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**TITLE:**

**PULP CAP AND PULP RESPONSE**

**By:**

**Haydeh Sorobi Akbari**

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**ADVISOR:**

**Dr: M. Motamedi D.M.D , M.SC.D**

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# Pulp Cap and Pulp Response

Prepared by: Haydeh sorobi Akbari

was reviewed in thesis assessment committee

and admitted with grade.....

Advisor: Dr.M. Motamedi D.M.D, M.SC. D.

Sing:

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Members of assessment committee:

1-

Handwritten signature

2-

Handwritten signature

3- Abbas-Ali Paydar

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Handwritten numbers: 0 2 8 4 9

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## *Intruduction*

Repair is surprising power which is present in living creature compensate injury. All medical procedure in fact are in direction to this power to function perfectly as much as possible and without this nothing can save health of living tissue.

In the field of dentistry, progress to a conservative approach is sensible. In former times extraction was the only way to get ride of dental pain.

Sometimes later, It became clear that earlier removal and filling the tooth can usually stop the disease and return the tooth to normal function and since then filling method and matrial began to improve. However deep caries which injured The pulp was a problem becuse they didn't know a way to preserve vitality of injured pulp and return it to normal position method to coverd pulp wound like an open wound on another part of body faild becused pulp can not tolerate more than a limited inflammation this procedure made nerve ending very sensetive and result to an awful pain. there for destruction or removal of this "troublesome nernetissue" appeared to be the solution.

Pulp is the formative organ of the tooth it build primary dentine during the development of the tooth. Secondary dentine after tooth eruption and reprative dentine in response to stimulation as long as odonotoblast remain intact.

Exposure of the pulp cused most commonly by caries but may also cused by trauma from blow or during cavity prepration. Pulp exposure by caries occure more frequently in primary teeth. Exposure of the pulp by caries is

invariability accompanied by infection of the pulp and traumatic exposure is followed by infection if the exposed pulp becomes contaminated by saliva.

The aim of pulp capping is to maintain the vitality of the pulp. Because even a tooth with perfectly performed and successful root canal treatment possesses certain disadvantages when compared to a tooth with a vital pulp.

There are 3 acceptable procedures for maintaining vital pulp.

- 1) Natural pulp cap.
- 2) Direct pulp cap.
- 3) Indirect pulp cap.

By the way there are many skeptics who condemn pulp capping but like to keep an eye on research progress being made. Considerable literature emphasizes the negative aspect of vital pulp therapy and discourages its practice. Some clinicians and investigators continue to condemn pulp capping therapy for the same reasons reported in the literature 80 years ago despite the advances made in pulp biology. Clinicians are well aware of immediate and long-term success rates after root canal therapy but are less certain of success of pulp capping. A number of negative questions plague clinicians when confronted with the choice of treatment. The research data on pulp capping is at times inadequate, confusing, misleading or even incorrect and diminishes the confidence of the practitioner in performing pulp capping.<sup>(1)</sup>

However, studies have shown that success rates vary from 50% to 70% depending on the method used to evaluate the outcome.



## ***I.Histology***

### ***Odontoblasts***

odontoblast, the second most prominent cell in the pulp, reside adjacent to the predentin with cell bodies in the pulp and cell processes in the Dentinal tubules. They are approximately 5 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter and 25 to 40 $\mu\text{m}$  in length.

They have constant location adjacent to predentin in what is termed the odontogenic zone of pulp. These cells arise from peripheral <sup>(2)</sup> Mesenchymal cells of dental papilla during tooth development and differentiate by acquiring the characteristic morphology of glycoprotein synthesis and secretion.

The cell bodies of the odontoblast are columnar in appearance <sup>(2)</sup> the cell body of active odontoblast has a large nucleus that may contain up to four nuclei. The nucleus is situated at the basal end of the cell and is contained within a nuclear envelope, a well-developing Golgi complex centrally located in the supranuclear cytoplasm, consists of an assembly of smooth-walled vesicles and cisternae. Numerous mitochondria are evenly distributed throughout the cell body. A particularly prominent feature consisting of closely stacked cisternae forms in parallel arrays that are dispersed diffusely within the cytoplasm. Numerous ribosomes closely associated with the membranes of cisternae mark the sites of protein synthesis within the lumen of the cisternae filamentous material probably representing newly synthesized protein can be observed. <sup>(3)</sup>

The Mature odontoblast does not well tolerate change in it's surrounding. If odontoblast stimulate it may activate to form dentin in highly rate. This may occure under normal physiological circumstance . Odontoblasts are capable of mitosis therefore when these cells injured it dies and is replaced by underlying cell that mature from dividing undifferentiated precursors or by re differentiation of fibroblast. Any damage to dentine is passed to the odontoblast that is intimately related to dentin through the communicating tube.

The cell actually increase as it's process leghes during dentin formation when the processe become 2 mm long. It is then many times greater in volume than the cell body. <sup>(2)</sup>

In the coronal portion of the pulp where odontoblast are more columnar they elaborate regular dentin with regular dentinal tube.

The odontoblast in apical portion appear less differentiated and elaborate less tubular more amorphous dentin. <sup>(4)</sup>

## ***Reparative Dentin.***

The term most commonly applied to irregularly formed dentin is reparative dentin, because it so frequently forms in response to extensive abrasion, erosion, caries, or operative procedure. And appears to be a component of the reparative process. It must be recognized however that this type of dentin has also been observed in the pulp of normal un-erupted teeth without any obvious injury. <sup>(3)</sup> It will be recalled that secondary dentin is deposited circum-pulpally at very slow rate through out the life of the vital tooth. In contrast formation of reparative dentin occurs at the pulpal surface of primary or secondary dentin at sites corresponding to areas of irritation. <sup>(3)</sup>

The majority of odontoblasts in this situation degenerate but a few may continue to form dentin. Some of the odontoblasts that are killed are replaced by the migration of undifferentiated cells arising in deeper regions of the pulp to the dentin interface it is believed that the origin of the new odontoblast is from undifferentiated perivascular cells both of the damaged and the newly differentiated odontoblasts then begin deposition of reparative dentin this action to seal off the zone of injury occurs as a healing process initiated by the pulp, resulting in resolution of the inflammatory process and removal of dead cells. <sup>(2)</sup>

Reparative dentin is less tubular and the tubules tend to be more irregular with larger lumina in some cases no tubules are formed the cells that form reparative dentin are not as the primary odontoblasts of the coronal pulp and are often cuboidal <sup>(3)</sup>

The newly form dentin bridge is composed first of thin layer of a tubular dentin on which a relatively thick layer of tubular Dentin is deposited. The fibro dentin was lined by cell resembling mesenchymal cells where as the tubular dentin was associated with cell closely resembling odonotblast.

It's seems that this layer protect the pulp or in other way it serves a protective function. The junction between developmental and reprative dentin has been studied using a dye diffusion technique first noted the presence of an a tubular zone situated between primary dentin and reprative dentin. Scott and Weber found in addition to a dramatic reduction in a number of the tubes that the wall of the tubes along the junction were thickened and often occluded with matrial similar to peritubular Matrix. These observation would indicated that the junctional zone between developmental and reprative dentin is an a tubular zone of low permeability. <sup>(3)</sup>

There is investigation was desinged to study the formation of secondary dentin in permanent teeth of young cat offer denervation the result was that formation regular secondary dentin appear to be enhanced on the denervated side at 30 days, and 90 days post operatively. Where as at 180 days there was no differance between sides. The result indicate that intradental Nerve influence secondary dentin formation in feline permanent teeth. <sup>(6)</sup>

## ***Histopathology***

The dental pulp is delicate connective tissue liberally interspersed with tiny blood vessels. Lymphatics myelinated and unmyelinated nerves and undifferentiated connective tissue cells <sup>(5)</sup>

The enclosure of the pulp tissue within the calcified walls of the dentin precludes the excessive swelling of tissue that occurs in the hyperemic and edematous phase of inflammation. In other tissues the fact that the blood vessels supplying the pulp tissue must enter the tooth through the tiny apical foramina precludes the development of an extensive collateral blood supply to the inflamed part. <sup>(5)</sup>

The inflammation can range from acute to chronic and it may be precipitated by chemical, bacterial, or radiation type injuries or by a combination of these.

Initially either injury to cells or enzymatic by product metabolism may cause release or activation of chemical mediators which in turn cause vasodilation. An increase in blood vessel permeability and leukotaxis these chemicals plus change in metabolism contribute to the cardinal signs of inflammation evident in any connective tissue. <sup>(7)</sup>

There are several types of chemical mediators which play a role in pulp inflammation.

Most of the cause of pulpitis are primarily a result of the dental caries in which bacterial invasion of dentin and pulp tissue occurs. Dental caries does not result in an acute inflammatory.

The pulp defends itself against the lesion of caries quite efficiently. In response to oncoming process of decay sclerosis of dentin an increase in peritubular dentin constitutes the initial defense of pulp against dental caries. Tending to slow down the decay. In response to further irritation as a caries progresses, the pulp will initiate reparative dentin formation. <sup>(4)</sup>

Frankle 1972 said that the reaction of pulp dentinal system to an irritant will be proportional to the duration and intensity of the offending agent.

The cellular elements in chronic inflammation are lymphocyte, plasma cell, and macrophage. An increase in number of mast cell has been reported in association with plasma cell and lymphocytes, and. In chronic inflammation have the function of producing of antibodies which Neutralize antigen. Thus the reaction to dental caries apparently involve. <sup>(4)</sup> both cell mediated and hormonal immunologic phenomena. Theoretically the local immune response should retard and eventually eliminate the inflammatory process by Neutralizing and eliminating the ethiological factors how ever the immunologic mechanisms may contribute to the destructive phase of inflammation and there is possibility of an Arthus type reaction may also occur in the later stage of pulpitis with infiltration of polymorphonuclear leukocytes. <sup>(4)</sup>

Degranulation of these cell in the presence of complement serves pulp destruction and pulp death or pulp Necrosis. In most cases there may be an Acute exacerbation of a chronic inflammation with appearance of leukocytes rapidly migrate through the endothelium lined structures in increasing numbers. <sup>(5)</sup>, and there is vascular dilation which lead to escape of microorganism in to the pulp tissue proteolytic and other enzymes present in

lysosomes. Activate and the break down material and microorganism phagocytized by macrophage, and there is caries reduction in pulp size by secondary or reparative dentin formation and reduction in vascularity by pulp stones, <sup>(5)</sup> Dystrophic calcification and scar tissue in the infected pulp chambers there are several species of bacteria more than 90% of the strain are anaerobic. <sup>(5)</sup>

If there is specific microorganism cause pulpal and periapical infection, therefore there will be swelling and exudate.

Continuous marginal leakage is one of the common cause of the pulp degeneration under restoration.

The function of the pulp are nutritive because it Nourishes the dentin through odontoblast and their processes and by mean of the blood Vascular system of the pulp. Protective because the sensory Nerves in the tooth respond with pain to all stimuli, the Nerves also initiate reflex that control circulation in the pulp. Other function of the pulp are formative and inductive. Formative because the pulp organ cell produce the dentin that surrounds and protect the pulp and inductive because it induce oral epithelial differentiation into dental lamina and enamel organ formation. <sup>(2)</sup>

components against harmful physical ,chemical and microbial irritants.

After mechanical exposure an acute inflammation occurs in pulp at the site of the exposure but the remainder of the pulp is usually unaffected the underlying blood vessels dilate, edema occurs and polymorphonuclear leukocytes accumulate at the site of injury within a few days an acute abscess may develop in the region of the exposure. <sup>(4)</sup> The severity of the reaction

depend on the amount of the initial tissue damage. However in humans, repair can occur after Pulp exposure the prognosis for healing is much better for mechanical exposure of the pulp than it is for carious exposure, because the pulpitis which develops after mechanical exposure usually is not complicated by previous inflammation and infection. <sup>(4)</sup>

Repair depends on the amount of tissue destruction, the amount of hemorrhage, the patient age (and hence the blood supply of tissues), the resistance of host and other factors which influence the ability of injured pulp, and connective tissue to repair itself. <sup>(4)</sup>

There is a study that, expression of transforming growth factor-Beta "TGF-beta" is formed by odontoblasts, leads to their sequestration within dentin matrix. "TGF beta1" and "beta3" stimulate matrix secretion and also initiate odontoblast cytodifferentiation in vitro and in vivo. The result of this study that "TGF-Beta1" and "TGF Beta3" can stimulate secretion of extracellular matrix by odontoblasts, are mitogenic to pulp cells and that "TGF-Beta3" may have inductive effects on pulp cells. Such activities might be important during reparative processes in the dentin-pulp complex after tissue injury. <sup>(9)</sup>

There is another study which reveals cell monolayers from human pulp explants were passaged 3 to 4 times before characterization of the response of the cell to calcitonin gene-related peptide "CGRP".

These results indicate that pulp cells possess the cellular machinery to respond to "CGRP" and that stimulation of the production of bone morphogenetic protein 2 "BMP-2" a factor to be associated with induction of dentin formation is a component of the response. <sup>(10)</sup>



Using of human dental pulp fibroblast or cell in experimental data can be strongly influenced by the pulp cell strain used and the culture technique employed, indeed study of human pulp cell proliferation using pulp cell which are not of the same transfer number may not be relevant. <sup>(11)</sup>

another studies show that recombinant human osteogenic protein-1 in collagen carrier matrix appear to be suitable as a bio-active capping agent for surgically exposed dental pulp. <sup>(12)</sup>

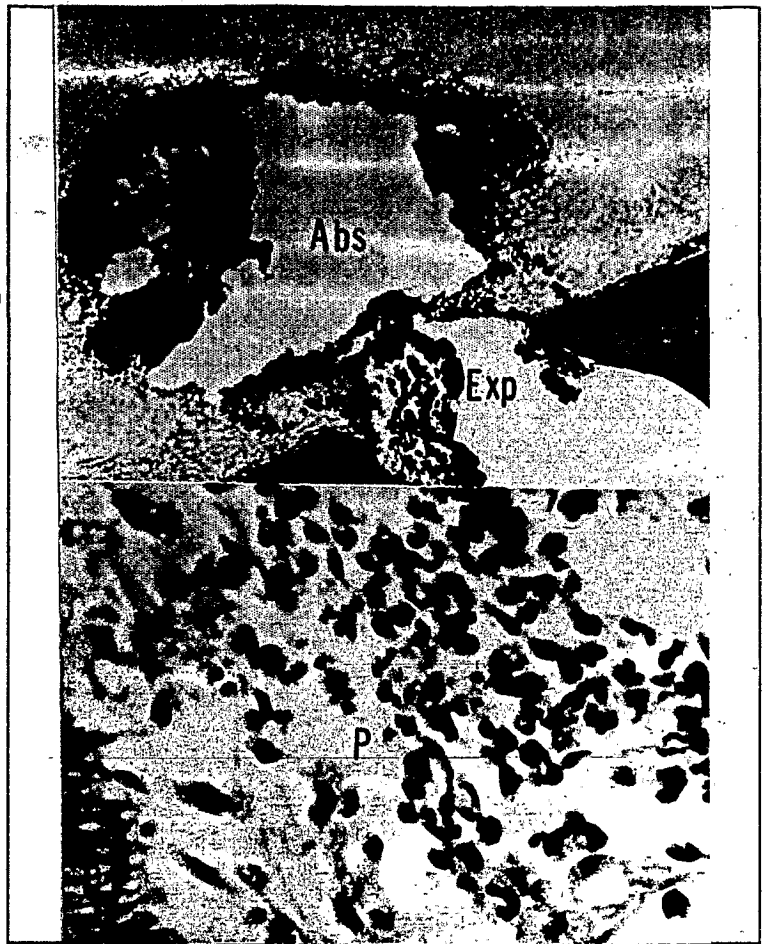
administration of micro dose calcium into small pulpal exposure in rat maxillary insisor tooth in the absence of hydroxyion shows that in vitro complete release of all calcium salt occurred within 12-15 hours except for the very water insoluble calcium stearate. It was anticipate that the relase of clcium would be significantly more prolonged in vivo becuse of the physical constraints of prepared cavity as well as resricted access to fluid flow <sup>(13)</sup>

Reaction aslo occure around the dentin chips which have been pushed into the pulp as a result of exposure fibroblasts or undifferentiated mesenchymal cell are attracted to these chips and being elaborating dentin matrix as more matrix is elaborated many chips may be welded together forming a dentin bridg. The formation of reparative dentin is part of repair process but this not the final proof of successful pulp capping <sup>(4)</sup>

after amount of large exposure the remainds of the pulp may be replaced by granulation tissue. 3 months later the pulp in most instance is still chronically inflamed or become necrotic and granuloma developed apically.

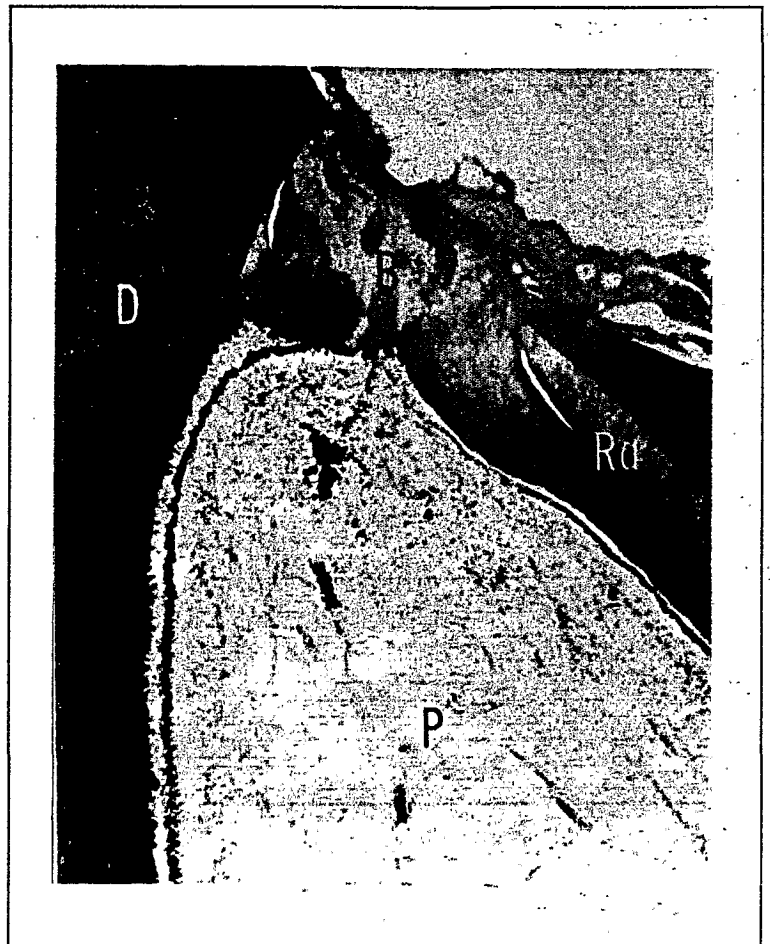
**Fig 1:**

Acute inflammation following mechanical pulp exposure (top) under the region of the exposure (exp) an acute abscess (Abs) has developed (bottom). Higher magnification of inflammatory cells in the pulp. (P) They are mainly polymorphonuclear leukocytes (D) dentin.



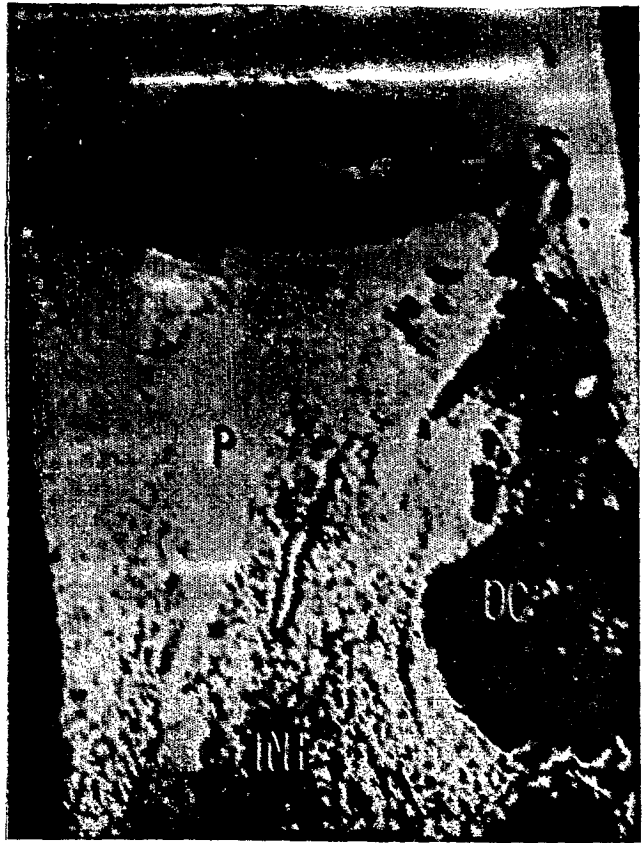
**Fig 2:**

The pulp (P) recovered after exposure. A bridge (B) composed of reparative dentin (Rd) has formed over the region of exposure (D) dentin.



**Fig 3:**

Inflammation of pulp  
under bridge in spite  
of (bridge) formation (B)  
The pulp (P), is chronically  
inflamed (INF). (DC)  
dentin chips



**Fig 4:**

Calcification under  
calcium hydroxide eight  
months after the application  
of calcium hydroxide to an  
exposed pulp (P), Calcification  
(Ca), has continued almost  
obliterating the pulp (D)  
dentin, (Rd), reparative dentin



Pulp studies have shown. The presence of immunocompetent cell and cells that recognize foreign antigens as a result of interaction of micro organism and their by products various mediators of inflammation such as neuropeptides, vasoactive, amines, kinins, complement components, and arachidonic acid metabolites are released.

Neuropeptides are protein generated from somatosensory and autonomic nerve fiber following injury. These substances participate in process of inflammation and pain transmission.

The importance of vasoactive amines such as Histamine pathophysiology of pulpal inflammation by the presence of histamine like substance in wall of blood vessels in experimentally induced pulpitis.

Kinins are considered the main mediators of the pain associated with inflammatory responses the complement system when activated causes enhanced phagocytosis and increased vascular permeability .

Arachidonic acid is released from the phospholipids of cell membrane as a result of cell damage. When metabolized various prostaglandins thromboxanes and leukotrienes are produced these metabolites have been identified in experimentally induced pulpitis and their concentration have been significantly reduced by the use of non steroidal anti inflammatory medication. (3)