



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Numerical analysis of the effect of implant geometry to stress distributions of the three different commercial dental implant system

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: The success of dental implants is related to the quality, quantity of local bones, implant design and surgical technique. Implant diameter and length are accepted as key factors. Present work focuses to investigate the effect of titanium implant geometry to stress distributions in implant system.

Materials and Methods: For this purpose three different implant models which are currently being used in clinical cases constructed by using *ANSYS Workbench 12.1*. The stress distributions on components of implant system under static loadings were analyzed for all models.

Results: The maximum stress values that occurred in all components happen in the case of loading in which the Nucleoss T-4 (Nucleoss, Turkiye) implant is used, but the occurred lowest stress values happen in the case of F₁ loading in which Nobel Active (Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland) implant is used. In all models, the maximum tensions have occurred in the neck region of the implants.

Conclusions: The crestal bone loss in the neck region of the implants reduced the long-term survival rate of implants. The length and the size of the implant are the two important factors in the stress distribution.

INTRODUCTION

Since the osseointegration of Brenemark¹ was defined as the directly structural and functional connection, without having a

fibrous tissue between the living bone tissue and implant surface under loading in 1960s, the dental implant-supported prosthesis have been scientifically accepted and have

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been a common treatment choice in the case of reconstructing of partial or total tooth loss.²

While the basic reason of early term loss of implant in endosseous dental implantation is the infection of periimplant tissues, the basic reason of implant-loss after the loading and osseointegration is the loss of bone which occurs on the implant neck region. The occurrence of loss of periimplant bone after loading derives from the excessive stress that comes along the long axis of implant and/or having a wrong direction. The type of stress, the features of materials of which the implants and prosthesis are made, the implant geometry and its surface structure, the quality and the quantity of bones around implant, the structure between bone and implant are the factors that determine the stress which affects the bones around implants.³

Numerous implant concepts and implant types which have different shapes, dimensions, materials and different surface features have been presented to be used.³⁻⁷ Determining the reasons of the loss of implants, the analysis of the mechanical relations between bone and implant are important for planning of an effective, useful and dependable implant system.^{4,5} FEM (Finite Element Method) has taken part in literature as being a useful method to determine the tensions that occur on bone-implant intersurface during mechanical loading. With the help of FEM analysis, it has been suggested that the highest stress rate in endosseous dental implantation occurs in the occlusal part of cortical bone around implant.⁴ Many researchers have done lots of studies to increase the contact area on between the bone and implant intersurface and to lessen the crestal bone loss by diminishing the stress which affects the cortical alveolar bone.^{4,6,7,20,21} The studies which aim to increase the connection fields on the bone and implant intersurface concentrate on the size of implants, the

implant geometry and/or the length of the implants. This study focuses to investigate the effect of titanium implant geometry to stress distributions in implant system.

MATERIALS & METHODS

In this study, the implant and mandible, of which solid models were formed by using *Solidworks Programme*, were transferred to *ANYSY Workbench Programme* and finite element analysis were realized. The mandible has been modeled in *Solidworks Programme* with the help of computed tomography images. Figure 1 shows, the images obtained from computed tomography datums, Figure 2 shows, the three-dimensional model of the mandible.

In implant applications, the three implants used clinically have been modeled with the help of manufacturer data. The used implant models have been given in Figure 3. *Nucleoss T4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*), *Nobel Replace* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) and *Nobel Active* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) dental implants have been chosen owing to being a few of the types of commercial implants frequently used in the clinics of our country. While the *Nobel Replace* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) is a tissue level implant; *Nucleoss T4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*) and *Nobel Active* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) are bone level implants. All three implants have grooves in the neck of them. The apical is right angled in all three implants. While *Nobel Replace* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) and the *Nobel Active* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) implants have v-shaped grooves, *Nucleoss T4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*) implant has double helical groove. *Nucleoss T4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*) implant is smaller than *Nobel Replace* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) and *Nobel Active* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*) implants in diameter and length.

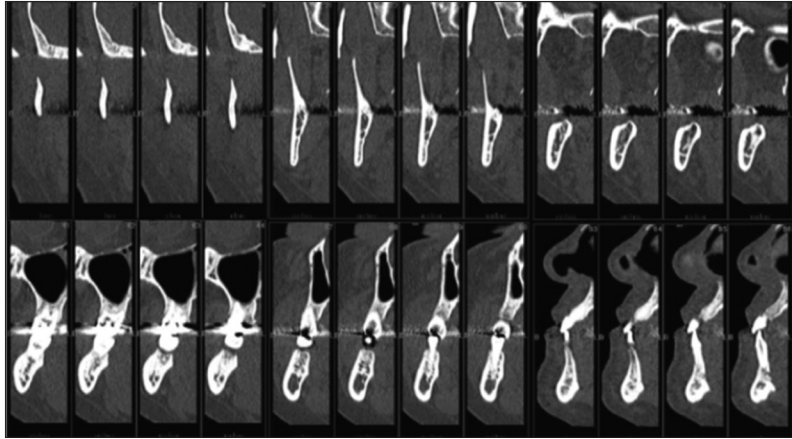


Figure 1. Computed tomography images

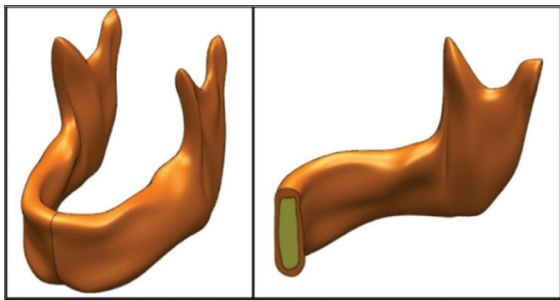


Figure 2. The three-dimensional model of the mandible

The constructed mandible models were divided into finite elements and boundary conditions and they were applied by using the mounting of porcelain prosthesis, implant models, abutment, metal support and adhesive layer. In the Table 1, the mechanic features of the used materials have been given.

Dental implants are exposed to different loads. Three different loads were applied to models in order to examine the effect of different loads to tension distributions. In Figure 4, the application of the load to models has been given. In the figure, θ shows the angle degree of the load, F shows the amount of the load. If the applied loads are vertical, F_{11} is 100 N^4 , if F at an angle of 15 degrees with the vertical axis, F_{11} 100 N^6 , if F at an angle of 30 degrees with the vertical axis, F_{11} 150 N^8 .

RESULTS

When the result of the work were examined, the maximum stress values were obtained in *Nucleoss T-4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*) for all components the lowest stress values were obtained in *Nobel Active* (*Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland*).

In Figure 5, abutment and screws which are the primary elements that exposed to stress are shown. When we look the figure, we see. Additionally, in the model in which only *Nucleoss T-4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir, Turkiye*) implant is used, it has been seen that the stress occurring in abutment during F_{11} and F_{111} loading is higher than the stress value occurring in implant. Within 3 different kinds of implant, the stress distributions of F_{111} during the loading in which value of maximum stress occurs has been given in Figure 6.

When we examine the stress distributions, we notice that the stresses concentrate on the neck region of the implant and the maximum stress values occur on the neck region of the implant in all three implants.

DISCUSSION

FEM is a numerical method that is used to analyze the stress and deformations occurring in the structure of a geometrical

Table 1. The mechanical features of the used materials have been given.

	Young Module (GPa)	Poisson Ratio	Yield Strength (Mpa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)
Ti6Al4V	114	0,34	760	930
Adhesive Layer	5	0,35	-	161
Porcelain	96	0,25	-	400
Trabecular Bone	0,49	0,3	-	23
Cortical Bone	14,7	0,3	-	88

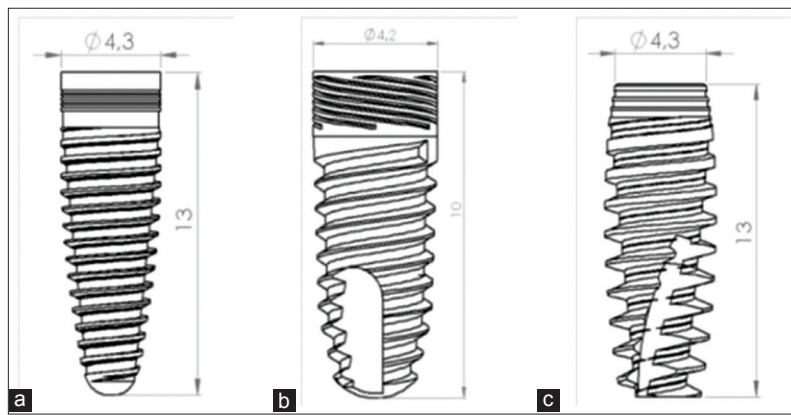


Figure 3. The implant models used in this study: a- Nobel Replace (Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland). b- Nucleoss T-4 (Nucleoss,Izmir,Turkiye), c- Nobel Active (Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland).

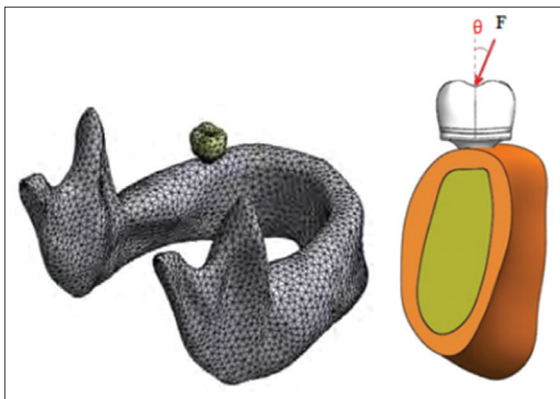


Figure 4. The application of the load to models

model. FEM has taken part in implant technology as not only being a method used in root-form implants and for the evaluation and analysis of forces that affect bone/implant interface but also being a

method used in the evaluation of various clinic and protetic choices.^{3,4,6-8} This method aims to solve complex problems with mathematical methods by dividing them into simple and small structures related with each other.³

In this study, three different commercial osseintegrated implants were examined with FEM. All the studied implants on the same model have been planted on the mandible first molar region. Until now in most studies, the changes occurred in implant and surrounding bone have been examined by looking the stress values of *Von Misses*.^{9,10} So, we approved to examine *Von Misses* stress values based on these studies.

The reason why biomechanical behaviours obtained from this study are

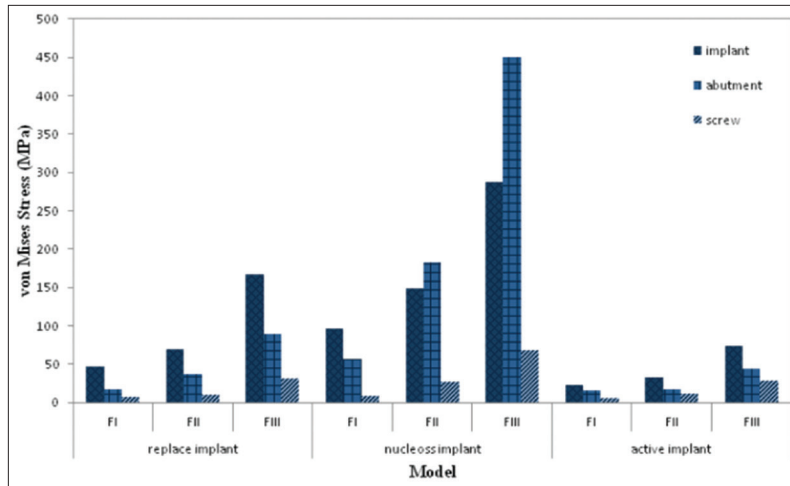


Figure 5. The maximum stress values occurring in implant, abutment and screws

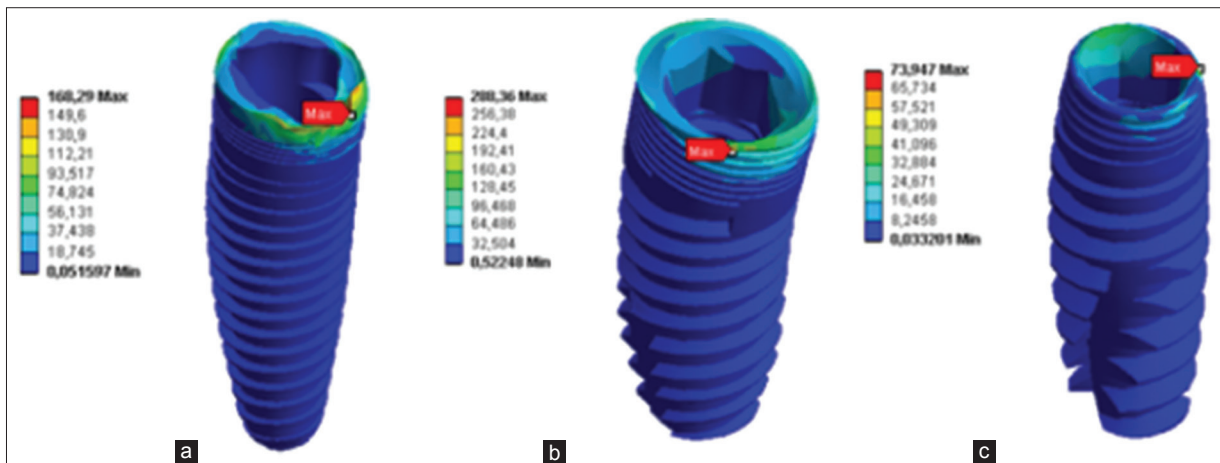


Figure 6. The stress distributions occurring in implants (a- Nobel Replace (Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland), b- Nucleoss T-4(Nucleoss,Izmir,Turkiye), c- Nobel Active (Nobel Biocare, Zurich, Switzerland)).

different is that because implant systems have different parameter shapes. The reason why the obtained results are different for all is that, in accordance with the other studies, the transmission of stress between bone and implant is thought to be basically affected by the shape and size of implant.^{11, 12}

According to former studies done, the length and diameter of the implant are emphasized to be the two important parameters on the stress distribution to bone around implant.¹³ In accordance with this, the basic reason of the stresses occurred in in *Nucleoss T-4* (*Nucleoss, Izmir,*

Turkiye) model to be higher than the other models is that their length and diameter values are smaller than the other models.

The amount and distributions of the stresses coming to bone/implant interface are affected by the length of the implant.¹⁴ In FEM analysis done in former studies, it was put forward that an increase in implant length causes a decrease in crestal bone stress values.⁶ In accordance with this results, the clinic studies state that, contrary to short implants, the long ones can be kept in the mouth for a longer time.^{15, 16} At the same time, there are studies which point that the diameter of

implant is more important than the length of the implant, too.^{8,13,17} According to FEM studies, the possible reason of this result is that because the stress distribution in bone socket is uneven and the bone on implant neck exposed to maximum stress.¹⁷

In FEM studies on titanium implants, it is informed that stress intensity occurs in implant neck region.¹⁸ In this study, stresses coming out in implants concentrate on implant neck region and the maximum Von-Misses stress values emerge on these points too. The result obtained from clinic and histomorphometric studies is that bone loss occurred on implant neck region is an important parameter in implant loss during the period after loading.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ In *Nucleos T-4 (Nucleos, Izmir, Turkiye)* model which is smaller in diameter than the other implants, the stress of neck region is higher. The implants which have a larger neck region can resist more to masticatory forces, can be kept in mouth longer-terms and can cause less crestal bone loss.^{4,17}

In literature, when three-dimensional finite element analysis on dental implants are examined, it is seen that the non-axial forces are more destructive than the axial forces, and non-axial forces cause more stress accumulation in periimplant bone than axial forces do.^{20,21} From this study, in all three implant types, it is clearly seen that a rise in loading force angle with vertical axis increases the stress distribution in implant system. These results are consistent with previous studies. In addition to excessive stress in all forces in *Nucleos T-4 (Nucleos, Izmir, Turkiye)* model, the reason of the stresses coming out in abutments in especially F_{11} and F_{111} forces is, as mentioned previously, *Nucleos T-4 (Nucleos, Izmir, Turkiye)* implant are smaller in length and diameter than the others.^{12,13}

In most single molar implant-supported prostheses, the bone loss occurred as a result of excessive occlusal loading have

been stated to come ahead of implant structures.²² As the increased occlusal forces can cause implant losses by leading to crestal bone loss, it can also cause abutment and implant losses by leading to abutment screw loosening.²³

In implant losses after loading, implant neck fractures should be taken in consideration. The writers have determined an implant fracture rate of % 14 in a study on standard *Nobel Biocare (Zurich, Switzerland)* implant-supported single molars.²² This study has been done on mandible posterior region. When obtained results have been examined, maximum stress values occurred in all components have been determined to come out in *Nucleos T-4 (Nucleos, Izmir, Turkiye)* implant-used model in the case of F_{11} loading. The reoccurrence of most stresses in abutment in both F_{11} and F_{111} forces that have angle with vertical axis, the increasing of stress distributions in direct proportion to the increase in the angle with vertical load are remarkable in terms of axial forces. Choosing large-diameter and long implants by taking the length of bone and anatomic limitations into account because of excessive forces occurring during the selection of implant on mandible posterior region can increase the survival rate of the implant in the mouth. Large-diameter and long implants used on mandible posterior region can perform better biomechanical properties with the increasing surface, increasing fracture resistance and increasing abutment stability.²³

CONCLUSION

Based on the limited results of this study, we can say that implant geometry is an important parameter in the distribution of biomechanic forces on implant and periimplant tissues. High-emergence of stress distribution, in implants which are smaller in length and diameter put

forward that length and diameter are the two important factors in the distribution of forces. In all models, maximum stresses occur on implant neck region. The crestal bone loss on implant neck region diminishes the survival rate of implants in the mouth in long terms. In the implants which are exposed to more masticatory force on lower jaw posterior regions, especially the use of large-diameter and long implants can be evaluated as parameters which increase the survival rate in the mouth. There is need of more laboratory and clinical studies in order to obtain appropriate shape-geometry that provide longer term clinical use of implants.

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