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Review Article

Which Irrigant Should be used for Vital Pulp Therapy in Permanent Teeth? : A Review of the Literature

Hataichanok Machareonsap[1], Papimon Chompu-inwai[1], Chanika Manmontri[1], Hsuan-lu Alicia Ko[2,3], Nattakan Chaipattanawan[1]

[1]Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

[2]Taiwan Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Taiwan

[3]Andersen 4 kid Dental Clinic, Taiwan

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Corresponding Author: **Nattakan Chaipattanawan** Lecturer, Department of Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand. (E-mail: nattakan.chai@cmu.ac.th)

Abstract

Management of deep carious lesions has come to a more conservative approach. Vital pulp therapy (VPT) hasbeen proposed as an alternative treatment to traditional root canal treatment with the primary goal to stimulate the pulpal repair process. The materials used for VPT must be able to provide antimicrobial effect, biocompatibility, and bioactive property to achieve successful treatment. Moreover, other minor properties such as not causing adverse effects on the remaining tooth structure, and/or on bond strength of the restoration, and any discoloration of the tooth after treatment can also improve the quality of VPT. Nowadays, there seems to be an agreement on the appropriate pulp dressing materials for VPT. However, the appropriate irrigant for VPT remains questionable. This article reviews irrigants commonly used in endodontics with an emphasis on their properties relevant to the objectives of VPT.

Keywords: chlorhexidine, ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid, irrigant, saline solution, sodium hypochlorite, vital pulp therapy