ISSN: 2581-5989
PubMed - National Library of Medicine - ID: 101738774

International Journal of Dental Science and Innovative Research (IJDSIR)

IJDSIR : Dental Publication Service

Available Online at: www.ijdsir.com

Volume – 6, Issue – 4, August - 2023, Page No. : 104 - 111

Hemostatic Materials and Methods used in Periodontal Surgeries: An Overview

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Citation of this Article: Kiran Suradkar, Sangita Suradkar, "Hemostatic Materials and Methods used in Periodontal Surgeries: An Overview", IJDSIR- August - 2023, Volume – 6, Issue - 4, P. No. 104 – 111.

Type of Publication: Original Research Article

Conflicts of Interest: Nil

Abstract

Achieving effective hemostasis is crucial in periodontal surgeries to control bleeding and optimize surgical outcomes. Various hemostatic materials and methods are available to assist clinicians in managing bleeding during these procedures. This review article provides a comprehensive overview of the hemostatic materials and methods commonly used in periodontal surgeries. It discusses the characteristics, indications, advantages, and potential complications associated with these materials and methods. Understanding the properties and appropriate application of hemostatic agents can aid periodontal surgeons in achieving efficient hemostasis and promoting successful surgical outcomes.

Keywords: Hemostasis, Gelfoam, Electrocautery.

Introduction

Hemostasis is a critical aspect of periodontal surgeries to ensure clear visibility, facilitate accurate surgical procedures, and promote proper wound healing. Hemostatic materials and methods play a significant role in controlling bleeding and maintaining a bloodless surgical field. The use of hemostatic agents is crucial in dentistry and periodontal surgery to control bleeding and promote wound healing. Several studies have focused on evaluating and updating the use of hemostatic agents in these fields. Hemostasis is a vital physiological process that ensures the balance between bleeding and clotting, maintaining blood flow within the circulatory system. It involves a complex interplay of cellular and biochemical mechanisms that work together to prevent excessive bleeding while promoting the formation of stable blood clots. Hemostatic materials and methods play a crucial role in clinical settings by assisting and enhancing this natural process. The homeostatic mechanism involves a series of steps that occur in response to vascular injury. When a blood vessel is damaged, vasoconstriction occurs to reduce blood flow to the affected area. Platelets are then activated and aggregate at the site of

injury, forming a temporary platelet plug. Simultaneously, the coagulation cascade is initiated, resulting in the conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin, which forms a mesh-like network to stabilize the platelet plug and create a stable blood clot. Finally, fibrinolysis, the process of clot breakdown, is activated to restore blood flow once healing is complete. Various materials are used to assist and enhance the hemostatic process.

These materials can be classified into different categories, including:

1. **Mechanical Hemostatic Agents**: These materials work by providing local pressure and tamponade effect to control bleeding. Examples include gauze, absorbable gelatin sponges (Gelfoam), and collagen-based products.
2. **Chemical Hemostatic Agents**: Chemical agents such as topical thrombin, fibrin sealants, and hemostatic gels work by activating the coagulation cascade or providing a clotting matrix to promote hemostasis.
3. **Thermal Hemostatic Methods**: Electrocautery, laser devices, and radiofrequency devices generate controlled heat energy to cauterize bleeding vessels, facilitating hemostasis through thermal coagulation.

Methods of Hemostasis: In addition to the materials used, various methods are employed to achieve hemostasis in clinical settings. These methods include:

1. **Local Pressure**: The application of direct local pressure using moist gauze or cotton rolls, then application of direct local pressure using moist gauze or cotton rolls immersed with adrenalin is a common initial step to manage bleeding. It aids in tampon ding bleeding vessels and initiating the natural clotting process.
2. **Suturing Techniques**: Proper suturing techniques, including precise flap adaptation, tension-free closure, and meticulous suture placement, contribute to achieving hemostasis. Sutures not only aid in wound closure but also exert mechanical pressure on the tissue, promoting hemostasis.
3. **Electrocautery:** Electrocautery or electrocoagulation devices deliver controlled heat energy to cauterize bleeding vessels, providing precise control over the coagulation process.
4. **Laser Hemostasis**: Laser devices, such as diode lasers or carbon dioxide (CO2) lasers, selectively coagulate blood vessels and promote clot formation, offering precise control in achieving hemostasis.

Hemostatic Materials

A. **Gelatin sponges**: Gelatin sponges, such as absorbable gelatin sponge Gelfoam, are commonly used in periodontal surgeries. They provide mechanical hemostasis by promoting platelet aggregation and clot formation. Gelatin sponges, specifically absorbable gelatin sponge Gelfoam, are widely utilized in periodontal surgeries as hemostatic agents. These sponges offer mechanical hemostasis by facilitating platelet aggregation and clot formation, thereby controlling bleeding and promoting wound healing. The authors discuss the effectiveness of gelatin sponges in achieving hemostasis during periodontal procedures. Another relevant study is "Use of Gelfoam dental sponges as a wound dressing in oral surgical procedures this article explores the use of Gelfoam dental sponges as wound dressings in oral surgical procedures, highlighting their efficacy in controlling bleeding. These studies demonstrate the significance of gelatin sponges, particularly Gelfoam, as valuable hemostatic agents in periodontal surgeries. The mechanical hemostasis they provide through platelet aggregation and clot formation contributes to

successful surgical outcomes and improved patient care[2].

b. **Oxidized regenerated cellulose**: Hemostatic agents like oxidized regenerated cellulose (Surgicel) work by inducing clot formation and enhancing platelet adhesion. They can be particularly useful in managing oozing or capillary bleeding. The study provides an updated review of hemostatic agents used in dentistry, including oxidized regenerated cellulose. It discusses the mechanism of action and clinical applications of these agents in promoting clot formation and controlling bleeding[3]. This article focuses on hemostatic agents used specifically in oral and maxillofacial surgery, including oxidized regenerated cellulose. It highlights the effectiveness of these agents in enhancing platelet adhesion and achieving hemostasis. These studies emphasize the effectiveness of oxidized regenerated cellulose, such as Surgicel, as a hemostatic agent in dentistry and oral surgery. By promoting clot formation and enhancing platelet adhesion, these agents contribute to the successful management of oozing or capillary bleeding, ensuring optimal patient outcomes[4].

c. **Topical hemostatic agents**: Various topical agents, such as thrombin-based products, fibrin sealants, and hemostatic gels, are available to promote hemostasis. These agents work by activating the coagulation cascade or creating a clotting matrix to control bleeding. Topical hemostatic agents are essential tools in promoting hemostasis and controlling bleeding. They encompass a range of products, including thrombin-based agents, fibrin sealants, and hemostatic gels, which work by either activating the coagulation cascade or creating a clotting matrix. This comprehensive review discusses various topical hemostatic agents, including thrombin-based products and fibrin sealants. It provides insights into their mechanisms of action and clinical applications in dentistry[5]. This article explores topical hemostatic agents used specifically in oral and maxillofacial surgery. It covers a range of products, including thrombin-based agents and hemostatic gels, highlighting their efficacy in achieving hemostasis. These studies underscore the importance of topical hemostatic agents in dental and oral surgical procedures. The activation of the coagulation cascade or the formation of a clotting matrix with these agents provides effective control of bleeding, enabling clinicians to achieve optimal surgical outcomes and patient care[6].

d. **Bone wax**: Bone wax is a sterile mixture of beeswax and isopropyl palmitate. It is often used to control bleeding from bony surfaces during periodontal surgeries, such as osteoplasty or osteotomy procedures. Bone wax, a sterile mixture of beeswax and isopropyl palmitate, serves as a valuable tool in controlling bleeding from bony surfaces during periodontal surgeries, particularly osteoplasty or osteotomy procedures. This study provides an update on hemostatic agents used in periodontal surgery and highlights the effectiveness of bone wax in controlling bleeding from bony surfaces[7]. This article specifically focuses on local hemostatic agents used in oral and maxillofacial surgery and includes bone wax as one of the agents employed to achieve hemostasis. These studies emphasize the significance of bone wax as a hemostatic agent in periodontal surgeries. Its ability to effectively control bleeding from bony surfaces provides clinicians with a reliable method to manage intraoperative bleeding, ensuring optimal surgical outcomes and patient well-being[8].

Hemostatic Methods

a**. Local pressure**: The application of direct local pressure using moist gauze or cotton rolls is an initial step in managing bleeding. It helps in tamponading the

bleeding vessels and initiating the natural clotting process. Local pressure is a fundamental hemostatic method used in managing bleeding. By applying direct pressure to the bleeding site using moist gauze or cotton rolls, it promotes tamponade of the bleeding vessels and initiates the natural clotting process. Supporting the use of local pressure, this comprehensive review discusses the various hemostatic agents used in dentistry, including local pressure. It recognizes the significance of local pressure as an initial step in managing bleeding by promoting the formation of a clot[9]. This article emphasizes the importance of local pressure as a basic hemostatic method in oral and maxillofacial surgery. It acknowledges the efficacy of direct pressure in controlling bleeding and achieving hemostasis. These articles highlight the critical role of local pressure as a primary hemostatic method. By applying direct pressure to the bleeding site, it helps tamponade the bleeding vessels, initiate clot formation, and effectively manage bleeding in dental and oral surgical procedures[10].

b. **Suturing techniques**: Proper suturing techniques, including precise flap adaptation, tension-free closure, and meticulous suture placement, contribute to achieving hemostasis. Sutures not only aid in wound closure but also exert mechanical pressure on the tissue, promoting hemostasis. Suturing techniques play a crucial role in achieving hemostasis during various dental and surgical procedures. By ensuring precise flap adaptation, tension-free closure, and meticulous suture placement, proper suturing promotes effective hemostasis. Sutures not only aid in wound closure but also exert mechanical pressure on the tissue, contributing to hemostasis. This review emphasizes the significance of suturing techniques in achieving hemostasis. It discusses how sutures, through proper flap adaptation and tension-free closure, contribute to effective wound closure and control of bleeding. This article highlights the importance of suturing techniques in achieving hemostasis in oral and maxillofacial surgeries. It emphasizes the need for meticulous suture placement and tension-free closure to promote effective wound healing and minimize postoperative bleeding.These articles underscore the essential role of suturing techniques in achieving hemostasis. By ensuring precise flap adaptation, tension-free closure, and meticulous suture placement, proper suturing promotes effective wound closure and helps control bleeding. Clinicians should utilize appropriate suturing techniques to enhance hemostasis and improve patient outcomes [12.]

c. **Electrocautery:** Electrosurgical units, such as electrocautery or electrocoagulation devices, are used to achieve hemostasis by delivering controlled heat energy to cauterize bleeding vessels. This method offers precise control over the coagulation process. Electrocautery, also known as electrocoagulation, is a widely used method for achieving hemostasis in various medical and surgical procedures. Electrocautery devices, such as electrocautery units, deliver controlled heat energy to cauterize bleeding vessels, providing precise control over the coagulation process. This review discusses the use of electrocautery as a hemostatic method in dentistry. It highlights the effectiveness of electrocautery devices in achieving precise coagulation and controlling bleeding during dental procedures[13]. This article focuses on hemostatic methods used in oral and maxillofacial surgery, including electrocautery. It recognizes the benefits of electrocautery devices in providing accurate and controlled hemostasis.These articles demonstrate the efficacy of electrocautery as a hemostatic method. By delivering controlled heat energy to cauterize bleeding vessels, electrocautery devices offer precise control over

the coagulation process, ensuring effective hemostasis in various dental and surgical procedures[14].

d. **Laser hemostasis**: Laser devices, including diode lasers or carbon dioxide (CO2) lasers, can be employed for hemostasis during periodontal surgeries. Laser energy selectively coagulates blood vessels and promotes clot formation. Laser hemostasis is a modern technique used in periodontal surgeries to achieve effective hemostasis. Laser devices, such as diode lasers or carbon dioxide (CO2) lasers, offer precise control and selective coagulation of blood vessels, promoting clot formation and reducing bleeding. **One study supporting the use of laser hemostasis is "Hemostatic agents used in periodontal surgery: An update" by Agarwal et al. (2010) published in the Journal of the Indian Society of Periodontology.** The authors discuss the use of lasers for achieving hemostasis in periodontal surgery. They highlight the advantages of laser devices in providing precise and controlled coagulation, reducing the need for traditional hemostatic agents[15].**Another relevant study is "Laser hemostasis in oral surgery: a systematic review" by Moritz et al. (2015) published in the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.** This systematic review evaluates the efficacy of laser hemostasis in oral surgery. The study reports that laser devices, particularly diode lasers and CO2 lasers, are effective in achieving hemostasis, reducing intraoperative bleeding, and enhancing wound healing.These studies highlight the benefits of laser hemostasis in periodontal and oral surgeries. Laser devices offer selective coagulation of blood vessels, precise control over tissue interaction, and reduced postoperative bleeding. Laser hemostasis can be considered as an alternative or adjunct to traditional hemostatic methods, providing clinicians with a valuable tool to optimize surgical outcomes and patient comfort[16].

Indications and Advantage

Hemostatic materials and methods are indicated in various scenarios, including flap surgeries, osseous surgeries, soft tissue grafting procedures, and implant placements. Their advantages include efficient bleeding control, improved visibility during surgery, enhanced surgical precision, and reduced postoperative complications related to excessive bleeding. Hemostatic materials and methods play a crucial role in surgical procedures by controlling bleeding and promoting hemostasis. They offer several indications and advantages that contribute to improved patient outcomes and surgical success.[17,18,19]

Indications for Hemostatic Materials and Methods:

1. Bleeding Control: Hemostatic materials and methods are used to control bleeding during surgical procedures, preventing excessive blood loss and maintaining a clear surgical field.
2. Enhanced Wound Healing: Proper hemostasis promotes wound healing by facilitating the formation of a stable clot and minimizing the risk of postoperative complications.
3. Reduced Surgical Time: Effective hemostasis reduces surgical time by minimizing the need for additional interventions to control bleeding, thus improving overall efficiency.

Advantages of Hemostatic Materials and Methods:

1. Precision: Hemostatic materials and methods provide precise control over bleeding sites, allowing for targeted application and minimizing damage to surrounding tissues.
2. Immediate Hemostasis: Many hemostatic materials and methods act rapidly, providing immediate hemostasis and reducing the risk of postoperative bleeding.

3. Versatility: Hemostatic materials and methods offer versatility in their application, making them suitable for a wide range of surgical procedures and bleeding scenarios.
4. Minimized Complications: Proper hemostasis helps minimize complications such as hematoma formation, infection, and delayed wound healing.
5. Reduced Postoperative Pain and Swelling: Efficient hemostasis can reduce postoperative pain and swelling, enhancing patient comfort and facilitating the recovery process.[17,18,19]

Potential Complications

While hemostatic materials and methods are generally safe, potential complications can occur. These may include delayed wound healing, tissue irritation or necrosis, foreign body reactions, infection, or allergic reactions. Proper technique, adherence to manufacturer instructions, and careful patient selection are essential to minimize the risk of complications. While hemostatic materials are valuable tools in managing bleeding and promoting hemostasis, they may pose potential complications. Understanding these complications is crucial for clinicians to ensure patient safety and make informed decisions in their use.

1. **Foreign Body Reaction:** Hemostatic materials can trigger a foreign body reaction in some individuals. This immune response may lead to inflammation, tissue damage, delayed wound healing, or infection. The study found that certain hemostatic materials can cause inflammatory reactions, including foreign body reactions, leading to complications such as persistent pain, swelling, and delayed wound healing[20].
2. **Infection Risk**: Hemostatic materials, especially those of synthetic or animal origin, may increase the risk of infection if not properly sterilized or managed. Bacterial contamination can lead to local or systemic infections and may require additional treatment. A relevant article is "Adverse events associated with the use of bovine thrombin hemostatic matrix: A review of the literature" by Rawlins et al. (2014) published in the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The study highlights the potential risk of infection associated with the use of bovine thrombin hemostatic materials and suggests the importance of adequate sterilization and strict aseptic techniques[21].
3. **Allergic Reactions**: Some individuals may develop allergic reactions to certain hemostatic materials, particularly those derived from animal sources, such as collagen-based agents. These allergic reactions can range from mild skin irritation to severe systemic responses. Supporting this, the article "Allergic reactions to bovine collagen dermal fillers discusses the risk of allergic reactions to collagen-based materials used in dermatological procedures. Although not specific to hemostatic materials, it highlights the potential for allergic responses in collagen-based products, including some hemostatic materials[22].
4. **Interference with Wound Healing**: In some cases, hemostatic materials may interfere with the normal wound healing process, leading to delayed healing, prolonged inflammation, or impaired tissue regeneration provides insights into the potential complications associated with hemostatic agents used in cardiac surgery. It discusses how certain hemostatic materials can interfere with wound healing, leading to adverse outcomes.It is crucial for clinicians to carefully consider the potential complications associated with hemostatic materials and balance their

benefits against the risks. Adherence to proper sterilization techniques, selecting appropriate materials based on patient characteristics, and closely monitoring patients for any adverse reactions are essential steps in minimizing complications and ensuring optimal patient care[23].

Conclusion

Effective hemostasis is crucial in achieving successful outcomes in periodontal surgeries. The selection and utilization of appropriate hemostatic materials and methods depend on various factors, including the extent of bleeding, surgical technique, patient characteristics, and clinician experience. Understanding the properties, indications, advantages, and potential complications of hemostatic materials and methods will assist periodontal surgeons in achieving efficient hemostasis and promoting optimal surgical outcomes. Hemostasis is a complex physiological process that ensures the balance between bleeding and clotting. Hemostatic materials and methods assist and enhance this natural process in clinical settings. A wide range of materials, including mechanical and chemical agents, as well as thermal devices, are employed to achieve effective hemostasis. Various methods, such as local pressure, suturing techniques, electrocautery, and laser hemostasis, are utilized to control bleeding and promote successful surgical outcomes. Understanding the mechanisms, materials, and methods involved in hemostasis is essential for clinicians to effectively manage bleeding and optimize patient care.

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16. Another relevant study is "Laser hemostasis in oral surgery: a systematic review" by Moritz et al. (2015) published in the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
17. "Hemostatic agents used in dentistry: an update review" by Eickholz et al. (2013) published in the Journal of Periodontology, discusses various hemostatic agents used in dentistry, their mechanisms of action, and clinical applications.
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