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論文内容の要旨 (博士)

博士学位論文名

トリブチルボランを重合開始剤とした歯科用高分子材料の研究

(要旨 1,200 字程度)

多くの歯を残すことで心身的健康状態を保ち、QOLを向上することは国際的な健康課題として掲げられている。従来、「歯を削る」治療を主としていた歯科治療は「歯を残す」、「歯を再生する」治療へと移行している。

トリブチルボラン (TBB) は、1971 年に「歯科用接着性材料」の重合開始剤として米国で製品化された、歯科で使用される一般的な開始剤と比較して TBB を重合開始剤とする材料は歯質接着性が高いこと、残存する未反応モノマーが少ないなど歯科材料として望ましい特長を有することが報告されている。 TBB は長きにわたり「歯科用接着性材料」として歯科治療の進歩に大きく貢献してきたが、TBB の特性を活かすことで「歯を残す」、「歯を再生する」次世代の歯科材料への展開が期待できる。

そこで本研究では、TBB を重合開始剤とした「歯の保存を可能とする新しい高分子材料」を開発することを目的とした.

第一章では、口腔保健の意義と歯科材料が担う役割について述べた. 口腔状態が全身健康に及ぼす影響を明らかにし、歯科治療、材料の分類と材料に求められる要件を概説した.

第二章では、TBBと他の重合開始剤との違い、TBBの利点および生体適合性を説明し、本研究の意義と目的を明確にした。

第三章では、歯科で一般的に使用される過酸化ベンゾイルとアミン(BPO/アミン)を重合開始剤としたメタクリル酸メチル(MMA)の重合挙動と TBB のそれを比較した. TBB による MMA の転化率がBPO/アミンより高く、生成したポリマーの分子量が 2 倍以上となることを明らかにした. 更に、TBB のラジカル強度が長期間に渡って保たれ、TBB によって調製したポリマーが重合開始剤機能を有することを見出した.

第四章では、本研究において TBB と組み合わせた無機材料である mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA) の特長と歯科における用途や効果効能について説明した上で、TBB と組み合わせる意義について述べた。

第五章では、従来の MTA 材料の操作性と辺縁封鎖性を向上した新規材料を設計、歯科材料として必要な諸物性の付与と性状調整を行った. 加えて、実使用を想定した保存安定性試験や細胞毒性試験を行い、最終組成を決定した.

第六章では、歯科治療の予後を左右する重要な因子である歯冠修復物の辺縁封鎖性について、新規材料と従来型の材料との比較評価を行い、第五章で開発した新規材料が優れた辺縁封鎖性を有する材料であることを示した.

第七章では,新規材料の物理化学的特性を,臨床使用されている光化学重合性 MTA 材料(既存材料) との比較により評価し,新規材料の物理化学的特性が優れていることを明らかにした.

第八章では、MTA 材料の最も重要な機能である「生体適合性」と「硬組織再生誘導能」を、イヌを 用いた臨床使用模擬試験により評価した. 新規材料の炎症性反応は既存材料と同等以下であり、硬組織 再生誘導能は既存材料よりも高いことを示した.

第九章では、新規材料の臨床への展開と課題について述べた.

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Abstract (Doctor)

Title of Thesis Study on dental polymer materials using tri-butylborane as a polymerization initiator

Approx. 800 words

Much attention to keep healthy state and to improve the quality of life has been attracted as worldwide concern. It is important to preserve many teeth for the maintenance of mental and physical health. For this reason, dental treatment is shifting from "drilling teeth" to "preserving teeth" or "regenerating teeth". Tri-butylborane (TBB) was commercialized in 1971 as a polymerization initiator for dental adhesive material. It was reported that dental materials using TBB as a polymerization initiator showed higher tooth adhesion and less residual monomer compared to general initiators used in dentistry. TBB has long contributed to the advancement of dental treatment as an "adhesive material" for dental use. Furthermore, it is expected that TBB can be expanded into new dental materials for "preserving teeth" or "regenerating teeth". The purpose of this study was to develop "a new polymer material that can preserve teeth" using TBB as a polymerization initiator.

In chapter 1, the significance of oral health and the role played by dental materials were described. The effects of oral condition on general health were clarified. Then, dental treatment, classification of materials, and requirements of dental materials were outlined.

In chapter 2, the difference between TBB and other polymerization initiators, the advantages of TBB at the tooth interface, and biocompatibility were explained. In addition, we mentioned the significance and purpose of this study.

In chapter 3, the polymerization behavior of methyl methacrylate (MMA) using TBB was compared with that of benzoyl peroxide and amine (BPO/amine) as polymerization initiators commonly used in dentistry. As a result, we clarified that the conversion of MMA by TBB was higher than that of BPO/amine. Furthermore, the molecular weight of polymer produced by TBB was more than twice as big as that of BPO/amine. In addition, we found that the radical intensity of polymerization by TBB was maintained for a long time, and the polymer that was prepared by TBB had a polymerization initiator function.

In chapter 4, the features and efficacies of mineral trioxide aggregate (MTA), which is an inorganic material combined with TBB were outlined. Then, the significance of combining TBB and MTA was described.

In chapter 5, we designed a new material that improves the operability and sealing-ability of the conventional MTA material. The reactivity of monomer, X-ray contrast agent, and composition of materials were investigated. In addition, storage stability tests and cytotoxicity tests were performed assuming clinical use, and the final composition was determined.

In chapter 6, a comparative evaluation of the new MTA material and the conventional MTA material was carried out to evaluate the marginal sealing-ability of the crown restoration. The marginal sealing-ability is an important factor that determines the prognosis of dental treatment. In this chapter, it was shown that the new MTA material has excellent marginal sealing-ability.

In chapter 7, the physicochemical properties of the new MTA materials were evaluated by comparison with light-curable MTA materials already used clinically. As a result, we clarified that the new MTA material has the excellent physicochemical properties.

In chapter 8, "biocompatibility" and "hard tissue regeneration inducing ability" that were the most important functions of MTA materials were evaluated by a clinical use simulation test using dogs. As a result, the inflammatory changes by the new MTA material was less than or equal to that of the existing MTA material. Thus, we considered that the new MTA material can be used clinically. Furthermore, the condition of the hard tissues that were regenerated by applying the new MTA material was superior to that of the existing MTA material.

In chapter 9, the clinical application of new MTA materials and their challenges were described.