Comparative Anti-plaque Effect of Stabilized Stannous Fluoride and Triclosan Dentifrices

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KEY CLINICAL FINDINGS
• After 4 weeks of use, the stabilized stannous fluoride (SnF₂) dentifrice group had 23.1% lower whole mouth plaque scores and 43.5% lower interproximal plaque scores than the triclosan positive control dentifrice group (P<0.0001). See Figures 1 and 2.
• Both the triclosan and SnF₂ dentifrice groups demonstrated statistically significant (P<0.0001) reductions in plaque levels at Week 4 versus Baseline.
• Both treatments were well tolerated.

OBJECTIVE
To compare the effect of a SnF₂ dentifrice versus triclosan dentifrice on reduction of plaque over a 4-week period.

STUDY DESIGN
• This was a randomized, parallel, double-blind, 4-week clinical trial including subjects with evidence of plaque.
Subjects were randomized to one of two treatment groups:
- Experimental 0.454% stabilized SnF₂ dentifrice (Crest® PRO-HEALTH™ Clean Mint [Smooth Formula], Procter & Gamble) or
- Triclosan positive control dentifrice with 0.243% sodium fluoride (Colgate® Total®, Colgate-Palmolive). Both groups used a soft, regular manual toothbrush (American Dental Association) and brushed with their respective product according to manufacturer’s instructions at-home.
- Plaque was evaluated using the Rustogi Modification of the Navy Plaque Index (RMNPI) at Baseline and after 4 weeks of product use.
- Statistical analyses utilized analysis of covariance with baseline value as covariate.

CLINICAL COMMENT
Chemotherapeutic antimicrobial dentifrices play an important role in the control of plaque-induced oral diseases, such as gingivitis. Both SnF₂ and triclosan dentifrices have been shown to provide significant inhibition of plaque.¹ ² This study showed the new smooth formula SnF₂ dentifrice provided significantly greater plaque control than the triclosan dentifrice. These findings are consistent with other studies in the literature showing superior plaque protection for SnF₂ versus triclosan dentifrice.³ ⁴

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