

The Effect on Established Plaque Formation and Gingivitis of a Triclosan/Copolymer/Fluoride Dentifrice: A Six Month Clinical Study

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A total of 120 adult male and female subjects completed a 6-month, double-blind clinical study designed to compare the effect of a dentifrice containing 0.3% triclosan and 2% copolymer of methoxyethylene and maleic acid on dental plaque and gingivitis, as compared to a placebo dentifrice. The study was designed to evaluate the effect of the dentifrice on dental plaque and gingivitis in terms of treatment value in that the subjects received no oral prophylaxis. The subjects were stratified into two balanced groups according to baseline plaque and baseline gingivitis scores. They then were assigned to use either a placebo dentifrice or the triclosan/copolymer dentifrice for the next six months. After six months, the dentifrice containing triclosan/copolymer provided a 32.94% statistically significant (99% level of confidence) reduction in supragingival plaque and a 18.82% statistically significant (99% level of confidence) reduction in gingivitis, as compared to the placebo dentifrice. It was concluded that twice daily use of a dentifrice containing 0.3% triclosan and 2% of a copolymer, without an oral prophylaxis, reduces supragingival plaque and gingivitis to a significant degree compared to a placebo dentifrice.