBSERVATIONS**

The present *in-vitro* study evaluates and compares the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated with different obturating techniques. A total of 30 human permanent single-rooted teeth extracted for orthodontic/periodontal purposes were collected from the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, BBDCODS, Lucknow. Teeth were randomly divided into five groups and treated with control (*Group 1, n=6*), continuous-wave condensation (CWC) technique (*Group 2, n=6*), lateral compaction (LC) technique (*Group 3, n=6*), GuttaFlow 2 (*Group 4, n=6*) and GuttaCore (*Group 5, n=6*) (Table 1 and Fig. 1). The outcome measure of the study was fracture resistance assessed after the treatment and measured in Newton (N). The objective of the study was to compare the fracture resistance among five groups/techniques.

**TABLE G: GROUP ALLOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLES IN FIVE DIFFERENT GROUPS**

Treatments/Technique	Group Name	Total sample (n=30) (%)
Control	Group 1	6 (20.0)
Continuous-wave condensation	Group 2	6 (20.0)
Lateral compaction	Group 3	6 (20.0)
GuttaFlow 2	Group 4	6 (20.0)
GuttaCore	Group 5	6 (20.0)



**Graph no. 1. Distribution of samples in five different groups.**

## Outcome measure

### *Fracture resistance*

The fracture resistance of five different groups (Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Group 4, and Group 5) were summarised in Table 2 and also depicted in Fig. 2. The fracture resistance of Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Group 4, and Group 5 ranged from 70.21 to 86.41, 140.60 to 169.46, 160.28 to 190.36, 190.20 to 230.40 and 325.12 to 410.10 N respectively with mean ( $\pm$  SE)  $79.87 \pm 2.31$ ,  $154.93 \pm 4.18$ ,  $177.34 \pm 4.04$ ,  $205.36 \pm 5.78$  and  $357.03 \pm 12.72$  N respectively and median 80, 155, 179, 203 and 353 N respectively.

The mean fracture resistance of Group 5 was the highest followed by Group 4, Group 3, Group 2, and Group 1, the least (Group 1 < Group 2 < Group 3 < Group 4 < Group 5).

Comparing the mean fracture resistance of five different groups, ANOVA showed significantly different fracture resistance among the groups ( $F=221.60$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ) (Table 3).

Further, comparing the difference in mean fracture resistance between the groups (i.e. group), the Tukey test showed significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) different and higher fracture resistance of Group 5 as compared to all other groups (Group 1, Group 2, Group 3 and

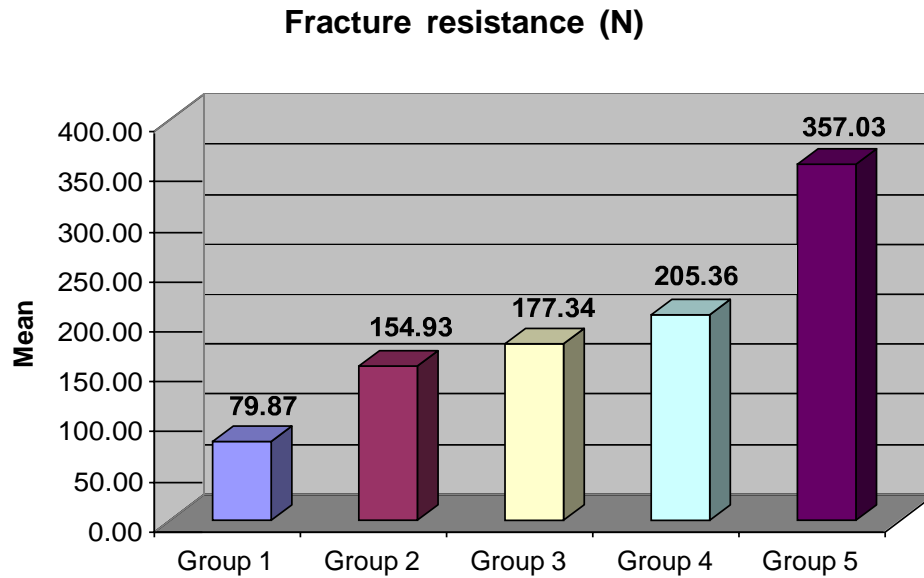
Group 4) (Table 4 and Fig. 3-6). Further, the mean fracture resistance of Group 2, Group 3, and Group 4 was also found significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) different and higher as compared to Group 1. Furthermore, the mean fracture resistance of both Group 4 was also found significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) different and higher as compared to Group 2. However, the mean fracture resistance did not differ ( $P > 0.05$ ) between Group 2 and Group 3, and Group 3 and Group 4 i.e. found to be statistically the same.

In conclusion, the mean fracture resistance of Group 5 was the maximum and it was 77.6, 56.6, 50.3, and 42.5% higher significantly ( $P < 0.001$ ) as compared to Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, and Group 4 respectively.

**Table H: Summary of fracture resistance (N) of five different groups**

Group	n	Range (min to max)	Mean $\pm$ SD	Median
Group 1	6	70.21 to 86.41	79.87 $\pm$ 2.31	80
Group 2	6	140.60 to 169.46	154.93 $\pm$ 4.18	155
Group 3	6	160.28 to 190.36	177.34 $\pm$ 4.04	179
Group 4	6	190.20 to 230.40	205.36 $\pm$ 5.78	203
Group 5	6	352.12 to 410.10	357.03 $\pm$ 12.72	353

Fracture resistance of five different groups was summarised in range (min to max), Mean  $\pm$  SE, and median.



**Graph no. 2. Mean fracture resistance of five different groups.**

**Table I: Comparison of mean fracture resistance (N) of five different groups by ANOVA**

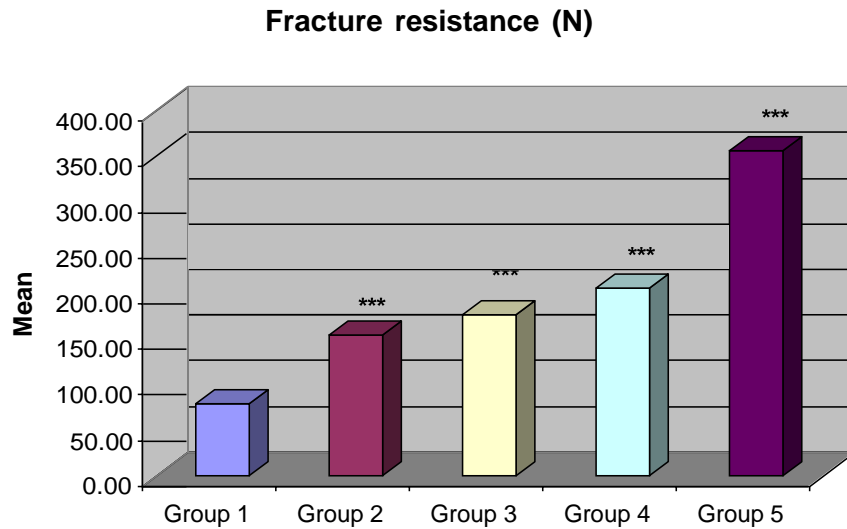
Source of variation (SV)	Sum of square (SS)	Degree of freedom (DF)	Mean square (MS)	F value	P value
Groups	249199.0	4	62300.0	221.60	< 0.001
Residual	7030.0	25	281.2		
Total	256229.0	29	62581.2		

**F value:** ANOVA F value

**TABLE J: COMPARISON (*P* VALUE) OF DIFFERENCE IN MEAN FRACTURE RESISTANCE (N) BETWEEN GROUPS BY TUKEY TEST**

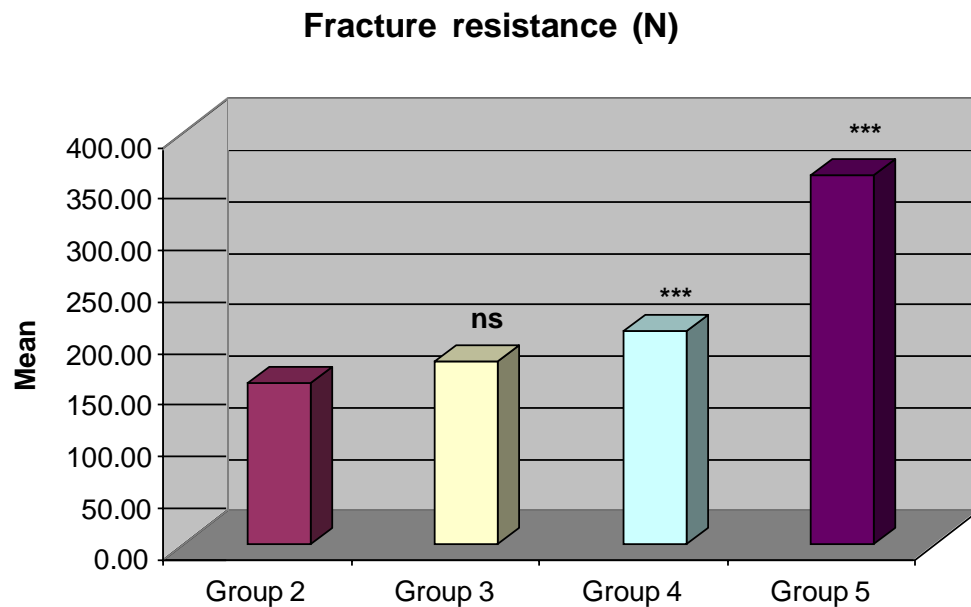
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>Mean diff.</b>	<b>q value</b>	<b><i>P</i> value</b>	<b>95% CI of diff.</b>
Group 1 vs. Group 2	75.06	10.96	$P < 0.001$	46.61 to 103.50
Group 1 vs. Group 3	97.47	14.24	$P < 0.001$	69.02 to 125.90
Group 1 vs. Group 4	125.49	18.33	$P < 0.001$	97.04 to 153.9
Group 1 vs. Group 5	277.16	40.49	$P < 0.001$	248.70 to 305.60
Group 2 vs. Group 3	22.41	3.27	$P > 0.05$	6.04 to 50.86
Group 2 vs. Group 4	50.43	7.37	$P < 0.001$	21.98 to 78.87
Group 2 vs. Group 5	202.10	29.52	$P < 0.001$	173.70 to 230.50
Group 3 vs. Group 4	28.02	4.09	$P > 0.05$	0.43 to 56.46
Group 3 vs. Group 5	179.69	26.25	$P < 0.001$	151.20 to 208.10
Group 4 vs. Group 5	151.67	22.16	$P < 0.001$	123.20 to 180.10

**Diff:** difference, **CI:** confidence interval, **q value:** Tukey test value



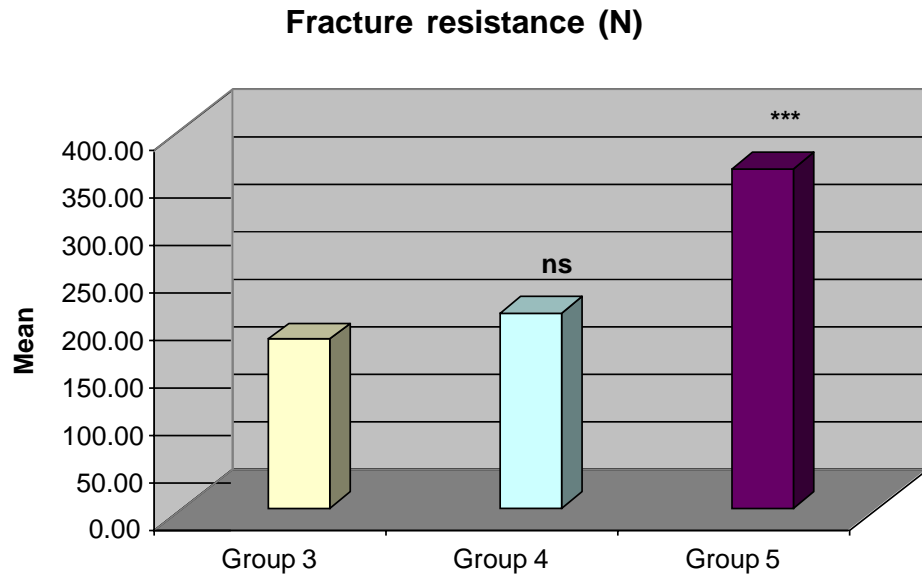
\*\*\* $P < 0.001$ - as compared to Group 1

**Graph 3. Comparisons of difference in mean fracture resistance between five different groups.**



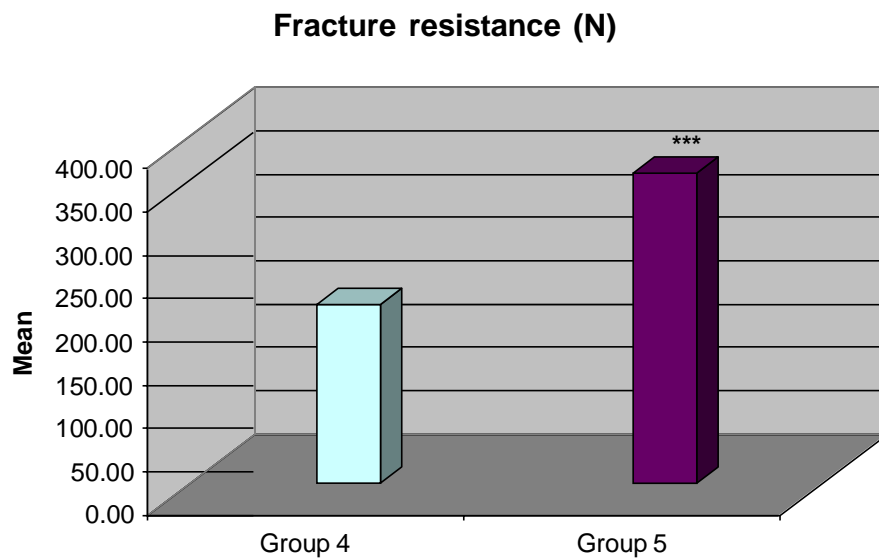
ns $P > 0.05$  or \*\*\* $P < 0.001$ - as compared to Group 2

**Graph 4. Comparisons of difference in mean fracture resistance between four different groups.**



<sup>ns</sup> $P > 0.05$  or  $P < 0.001$ - as compared to Group 3

**Graph 5. Comparisons of difference in mean fracture resistance between three different groups.**



$P < 0.001$ - as compared to Group 4

**Graph 6. Comparisons of difference in mean fracture resistance between two different groups.**

**OBSERVATIONS****Fracture resistance (N)****TABLE K:**

<b>SN O</b>	<b>Control (Group 1)</b>	<b>Continuous- wave condensation (Group 2)</b>	<b>Lateral compaction (Group 3)</b>	<b>GuttaFlow 2 (Group 4)</b>	<b>GuttaCore (Group 5)</b>
1	86.41	150.4	178.4	210.1	346.14
2	70.21	158.6	180.2	205.2	330.26
3	78.46	149.21	160.28	201.14	325.12
4	84.47	161.32	190.36	190.2	410.1
5	80.21	140.6	174.2	195.1	360.4
6	79.46	169.46	180.6	230.4	370.16

### The formula used for the analysis

#### Arithmetic Mean

The most widely used measure of central tendency was the arithmetic mean, usually referred to simply as the mean, calculated as

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n}$$

#### Standard deviation and standard error

The standard deviation (SD) is the positive square root of the variance and was calculated as

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum X_i^2 - \frac{(\sum X_i)^2}{n}}{n-1}}$$

and SE (standard error of the mean) was calculated as

$$SE = \frac{SD}{\sqrt{n}}$$

where, n= no. of observations

### **Minimum and Maximum**

Minimum and maximum are the minimum and maximum values respectively in the measure data and the range may be defined as

$$\text{Range} = \text{Min to Max or Min-Max}$$

and also evaluated by subtracting the minimum value from the maximum value as

$$\text{Range} = \text{Maximum Value} - \text{Minimum value}$$

### **Median**

The median was generally defined as the middle measurement in an ordered set of data. That was, there are just as many observations larger than the median as there are smaller. The median (M) of a sample of data may be found by first arranging the measurements in order of magnitude (preferably ascending). For even and odd number of measurements, the median was evaluated as

$$M = [(n+1)/2]^{\text{th}} \text{ observation - odd number}$$

$$M = [n(n+1)/2]^{\text{th}} \text{ observation - even number}$$

### **Analysis of Variance**

Analyses of variance (ANOVA) were used when we compared more than two groups simultaneously. The purpose of one-way ANOVA was to find out whether data from several groups have a common mean. That was, to determine whether the groups were different in the measured characteristics. One-way ANOVA was a simple special case of the linear model. For more than two independent groups, simple parametric ANOVA was used when variables under consideration followed Continuous exercise Group 4wastridistribution and group variances were homogeneous otherwise non parametric alternative Kruskal-Wallis (H) ANOVA by ranks was used. The one-way ANOVA form of the model was

$$Y_{ij} = \alpha_{.j} + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

where;

- $Y_{ij}$  was a matrix of observations in which each column represents a different group.
- $\alpha_{.j}$  was a matrix whose columns are the group means (the “dot j” notation means that  $\alpha$  applies to all rows of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  column i.e. the value  $\alpha_{ij}$  was the same for all i).
- $\varepsilon_{ij}$  was a matrix of random disturbances.

The model posits that the columns of Y are a constant plus a random disturbance. We want to know if the constants are all the same.

### **Tukey Multiple Comparison Test**

After performing ANOVA, the Tukey HSD (honestly significant difference) post hoc test was generally used to calculate differences between group means as

were,

$$q = \frac{X_1 - X_2}{SE}$$

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2} \right)}$$

$S^2$  was the error mean square from the analyses of variance and  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the number of data in groups 1 and 2 respectively.

### **Statistical significance**

**Level of significance "P"** was the probability that signifies the level of significance.

The mentioned p in the text indicates the following:

$P > 0.05$  -Not significant (ns)

$P < 0.05$ - Just significant (\*)

$P < 0.01$ - Moderate significant (\*\*)

$P < 0.001$ - Highly significant (\*\*\*)

# DISCUSSION

## DISCUSSION

The present *in-vitro* study was conducted in the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Babu Banarasi Das College of Dental Sciences, and Central Institute of Plastic Engineering Technology, Lucknow.

30 test samples were divided into 5 groups and were obturated using different techniques. The fracture resistance (measured in Newtons) of these five groups were assessed and compared with each other. The results obtained from this study showed, that Gutta Core (group 5) had the highest fracture resistance, succeeded by Gutta Flow-2 (group 4), Lateral Condensation (group 3), was found to have better fracture resistance than continuous wave technique (group 2), and, finally, the least fracture resistance was exhibited by the control group (group 1).

Although, between Group II and Group III, the result was found to be statistically the same or insignificant.

The limited literature on the fracture resistance of root canal obturating materials in preventing vertical root fracture necessitated the need to conduct the present study hence this study was undertaken to evaluate and compare the fracture resistance of endodontically treated teeth obturated with different obturating techniques.

Freshly extracted mandibular premolars selected for this study. Since they are situated in a dental arch transition zone, where they are the best candidates to assess fracture resistance under load since they are more vulnerable to compressive and shear stresses.<sup>60</sup> To prevent desiccation, these teeth were then stored in normal saline.

The superior results were obtained by the Gutta core carrier-based obturator; Its outer skin is made of flowable gutta-percha, while its inner carrier is made of either metal, polymer, or an all-gutta-percha formulation. This system comprises a size verifier, a carrier-based obturator, a heating oven, and an AH Plus root canal sealer, which is a sealer made of epoxy resin that, according to reports, somewhat expands after setting<sup>61</sup> and has the exceptional capacity to penetrate the dentinal tubule.<sup>62</sup>

Gutta core was used in a similar study done by Anantula K *et al* who concluded that fracture resistance results showed GuttaCore to be superior to all other groups used in

this study including the Guttaflow2<sup>27</sup>. In addition to permitting the flow of sealer into the isthmuses, lateral canals, and canal aberrations, this thermoplasticized GuttaCore also permitted the creation of a tenaciously adhering coating on the root canal walls. The advantage of this system of being simple to use along with achieving an excellent 3D seal, showing significantly fewer voids.<sup>62</sup>

Further, another study conducted by Guido Migliau *et al*, the comparative evaluation of the quality of the root canal obturation obtained with two different techniques, thermoplastic gutta-percha introduced through a thermafil GuttaCore and free flow gutta-percha GuttaFlow2 was carried out. GuttaCore showed a better filling in the apical third of the canal with 5 % of voids, and concluded that due to the rigidity of the carrier, in the most apical areas of the canals, GuttaCore can penetrate more easily, improving fracture resistance.<sup>63</sup>

Goyal K *et al* undertook a study in which samples were obturated using four different methods of obturation GuttaFlow 2, continuous wave condensation, Lateral compaction, and GuttaCore and concluded that the thermafil Gutta Core was found to have the highest fracture resistance as compared to other materials.<sup>53</sup> he stated that the thermafil core-carrier Guttacore approach utilized for root canal obturation yields the highest gutta-percha content in the filled canal space, which could explain the better results obtained with GuttaCore.

These results are in harmony with a study conducted by Gencoglu *et al* who also concluded that when adopting the core-carrier technique for root canal obturation, as suggested in the present study. The maximum gutta-percha content within the filled canal space may be the reason for the improved outcomes obtained with GuttaCore.<sup>64</sup>

De-Deus G *et al* conducted a laboratory analysis of a gutta-percha filled area obtained using thermafil, system B and lateral condensation where the greatest fracture resistance was observed with when GuttaCore was used in combination with an epoxy resin-based sealer AH plus as the Core-carrier. Highest gutta-percha content was found within the filled canal space when using the core-carrier technique for obturation along with Gutta core<sup>65</sup>.

Few other studies concluded that Gutta Core gave better fracture resistance when compared with other obturating techniques.<sup>51</sup> It has been stated the reason for this is the thermafil cone plastic carrier modifies the stresses applied to the root, stabilized the

root canal shape, and strengthened fracture resistance. In addition, the heat-softened gutta-percha carrier's ease of insertion has been demonstrated to be a contributing factor in its superiority over other materials.

However, according to Shrija Paradkar *et al*, the study revealed that while GuttaFlow2 was not as effective as Guttacore, it was still better than the other groups employed. Specifically, teeth that were obturated using the GuttaFlow2 method had a higher fracture resistance when compared to those that used the Continuous-wave condensation and lateral condensation approaches.<sup>53</sup>

This result was similar to another study done by Punjabi *et al* where he found that GuttaFlow2 was superior to the continuous wave technique and lateral condensation technique used for obturation. Nonetheless, its fracture resistance values were discovered to be higher than both the other groups<sup>44</sup>. The reason that may be attributed to this is that guttaFlow2 obturating material has a homogenous structure with gutta-percha particles and a good sealing ability.

GuttaFlow 2 is a silicone-based product that forms a homogeneous obturation by closely adhering to the dentinal walls. This can be a result of the guttaFlow2 obturating material with a robust sealing capacity and uniform structure made of gutta-percha particles. It seems to have excellent adherence to gutta-percha cones and fill the dentinal tubules.<sup>66</sup> Gutta flow2 is the first sealer and gutta-percha combination that can be employed without a solid master cone as an obturating paste and sealer that is flowable at room temperature.<sup>23</sup> This is the reason why Gutta flow2 was chosen in our study as a comparable technique against Gutta core.

Few other studies conducted by Weis M.V; Zhong, X were not in agreement with our study, they stated that, GuttaCore and Guttaflow2, demonstrated superior filling characteristics, maximizing their benefits, and minimizing their drawbacks. They said that an intersection of the two systems may also be considered.; contradicting our inferior results of Guttaflow2 obturating material.<sup>67</sup>

The most used technique for obturation is lateral compaction.<sup>29</sup> The lateral condensation obturating method has demonstrated superior result to the continuous

wave technique which may be credited to the rapid cooling of the material during the filling of thermafil gutta-percha resulting in poor compaction.<sup>68</sup>

The present study resulted in, the fracture resistance of teeth obturated with the Lateral condensation technique which were comparable with the Continuous-wave condensation technique. The findings are in agreement with the study done by Punjabi *et al* who found the vertical fracture resistance following the lateral compaction technique to be inferior to GuttaFlow 2, and GuttaCore.<sup>44</sup>

In a similar study conducted by Saw and Messer *et al*, and another study done by Huseyin S *et al* the fracture resistance of Lateral condensation and Gutta flow2 were not found to be statistically significant because these techniques did not increase the fracture resistance of the teeth.<sup>19</sup>

In the present study among the obturated groups, the fracture resistance was found to be lowest with the Continuous-wave condensation technique when compared to lateral compaction the reason for which could be stated that due to the material cooling quickly, resulting in poorer compaction resulted. According to Padda BK *et al*<sup>68</sup> Unnecessary stresses are created in the root dentin by the force produced by the continuous wave condensation technique and the heat transmitted by the heated plugger during obturation, which negatively affects fracture resistance.<sup>19</sup>

The fracture resistance of the group having lateral condensation and continuous wave technique as obturating techniques were not statistically significant because the use of a spreader and plugger during obturation caused additional forces to be created in the root canal system, thus leading to a decrease in the resistance to fracture in the root canal.<sup>61</sup>

The statistical mean difference between group gutta core and continuous wave technique was highly significant. This could be because the down pack backfill technique causes the gutta-percha to shrink and the root dentin to expand, which may reduce the fracture resistance, whereas the thermafil technique causes the gutta-percha to flow into lateral canals and fill the space between the root canal wall, thus increasing the fracture resistance of the root canal walls. As rightly stated by Jindal D *et al* in their

study that the highest overall percentage of obturated volume was obtained with thermafil.<sup>48</sup>

In the present study, the mean difference of fracture resistance in group I (positive control group) was lower than all other groups. Since a weakening effect on the root is unavoidable during the instrumentation phase when the dentin is removed. ShemeshH *et al* also showed in their study that improper root canal preparation results in defects in the dentin, such as fractures, crack lines, and incomplete cracks, but leaves the roots unprepared, weakening the tooth and decreasing its resistance to fracture, during mastication.<sup>69</sup>

There has been no statistical significant difference between the control group and the cold lateral condensation technique. Sandikci T *et al* further demonstrated, in contrast to our study, that the root canal shaping process reduces the teeth's resistance to fracture, whereas obturation carried out using lateral condensation done with AH plus sealer, gutta-percha, and the thermafil technique was found to be more successful.<sup>34</sup>

The materials testing machine, also called a universal tester, and the materials test frame is used to test the tensile and compressive strengths of the material; This is the reason, this machine was selected for our study. The teeth used in this study were put through a fracture resistance test following obturation in the machine.<sup>34</sup>

Utilizing a Universal Testing Machine, the fracture resistance of the obturated roots were assessed. The force was applied vertically and parallel to the long axis of the roots, primarily causing a splitting stress above the access opening and the results were evaluated.<sup>64</sup>

# CONCLUSION

## **CONCLUSION**

The study was limited by the fact that the force applied to the tooth during obturation was not uniform across the various obturation techniques. Moreover, the method used for testing fracture load was static load in the study, whereas, in the intra-oral condition, a dynamic load is applicable it may be concluded that the control group showed significantly lower resistance to vertical root fracture when compared to the other obturated groups in this study.

Among the obturated groups, the highest resistance to vertical tooth fracture was observed with GuttaCore followed by GuttaFlow 2, lateral compaction, and continuous-wave condensation.

Hence, GuttaCore presented highly promising results that can be considered as the obturating material of choice for the future. Still, long-term clinical trials should be conducted to determine the superiority of the material as the root canal obturating material. The superior results obtained with GuttaCore may be attributed to the highest gutta-percha content within the filled canal space when using the core-carrier technique for obturation of the root canals as demonstrated in studies.<sup>67</sup>

Null hypothesis:

The tooth filled with a Gutta Core obturator demonstrates the highest fracture resistance.

According to our study:

The null hypothesis was validated.

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# **ANNEXURES**



# BABU BANARASI DAS UNIVERSITY

## BBD COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES, LUCKNOW

BBDCODS/IEC/09/2022

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

### Communication of the Decision of the X<sup>th</sup> Institutional Ethics Sub-Committee Meeting

IEC Code: 05

**Title of the Project:** A Comparative Evaluation Of Fracture Resistance Of Endodontically Treated Teeth Obturated With Different Obturating Techniques: In Vitro Study.

**Principal Investigator:** Dr Shivani Agarwal      **Department:** Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics

**Name and Address of the Institution:** BBD College of Dental Sciences Lucknow.

**Type of Submission:** New, MDS Project Protocol

Dear Dr Shivani Agarwal,


The Institutional Ethics Sub-Committee meeting comprising following members was held on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2022.

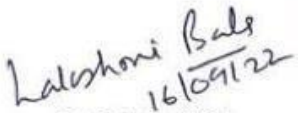
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|---|--|
| 1. Dr. Lakshmi Bala<br>Member Secretary | Prof. and Head, Department of Biochemistry                       |
| 2. Dr. Praveen Singh Samant<br>Member   | Prof. & Head, Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics |
| 3. Dr. Jiji George<br>Member            | Prof. & Head, Department of Oral Pathology & Microbiology        |
| 4. Dr. Amrit Tandan<br>Member           | Professor, Department of Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge       |
| 5. Dr. Rana Pratap Maurya<br>Member     | Reader, Department of Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopaedics    |

The submitted documents of the current MDS Project Protocol is exempted for review in the meeting.

**Decision:** The MDS Protocol is exempted for review by the Institutional Ethics Sub-Committee.

Forwarded by:

  
**Prof. Dr. Puneet Ahuja**  
 Principal  
 BBD College of Dental Sciences  
 BBD University, Lucknow  
**PRINCIPAL**  
 Babu Banarasi Das College of Dental Sciences  
 (Babu Banarasi Das University)  
 88D City, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226028

  
**Dr. Lakshmi Bala**  
 Member-Secretary  
 Institutional Ethics Sub-Committee (IEC)  
 BBD College of Dental Sciences  
 BBD University, Lucknow  
**Member-Secretary**  
 Institutional Ethic Committee  
 BBD College of Dental Sciences  
 BBD University  
 Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226028

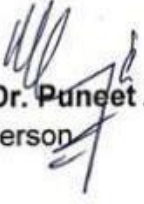



**BABU BANARASI DAS UNIVERSITY**  
**BBD COLLEGE OF DENTAL SCIENCES, LUCKNOW**

**INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

The project titled "A Comparative Evaluation Of Fracture Resistance Of Endodontically Treated Teeth Obturated With Different Obturating Techniques: In Vitro Study" submitted by Dr Shivani Agarwal Postgraduate student in the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics for the Thesis Dissertation as part of MDS Curriculum for the academic year 2021-2024 with the accompanying proforma was reviewed by the Institutional Research Committee in its meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 at BBDCODS.

The Committee has granted approval on the scientific content of the project. The proposal may now be reviewed by the Institutional Ethics Committee for granting ethical approval.

  
**Prof. Dr. Puneet Ahuja**  
Chairperson

  
**Dr. Mona Sharma**  
Co-Chairperson

**केंद्रीय पेट्रोसायन अभियांत्रिकी एवं  
प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (सिपेट: आई.पी.टी.)**

(पूर्व में केंद्रीय प्लास्टिक इंजीनियरिंग एवं तकनीकी संस्थान)

रसायन एवं पेट्रोसायन विभाग,

रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

बी-२७, अमौसी इण्डस्ट्रियल एरिया, लखनऊ-२२६ ००८

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S.No. 2904  
Date: 24.01.2024

Issued to: Dr. Shivani Agarwal  
PG Student (MDS)  
Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics Department,  
BBD University, BBD City,  
Faizabad Road, Lucknow (U.P.)- 226028

Your Ref.No. & Date : BBDCODS/Gen.\_Int./2024/07

dated : 03.01.2024

TEST REPORT AS PER RELEVANT IS/ASTM STANDARD FOLLOWED

TEST REPORT NO: 3323(I-V)

**PART - A :- PARTICULARS OF SAMPLE SUBMITTED**

a)	Name of the sample	:	Dental Sample as stated by the party
b)	Grade / Variety / type / size / class	:	--
c)	Declared value, if any &	:	--
d)	Code No.	:	--
e)	Batch No. & Date of Manufacture	:	--
f)	Quantity	:	30 Nos. (6 Nos of each 5 Groups)
g)	Mode of Packing	:	Packed in plastic container
h)	Sealed or not	:	Not sealed
i)	Date of receipt of sample	:	08.01.2024
j)	Date of starting of the testing	:	10.01.2024
k)	Date of completion of testing	:	24.01.2024
l)	Any other information	:	Payment received on 08.01.2024

**PART - B :- SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATIONS**

a)	Reference to sampling procedure	:	Not Applicable.
b)	Supporting document for the measurement taken & result derived	:	Not Applicable.
c)	Deviation from the test method as prescribed in relevant work instructions, if any	:	Not Applicable.



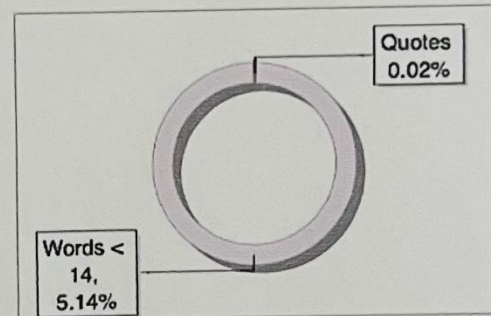
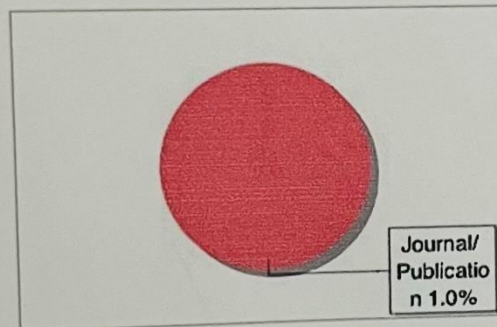
The Report is Generated by DrillBit Plagiarism Detection Software

### Submission Information

Author Name	SHIVANI AGARWAL
Title	"A COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF FRACTURE RESISTANCE OF ENDODONTICALLY TREATED TEETH OBTURATED WITH DIFFERENT OBTURATING TECHNIQUES: AN IN VITRO STUDY"
Paper/Submission ID	1419683
Submitted by	amarpal.singh056@bbdu.ac.in
Submission Date	2024-02-10 14:27:37
Total Pages	46
Document type	Dissertation

### Result Information

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Language	English
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Institution Repository	Yes

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