## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0300-5712(15)30007-5

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jdent.2015.06.013

Reference: JJOD 2487

To appear in: Journal of Dentistry

Received date: 28-12-2014 Revised date: 29-6-2015 Accepted date: 30-6-2015

Please cite this article as: Kakuda Shinichi, Sidhu Sharanbir K, Sano Hidehiko. Buffering or non-buffering; an action of pit-and-fissure sealants. *Journal of Dentistry* http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdent.2015.06.013

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Buffering or non-buffering; an action of pit-and-fissure sealants

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Abstract

**Objectives** 

The aim of this study was to evaluate the buffering capacity of glass-ionomer material in vitro. The

null hypothesis tested was that there is no effect of cured glass-ionomer pit-and-fissure sealant

(PFS) pastes on the environmental acidity as well as the tooth substrate.

Method

For each material, a cured PFS disk and a section of human enamel were simultaneously soaked in

lactic acid solution in a conical tube, and the pH of the solution was measured daily for one week.

Subsequently, the total amount of calcium leached out in solution was also measured with ICP-AES.

Results

The results showed that the acidity of the solutions changed over time. Significant differences of

calcium ion concentration in solution were observed as a result of decalcification. As the PFS

products tested did not include calcium, the concentration of calcium ion released indicated acidic

erosion of the tooth enamel.

**Conclusions** 

The glass-ionomer countered the acid of the solution rapidly and preserved the structure of human

tooth enamel.

1. Introduction

Dental caries is initiated by demineralization of the outer surface of the tooth due to organic acids

produced locally by bacteria that ferment deposits of dietary carbohydrates.<sup>1,2</sup> Acid of aged plaque

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